

BRIDGEPORT PUBLIC LIBRARY  
REPORT OF THE CITY LIBRARIAN  
For the Month of June 2024

East Side Branch Renovation Phase 2 - Continuation from May:

1. Working with City Attorney, Purchasing Finance and OPM to secure the construction purchase order.
2. East Side Branch activities include messaging to the public, planning for staff relocation and FF&E relocation.

Our Digital Navigator for the Regional Sharing Digital Navigator Program (supported in part by a grant from the Institute for Museum and Library Services) started working at Burroughs Library this month. He will divide his time between Burroughs and Derby Neck Library. He will also travel to other libraries in the cohort to provide bi-lingual digital navigator services. Our digital navigator is fluent in Arabic and will focus on serving that community in the program. We attended an in-person meeting of everyone participating in the Regional Hub. We will have in-person meetings every other month in addition to periodic virtual meetings. Bridgeport will host the September 30 meeting at Beardsley Branch.

Vivian Bordeaux attended the CIRC (Connecticut Institute for Refugees and Immigrants) sponsored Seaside Park event for World Refugee Day. There were about 100 – 150 participants from Bridgeport and as far away as New Haven. We met with individuals and families, sharing information about the library and distributing free books and library card applications.

Outreach staff attended many events in the month of June. The Juneteenth Parade was a major event, but we also tabled at farmer's markets and other events.

Labor Relations is progressing with our requests and we will await updates.

True North: I have included the "Next Steps" in preparation for our meeting with True North to discuss their presentation on logos and creative concepts.

Our social worker started with the library this month. We are very excited to have a social worker to address the various social needs of many of our most vulnerable patrons. We are working with our Communications Librarian to develop messaging and we are setting up the social worker's work space. She is getting to know the library and all of our locations to assess needs.

Respectfully submitted,

Elaine Braithwaite  
City Librarian  
July 17, 2024