

## Damascus Library Advisory Committee

### Meeting of September 10, 2019

The meeting was called to order at 7:00 pm by Pam Hosimer, chair, in the large meeting room at the Damascus Library. Present were Susan Wells, Jean Smedira, Renée Minnick, Marie Dean, Diane Cockrell, and Donna Bangor, secretary. Donna read the minutes of the April, 2019, meeting to remind members of the topics discussed.

Renée reported that Damascus FOL receives donated items which it sells in the lobby of the library. The funds are used for the enhancement of Damascus library programs and activities.

We are pleased to welcome three new members: Jean Smedira, Bill Rogers, and Jennifer Marcano. Longtime LAC member Gail Davidson notified Pam that she will no longer be able to attend meetings.

Ann announced that the branch will be scheduling sensory storytimes once a month for preschool children with autism and other handicapping conditions. The first session will be held Saturday, September 14, at 2:30.

The community conversation with Councilmember Will Jawando was well-attended, but we do not know if the council staff has contacted any residents who had questions. Pam will look into its progress on issues of interest to Damascus residents.

VOX books (see April 2019 LAC minutes) have been in demand by children and parents. They seem to be holding up well with heavy use. MCPL has been implementing a system of sharing the collection of all books among branches that should improve accessibility for patrons.

The Damascus Library refresh may be scheduled for the 2021 or later budgets. The back walkway has not been improved to meet ADA requirements. Wheaton Library reopened at the beginning of September. Design work will start on Clarksburg Library in 2020 or 2021.

The Damascus Community Fair was a big success, as was the library's button maker, contributed by FOLDM.

The county government has a new CAO, Andrew Kleine, who will work with County Executive Elridge to institute a new budgeting process for county departments, including MCPL.

Ann is hoping that a Hispanic Heritage dance group will be able to perform at the library this month. Pam suggested that a staff member might schedule an instruction session about use of downloads for the Damascus Library Book Club and other patrons.

Pam questioned the progress of appointment of a Board liaison for our branch. Please download the LAC Handbook from the web: <https://montgomerycountymd.gov/Library/Resources/Files/board/lac-handbook.pdf>

All Damascus LAC meetings are held in the large meeting room of the Damascus Library at 7:00 pm on the second Tuesday of each month, September through June. (Note: At least five monthly meetings must be scheduled and three must be held.)

#### 2019-2020 Schedule:

September 10; October 8; November 12 or 13 (Joint Meeting?); December 10; January 7 or 8 (2<sup>nd</sup> Joint Meeting?) and attend Upcounty Forum, dates TBA; February 11 [optional pre-meeting dinner]; March 10; April 14; May 12 [no formal meeting – optional tour of another library]; June 9.