MONTGOMERY COUNTY PUBLIC LIBRARIES
Olney Library Advisory Committee Meeting
June 19, 2019

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

Absent: Walter Lee, Elfrida O’Reilly-Campbell,

Call to Order and Approval of Minutes: The meeting began at 7:00 p.m. The May minutes were approved.

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

   a. Programming: The Summer Reading Program began on June 15 and will run through the end of August. The theme is “A Universe of Stories” to mark the 50th anniversary of the moon landing. A plan for fall programming has been developed and submitted for approval. The plan includes an array of programs for seniors (“Aging with Attitude”) that focus on technology education. The Social Justice program was launched in May with a discussion about “One Good Thing about America.” The program was a success with about 12 youth attending (grades 4-6). Related activities included collage-making. A Driver Safety Class was recently held at Olney Library. Maryland Drivers will need to be sure their licenses meet the new “Real ID” requirements by October 1, 2020. The second Social Justice program will be held on June 22, with discussion focused on “Stella by Starlight.” On June 22 an Open Mic/Broadway show tunes will be held. The Board of Elections will disability voter registration information at Olney Library on July 18.

   b. Staffing: The library has two vacancies in Children’s Services.

   c. Facilities: All complaints regarding landscaping have been forwarded to the Building Manager. All missing light bulbs have been replaced, but broken light bulbs still need to be replaced. Nina expressed her concern about improper maintenance of some of the county’s libraries, specifically White Oak, which she recently found to be filthy on a Monday morning. Jensen noted that the county recently changed cleaning contractors as recommended by former County Executive Ike Leggett. The Friends of the Library are evaluating the change. Jensen suggested that Nina check with Jim Montgomery at FOLMCPL.

2. MCPL Board Liaison Report: Jensen Chiu reported that County Council member Will Jawando held his first library forum at Silver Spring Library on June 12. He still plans to visit all 21 library branches, including Olney, within the next 18 months. With regard to renovations, the Wheaton interim library location will soon close in preparation for the new facility to open late summer/early fall. Long Branch does not yet have an exact date for closing this fall in preparation for a refresh. Olney’s former acting branch manager James Donaldson has been permanently promoted to Assistant Director for Collections and Technology on the county level. Therefore, the position at Olney need not be held open for him. Olney is now eligible for a permanent branch manager. A final selection has not yet been made for the MCPL Director position.

3. Unfinished Business/New Business

   LAC Membership: The applicant for the Olney LAC did now show up to tonight’s meeting. The LAC decided to give her until the end of the week to respond before withdrawing her application.

Adjournment: The meeting adjourned at 8:35 p.m. The next LAC meeting is scheduled for Wednesday, Sept 18, at 7 p.m. Minutes recorded by Audrey Partington.