

From: Dominic Frandrup <director@antigopl.org>

Date: Mon, Jan 18, 2021 at 4:45 PM

Subject: Re: Letter from Antigo Library Board to Marathon County Library Board

To: Ralph Illick <Ralph.Illick@co.marathon.wi.us>, corvinod

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Dear Mr. Corvino,

Thank you for taking the time to acknowledge the receipt of the letter Dominic sent on behalf of the Antigo Public Library board. We discussed it at the Antigo Library Personnel and Finance committee meeting this morning and we've instructed him to send this reply on the board's behalf.

We understand that you are a new addition to the MCPL board and may like to know how our board communicates. All letters sent by our library board are sent to all parties as a matter of transparency to ensure that all members receive communications. As a communication professional, we're sure you can appreciate the importance of transparent government and our board aspires to the highest standard. As a government entity, a library board is open to having its actions questioned, and having clear answers to why decisions are made is part of the public process so again, thank you for your reply.

We're so glad that you are engaged and care so much about the library and all the residents you serve as their representative. We respectfully disagree that the task force process has been transparent. Of the 19 public letters written to the Task Force and Marathon County Library board over the last 18 months this is the first communication we are aware of to receive a response of any kind. The timeline and letters in question can be found here: <https://wvls.org/mcpl-system-exploration/>

If the task force process were open the questions in these letters would have been answered long ago and all stakeholders and the public would be well informed. To date the public has not been directly involved in the process and there has been no request for input from Marathon County residents. Nor has there been press coverage on this topic to make them aware of the task force or the impact this process and decision will have on them in regard to their library service.

We saw the escalation of this issue to the Marathon County Executive Committee before the Marathon County Library board had made a determination on it as an end-run around the library board's authority in this matter and thought you should be made aware.

We regret that you interpreted this as public shaming.

We look forward to your response on this matter.

Linda Szitta

President- Antigo Public Library Board of Trustees