

Noyes Library for Young Children
Library Advisory Committee
Meeting Minutes
January 11, 2024, 7:30 PM (via Zoom)

Attendees: Paulette Dickerson (Chair), Jenny Gaylin, Amanda McCarthy, Kate Sweeney, Mark Winek (Secretary)

1. Call to Order/Self-Introductions
 - a. The meeting was called to order at 7:31pm
2. Approval of Minutes
 - a. July 13, 2023 minutes were unanimously approved as submitted
3. Announcements (Paulette)
 - a. Library Board Liaison Carla Vale will not be able to attend but she provided notes which will be read
 - b. *Reading Rainbow* is available on the MCPS subscription to Kanopy
 - i. As it is available in the kids section, it does not use the monthly credit allocation
 - c. Winter reading challenge is currently running
 - i. Challenge runs January-March and includes exercise and awards badges
4. Reports
 - a. Library Management Report—Branch Manager Kate Sweeney
 - i. Staffing
 1. The Librarian 1 position for Noyes is currently open until filled
 - a. Taking in resumes and doing interviews
 - b. A recently retired MCPL Librarian is substituting 3 days a week, including Thursday storytime
 2. Sean Riley is presenting at the American Library Association Lib Learn X conference on January 21
 - a. Presentation is on the elimination of plastic toy prizes for the summer reading challenge in favor of eco-friendly communal goals, experiences, and books
 3. Director Anita Vassalo has announced her retirement effective July 1
 - a. Director is appointed by the County Executive and the search will begin soon
 - b. More information will be provided as it becomes available
 4. Building updates
 - a. Quiet - no major issues
 - i. New no smoking sign has been installed
 1. Some problems with people smoking on the bench - new sign is visible from the bench
 - ii. Some new lighting installed

- b. Programs
 - i. Programs have continued to be very well attended
 - ii. Superb Saturday STEM continues to be very successful
 - 1. Next Superb Saturday STEM will be this Saturday, January 13
 - iii. Boogie Woogie Wednesdays continue once monthly
- c. Staffing
 - i. Reduced staffing continues to affect the amount of programming that can be run
 - ii. When new Librarian 1 is in place, more programming can be scheduled
- d. Winter Reading Challenge
 - i. Once again, the Challenge is being carried out in partnership with the Washington Wizards
 - 1. Some goals are reading-based while others are exercise-based
 - 2. Signups going well and on track to exceed 2023
- e. Collection
 - i. Sean Riley is still weeding as necessary to make room for acquisitions
 - ii. Playaway Launchpad tablet for children being introduced to Noyes
 - 1. A pilot in other branches proved exceedingly popular with patrons and is currently being rolled out system-wide
 - 2. Noyes will eventually have 80 tablets but circulation at other branches shows that space will not be required for that many at one time
 - 3. Does not require internet access, making it more accessible to all groups
- b. Library Board Liaison Report—Carla Vale
 - i. The Library Board Liaison Report was read in by the Chair in the absence of the Board Liaison
 - ii. MCPL/Friends of the Library Joint Meeting on January 10
 - 1. Councilmember Mink was the keynote speaker
 - a. Spoke in support of all the library's strategic goals, particularly with special regard for early literacy and kindergarten readiness, as well as furthering teen/youth inclusion
 - iii. Renovation

1. Included in the County Executive's draft Capital Improvement Plan budget for 2024
 - iv. Position Paper
 1. Library Board working with the Friends of the Library on a position paper to focus on advocacy for the Point 1 on the strategic plan, kindergarten readiness
 5. Old Business
 - a. Noyes LAC flier
 - i. Paulette sent the membership an updated LAC flier
 1. Emphasizes that Noyes is a resource for the entire county
 2. Ideal if the LAC could recruit members who represent other parts of the county
 3. The flier can be distributed to other MCPL branches
 4. A bookmark promoting the LAC has been provided for distribution in limited quantities by Noyes staff
 - b. Circulation information
 - i. Board Liaison had circulation information
 1. For Noyes, demographics show that people from almost everywhere in the county come to use the service
 2. Reinforces the need to recruit LAC members who represent other parts of Montgomery County
 6. New Business
 - a. No new business
 7. Adjourn
 - a. Meeting adjourned at 7:52pm

The next meeting is March 14, 2024.