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P-02e

CITY COUNCIL AGENDA ITEM

Date: January 21, 2019
To: Mark F. Miller, City Manager
From: Cathleen Russ, Library Director
Subject: Ross School of Business BOND student consulting group + Troy Public Library

On Thursday, December 20, 2018, I was contacted by Quinn Favret, a graduate of Troy High School currently enrolled as a sophomore in the Ross School of Business at the University of Michigan. Mr. Favret was representing BOND, a student consulting program of the University of Michigan.

Each semester BOND identifies four local nonprofits or businesses to provide consulting services to address an organizational need identified by the organization. The students provide services at no cost for a semester long engagement. The student consulting teams are multi-disciplinary, so they are able to assist organizations in a range of fields. These consulting projects provide the students with real world experience, and it also gives back to the community.

Mr. Favret contacted Troy Public Library to see if we would be interested in participating in this program, starting in February.

Library Assistant Director Phillip Kwik and I met with Mr. Favret and his associate, Mr. Vidur Prasad on Monday, January 14, 2019, to discuss possible projects. Mr. Favret and Mr. Prasad then took our ideas back to the full BOND committee meeting, where 30 potential projects were discussed, and the final four selected. I am delighted to announce that Troy Public Library was selected as a client for BOND students for the current semester.

The students will provide an Impact/Value Analysis, at both a macro and a micro level, to demonstrate TPL's impact and value to the community. They will also analyze current staffing levels and make recommendations, as well as make recommendations on staffing levels needed to open TPL on Fridays. Lastly, they will analyze the Library's collection and use statistics, to help Library staff allocate resources to best to reach underserved populations.

Work will begin in February and culminates with a final report in April. I would appreciate the opportunity to have the BOND students present their report to the Troy City Council, in whatever manner and at whatever meeting is deemed appropriate.

I am honored that Troy Public Library was chosen as a client by this amazing group and prestigious business school. Their help will be invaluable in preparing Troy Public Library to meet and exceed the current and future needs of our residents. I also appreciate that a graduate of Troy High School reached out to me to ask if TPL would be interested in participating. I believe this demonstrates that the spirit of civic action and giving back to our communities is alive and well in our graduates.