MONTGOMERY COUNTY PUBLIC LIBRARIES
Olney Library Advisory Committee Meeting
May 15, 2019

Attending: Maria Caswell (Co-Chair), Nina Uzick (Co-Chair), Audrey Partington (Secretary), Mary Allman, Max Handelsman, Madeline Lyon, Elfrida O’Reilly-Campbell, Christine Freeman (Olney Acting Branch Manager), Jensen Chiu (MC Library Board Liaison)
Absent: Walter Lee

Call to Order and Approval of Minutes: The meeting began at 7:00 p.m. The March minutes were approved. The April minutes were unofficial due to lack of library personnel at the April meeting.

1. Acting Manager’s Report: Christine Freeman provided the following report:

   a. Programming: Preparations for the Summer Reading Program are complete. The theme is “A Universe of Stories” to mark the 50th anniversary of the moon landing. The toddler group has been moved from Mondays to Tuesdays. Teen Takeover was held with pre-teens. The Social Justice program will begin on May 18 with the first title, “One Good Thing About America.” The Olney Library would like to start a Teen Advisory Group.

   b. Staffing: The vacant position of Head of Children’s Services will soon be posted. In the meantime, the Olney Library has had assistance from a Librarian 1 from the Praisner branch, working 40 hours per week. Panels have been set up to interview applicants for the circulation desk.

   c. Facilities: Some new lights have been installed and more than 120 bulbs have been replaced in the Children’s Section. A Library Bulletin Board will soon be mounted.

   d. Services: The Library rents more books than it purchases.

2. MCPL Board Liaison Report: Jensen Chiu reported that County Council member Will Juwando expressed his intention to visit all of the county’s library branches. This may include holding forums in some of the branches, including Silver Spring, Gaithersburg, and Damascus. Nina suggested perhaps the Olney LAC can host such a forum. The LAC Handbook specifies terms for LAC members and officers. Terms of 3 years are renewable indefinitely. Chairs may only serve one year, with a second term requiring Board approval. Members whose terms have expired and who wish to continue to serve should fill out and resubmit the application to the Acting Branch Manager by the June meeting. The application is available online and in the LAC Handbook. Jensen will email the links to the Olney LAC. A draft of MCPL Annual Report will be published in Aug/Sept. LAC chairs will be asked for input. Library administration has decided not to renew Freegl. The program, which enables the downloading of music, was not widely used. Applicants for the MCPL Director position have been narrowed down to 2-3, including the acting director.

3. Unfinished Business/New Business

   Olney Days at Olney Manor Park, April 27: Nina and Max staffed the table. As a county agency, the Library didn’t have to pay this year and has already been invited to participate next year. Nina sent a thank-you letter to Barbara Falcigno of GOCA (the organization that coordinates the event). The Library provided a lot of giveaways for the more than 200 people who visited the table.

   LAC Membership: Jensen noted that someone has applied for membership but her application was incomplete. Several attempts have been made to contact her. Nina will make one more attempt to contact her. If she doesn’t reply in the near future, her application will be withdrawn.

Adjournment: The meeting adjourned at 8:20 p.m. The next LAC meeting is scheduled for Wednesday, June 19 at 7 p.m. Minutes recorded by Audrey Partington.