GENERAL ISSUES:

Public Comment - We have been asking for public comment, and received many responses. The vast majority are very positive, e.g. “You are Awesome!”, and “I’m happy”; “Great new library. I found I’m coming to the library more, reading more and watching less TV, thanks.” We have also had comments asking that the library be open more hours, e.g. “A few hours for families on Sunday afternoon please”, “Love the new library BUT I SO wish you stayed open later in the evening!”. Longer hours are directly tied to the budget and should be considered in the future after the other new expenses in this building are fully known. Some people have been frustrated with the single interior item return. I agree that it would be best to have a second return but this would amount to several thousand dollars, and is cost-prohibitive at this time.

Door Count - Our average door count continues to be well over 2,000 per day. I am anticipating this to be our new normal. One thing that could change those numbers may be when patrons are paying for parking in the garage.

Grant - The library has received a grant for $442 from the Idaho Commission on the Arts. This will enable us to put on three children’s programs featuring local artists instructing the children in various forms of art. We are looking into and applying to more grants to help subsidize our programming budget.

Budget – The FY2016 budget will open up for input on April 20th. The library has a meeting with Vikki Chandler, Finance Director, set up for 10am on Wednesday May 6th. I will send out my priorities to the board for the budget prior to that meeting and will ask for questions and comments. I encourage one or two board members to attend the meeting. The library will be presenting the budget at the city budget hearings on Tuesday June 16th at 10:30 am.

Meeting Rooms - The possibilities in this new building are wonderful and many, including programs that we were not equipped to accommodate in our prior space.
Another new reality is our large meeting and small study rooms. We are now accepting reservations for our large meeting rooms, and will open them up for community use on April 20th. The small study rooms are already being well used and it is terrific to see groups of all sorts, meeting in the spaces that Nampa was not able to provide until now.

**Regular Programs**

**Parkridge Elementary Library Tour:** On March 17th, Marcia conducted a compare and contrast historical research tour for Amy’s Wiltrout’s class from Park Ridge Elementary School, 33 people were in attendance.

**Zamzow’s “Meet the Critters”:** On March 17th, Marcia partnered with Zamzow’s who presented a chinchilla, a supplementary activity followed the presentation attended by 88 patrons

**Preschool Library Tour:** Amanda hosted a tour for a group of preschoolers and their mothers/caregivers. About 25 adults and their children attended. They looked briefly at the second and third floors, and then looked more in depth at the first floor. They finished up with a storytime, and then families were allowed to watch “Sven” sort checked-in items. The preschoolers really loved the storytime area and were mesmerized by the automated sorter.

**Polaris Learning Center Tour:** On March 19th and 27th, Marcia conducted two tours of the library for a total of 37 children from Polaris Learning Center.

**Family Fun Saturday: Meet the Authors:** On March 21st, Laura hosted four local tween/teen authors who greeted patrons of all ages. They are Suzanne de Board, Margo Kelly, Johanna Harness, and Michaelbrent Collings. Over 90 patrons enjoyed refreshments and meeting the local writing talent.

**Year-Round Teen Volunteers:** Between March 1st-31st, Ashley has been busy training five year-round volunteers to assist Youth Services with programs and craft/clerical work. They were also trained in circulation to help with the self-check machines, book drops, and filing holds.
**Outreach Programs**

*Every Child Ready to Read Classes at Parkview High School:* Amanda and Tracie presented their seventh ECRTR class for teen parents at Parkview High School on March 3rd. They each had 16 student-parents and children in their groups and everyone enjoyed learning about the importance of letter knowledge.

*Nampa Head Start:* On March 17th, Joyce visited the Nampa Head Start and provided storytimes and activities for four Nampa Head Start classes with 45 in total attendance.