



The large focus of calendar year 2015 was beginning to work on the Planning and Design Grant, which was awarded by the Massachusetts Board of Library Commissioners (MBLC) in 2014. A local match of \$25,000 was granted with a vote at the June 2015 Annual Town Meeting, which authorized funding from the Community Preservation Committee. The rest of the grant, \$50,000 was provided by the MBLC. As always, we are grateful

for the voters at Town Meeting for their support. This funding will be used to pay for pre-design work and study on the library facility.

One of the requirements of the grant is developing a Building Program. The Dighton Public Library’s Building Program addresses the specific functions and requirements that a public library must meet for a town of Dighton’s size. It also must address Dighton’s needs 20 years into the future, as well as identify current and projected library trends and space needs. This document can be found on the library website, or at the library.

The Building Program was written with the help of the Dighton Public Library’s Strategic Plan for Fiscal Years 2014 – 2019 (itself a document crafted with community input and also available on the library website, or at the library); Dighton’s new Master Plan, projections from SRPEDD, and other tools that quantify space needs and measures for library service. The Building Program has been approved by the Dighton Board of Trustees and accepted by the MBLC. It is the document that will serve as a basis for the feasibility and architectural study. The next requirement is to hire an Owner’s Project Manager (OPM) to facilitate with the feasibility study. The OPM process is currently underway with the legal notices for the Request for Qualifications (RFQ) published in the *Central Register* and *Taunton Gazette* in December.

The library continues to update its website and work with the SAILS Library Network to bring library patrons an interactive and responsive catalog, with the hope that it is a more user friendly, intuitive and mobile experience. The Dighton Library offers numerous digital library resources for patrons to access at all hours of the day, even when the physical library is closed:

ConsumerReports.org	e-books, audiobooks and streaming video	Freegal (free and legal downloadable music)
Zinio (digital magazines)	Novelist (tool for readers)	Auto Repair Reference Center (support for pro and home mechanics)
Universal Class (online continuing education classes, with access to real instructors)	Transparent Language (online language learning program)	Tumblebooks (animated picture books and games)
Biblioboard (historical and primary sources)	Heritage Quest Online (genealogy resource)	Ancestry.com – in library use only (genealogy resource)

These can be found by clicking the “Dighton’s Digital Library” link on the website. All that is required is a Dighton library card. Over 2,500 residents are Dighton Public Library card holders, out of a total card holder population of over 2,800. Over 200 people applied for new

cards in 2015 and have access to all of these subscriptions. A monthly program series called *Learnin' @ the Library* continues to introduce these resources to the public.

The Dighton Public Library's membership with the SAILS Library network allows users to monitor their library account; reserve library materials from anywhere in Massachusetts; and check out downloadable audio books, electronic books, and streaming video through the SAILS shared e-book collection and Dighton's own Library Advantage collection. In the summer of 2015, Dighton library users were now able to make late fee or lost book payments online with a credit or debit card, with the assistance of the SAILS Library Network. Downloadable eBook offerings have expanded in 2015 with the Massachusetts Library System's (MLS) eBook Project. In addition to Biblioboard, popular fiction and nonfiction can be accessed with Axis 360's eBook product and nonfiction with EBL's product.

Toddler and preschool story times continued throughout the year, as well as parties and other programs for children. A successful and busy summer reading program offered programs every week to children and teens, while they celebrated super heroes. Of particular note, there were more participants in the Summer Reading program who read this summer than in years past. Successful collaboration with Dighton schools go beyond Miss Lorie's classroom visits to the Dighton Elementary School and sending home a newsletter to all students. Dighton Middle School students received credit for summer reading by attending book discussions with Miss Lorie. The Dighton Elementary School worked to get each second grade student a library card with us.

Adults were able to discuss books, get help with their e-readers, craft, visit with local authors and learn about genealogy. Adult readers "traveled" across the United States with our Traveling Reading Program; Dighton readers visited every state in the U.S. With every book read, patrons were eligible for an entry for a small prize once each state was visited. Outreach services continue to be provided to older adults and residents with disabilities who are unable to come to the library. The Library also brings materials to Lincoln Village for residents to check out twice a month.

The Library's museum pass program to museums and community attractions continues to be supported with a grant from the Dighton Cultural Council and funding from the Friends of the Library. Library cardholders used this program over 200 times last year. The Friends of the Library meet regularly to support the library's mission. They are crucial to the operation of the library as they assist with their countless volunteer hours and sponsorship of popular programs. The success of the Fourth Annual Taste of Dighton has allowed the Friends to fund outdoor movie night, add additional museum passes and programming. The Library is fortunate to have this dedicated group of adult and teen volunteers to help with our special projects.

The Dighton Library received \$8,637 from the MBLC's State Aid program for Fiscal Year 15 and has successfully been certified for Fiscal Year 16. To qualify for State Aid, a municipality and its library must be annually certified by the Board of Library Commissioners and in compliance with state statutes. Per M.G.L., Ch. 78, s. 19A and s. 19B, and current budget language, the library must meet a municipal appropriation requirement for the current fiscal year. Additionally, certain minimum standards of public library service must be provided during the previous fiscal year, including maintaining a minimum number of operating hours, an adequate

materials budget and employment of a certified Library Director. Achieving certification is especially important in maintaining Interlibrary Loan and reciprocity with our neighboring libraries.

Also, in 2015, the Dighton Public Library qualified for the Small Libraries in Network Grant, given by the MBLC. Libraries in municipalities with populations under 10,000 are eligible for this grant. The total award to Dighton was \$1,731, which helped defray the cost of the annual assessment to the SAILS Library network.

Lastly, the library would like to thank the Dighton Cultural Council for their financial support of our library programs. This year, funding was received in support for a concert with internationally acclaimed folksinger and storyteller Bill Harley, a science program with the Easton Children's Museum and a pastel instruction program with award winning artist Gregory Maichak. We also owe a very special thanks to Daisy Troop 76116, Jenn Duczowski, Jen Jacobs, Jody Roy, and Zach Lapointe for planting the library garden around the sign. It bloomed beautifully all summer long. Not only did the troop do the planting, but they used their cookie money to purchase the perennials. Araujo Farms donated the impatiens, Edith Lawrence donated the other flowers, and the Jacobs and Duczowski Families and Bay State Mulch donated the mulch for this project.

Respectfully Submitted,

Jocelyn Tavares, Library Director
Ron O'Connor, Trustee
Alison Cembalisty, Trustee
EveMarie Cabral, Trustee

