

MONTGOMERY COUNTY PUBLIC LIBRARIES
Olney Library Advisory Committee Meeting
Virtual via Zoom – June 16, 2021

Attending: Maria Caswell (Co-Chair), Nina Uzick (Co-Chair), Audrey Partington (Secretary), Jensen Chiu, Max Handelsman, Walter Lee, Madeline Lyon, Tim Lighter (MCPL Board Liaison), Kate Sweeney (Olney Branch Manager) **Absent:** Elfrida O'Reilly-Campbell

Call to Order and Approval of Minutes: The meeting began at 7:00 p.m. The minutes from the May 18 meeting were approved.

1. Library Manager's Report: Kate Sweeney reported that Olney Library reopened to the public on June 1. Masks were required the first week but then became optional for those who are vaccinated. Physical capacity has not been limited and has not been a problem. Additional MCPL branches opened on June 14, and the last group of branches will open on July 6, with the exception of Germantown, which is undergoing renovation. The Noyes Children's Library has also reopened. They were not offering any services during the pandemic.

a. Programming: In May, Olney Library offered 14 programs, attended by 234 people. MCPL's Summer Reading Program began June 1. This year's theme is "Tales and Tails" (with a focus on animal stories). Participants can track their reading progress online using "Read Squared." In the past, participants could acquire and complete all of the worksheets at one time, but this year they will be rolled out, a bit at a time. Prizes will be awarded at the conclusion of the program. The English Conversation class is now held only on Monday nights. Nina noted that the virtual format has allowed people all over the world to participate from remote locations.

b. Staffing: Three people from Germantown Library were assigned to Olney Library due to their branch renovation. One of them will soon go to another branch library. All of the positions in the Children's section have been filled. There are still three positions open: Senior Librarian (Full-time), Adult Librarian II (Full-time), and Library Assistant (Part-time). Volunteers have not yet been brought on board.

c. Facilities: Two collaboration rooms are open, but the study rooms have not yet reopened. Furniture has been stored in the Quiet study room, but it will be cleared out next week.

d. Services: Circulation was high when the library first reopened. New books were checked out quickly. The staff is handling requests to convert digital cards to regular cards.

2. MCPL Board Liaison Report: Tim Lighter reported that MCPL has a lot of hiring to do. The MCPL Board will not meet in July or August. Feedback on the LAC Handbook is welcome. The LAC needs to draft its Annual Report. Maria and Nina will update last year's annual report.

3. LAC Elections: Nina and Maria agreed to continue to co-chair the Olney LAC. Audrey agreed to continue as secretary.

Adjournment: The meeting adjourned at 7:50 p.m. The next LAC meeting is scheduled to be held on Zoom at 7 p.m. on Tuesday, Sept. 21. (The LAC will not meet in July and August).