

Montauk Library

NEWSLETTER

Published by the Montauk Library Board of Trustees

July, 1991

Dear Resident of Montauk:

You've probably been wondering what is going on with the new Library. There the building sits, looking lovely and lonely, while the Library remains closed. We feel we owe you an explanation of what has been going on, so here goes:

The Board of Trustees had expected the new Library to be open for business by mid April. The old Library was closed in order to facilitate the move. However, just when the Trustees were ready to sign substantial completion with the General Construction Contractor, we had a typical Montauk nor'easter, which revealed numerous leaks around the doors and windows in the new building. From this time (11/90) until early April, various efforts were made to solve the leakage problems, some successful, some not. (In March, all windows in the building were weatherstripped again.

In April, several spring storms, from different directions, revealed leakages in three locations: the carrels, the Montauk room, and the reading porch, as well as a problem with the entrance door. After many frustrating delays, the General Construction Contractor, the window manufacturer and the architect met to assess the problem.

5/1 - A pressure test of the windows was conducted, which showed extensive leakage. An attempt to solve the problem by caulking windows and sills was unsuccessful.

5/28 - First letter of intent to find General Construction Contractor in default was sent to contractor and bonding company.

5/29 - Window company engineer came to examine leaky windows and corner glazing.

6/12 - General Construction Contractor promised, in writing, to repair or, if need be, replace defective windows.

6/18 - Window company was supposed to be at the Library to install and test new window, but wrong window was sent. At this time, all operable windows were sealed. The window company agrees that this is a temporary solution until new windows have been satisfactorily installed.

6/28 - The General Construction Contractor removed and replaced mortar and weatherproofed sills and mortar.

Now you know the facts up to the writing of this letter. The Board of Trustees and the Library staff are more eager than anyone to begin library service in the new building, and deeply regret the delay. Unfortunately, we can not even predict an opening date. We firmly believe that the new building must be the beautiful and practical Library all of us have envisioned for our community; therefore, all construction problems MUST be solved before we open.

Please see other side for some alternatives until new building is open.

