



Marilyn J. Praisner
Library Advisory Committee
Meeting Minutes

Date: Thursday, November 20, 2025

Time: 7:00 PM

Location: Hybrid and In-Person

Zoom Meeting <https://us06web.zoom.us/j/87449158652>

Meeting ID: 874 4915 8652

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|--|---|
| <input type="checkbox"/> Dianne Whitaker, Regional Manager | <input type="checkbox"/> Aliya Abbas |
| <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Tina Deifallah, Branch Supervisory | <input type="checkbox"/> Robin Dennis |
| <input type="checkbox"/> Melanye Johnson, MCPL Board Liaison | <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Robert Aceituno |
| <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Johnna Mahoney, Chair | <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Nia Miller |
| <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Natasha Dahl, LAC Secretary | <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Anna Perrone |

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1. Call to order @ 7:03 PM
 2. Approval of LAC Minutes
 - a. July 2025 - approved
 - b. September 2025 - approved
 3. Reports
 - a. Membership Report - Tina
 - b. Branch Report - Tina
 - i. Facilities:
 1. Cleaners: ongoing issues with cleaning contractors. Cleaning Inspection Report details any problems that are seen to be sent to property manager to inform of the ongoing issues. Not wiping down flat surfaces, specifically.
 2. Staff Work Room: has been at 62-degrees the last few days. Plumber stated air bubbles in pipes and repair to follow.
 3. Since July 2025, no charge to use meeting rooms. Unable to hold them accountable. When a group shows up earlier than scheduled.
 - a. Restrictions: free to attend, open to the public
 - b. After hours meetings, close at 8 PM. But meetings can be scheduled until 9 PM. But cleaning crew comes in after library closes, keeps door open to access janitor's closet. There are safety concerns. Burtonsville Garden Club has once a month meeting 7:30 - 9 PM, going back decades. If

adjustments to scheduling are made, will likely have impacts

ii. Technology: None

iii. Collections:

1. Largest vendor that sells books (globally) Baker and Taylor is going out of business. A huge problem for libraries all over. Contract with Ingram and Lucky Day books in place already. More books, sooner, when they're first released.
2. Collection management: new access to local news sources. Montgomery Banner and Baltimore Banner.
 - a. R. Aceituno: asked about price shopping with Amazon. Stated issues with county contracting requirements and the book processing (mylar covers, spine labels, etc.).
3. Video game collection is ready for borrowing as of this week. Xbox, Playstation 5, Nintendo Switch. Limited collection, approx. 30 games right now. Can check out (1) game for each system at a time. Holds are limited to (1) hold per platform per person.
4. Children's Book Selectors Materials: will be coming by to check in with staff to discuss what collections. LA Il Luz will be the liaison.

iv. Programs

1. All programs cancelled the last (2) weeks of December 2025, all ongoing programs this is impacted.
2. December 31 afternoon: Jane Austen Tea Party to celebrate 250th Birthday of Jane Austen. All ages event. Tea, crafts, activities.
3. Children's:
 - a. Weekly (2) story times, (1) STEM, (1) Craft,
 - b. (1) Preschool Play and Learn (3-5 y/o) from 15 to 35 children consistently
 - c. Haunted Graham Cracker House Decorating on Halloween, went well
 - d. Art Sparks Joy, each month, different artist, artist medium. 0-11 attendees. Attendance has been rocky, but was featured on social media, which may have urged attendees
 - e. Hena Khan. 1/24/26 To celebrate Muslim American Heritage Month. Details TBA.
4. Teens:
 - a. Tues. at 5 PM - every week a program. Consistency is key. Stuffed Animal Taxidermy was a hit.
 - b. East County Artist in Residence, Jasmine Adams, set up a Junk Journal program in early November, which no one attended.
 - c. Teen Advisory Board - for Praisner, more like a Teen Activity Board, a service project is the focus. Take and make kits (100 kits 2x /month).

5. Adults/Seniors:
 - a. Monthly LinkedIn Boot Camp - especially with the government shutdown. The contract for this program ended. The last program was held tonight. The instructor is "really, really good" and the Branch wants to bring her back, if possible.
 - b. NIH Chamber Singers: Saturday, Dec. 6 at 2 PM
 - c. English Conversation Club: no volunteer as of right now.
 - i. Chance encounter with an English Conversation Class, Francophone African Alliance. 12 week course, inclusive of instruction + discussion.
 - ii. Will start partnering with Praisner in March 2026 with a course. Praisner space and will help with marketing.
6. Outreach:
 - a. Burtonsville Day. Button maker. MCPL Director attended.
 - b. Rec Center Manager hosted Trunk or Treat on 10/25/25. Praisner did a trunk, big success. Will be doing this again in 2026.
7. Services and Staffing:
 - a. Renewing cards, cards will expire after 3 years. People must come in person to renew.
 - b. Carol Gluckman transferred to part time position.
 - c. Su-Yuan Chen new LA II from White Oak.
 - d. One vacancy: Library I for adult services.
- c. Library Board Liaison Report: Updated via Johnna
 - i. Director's Report
 - ii. Outreach Summary
 - iii. Joint Meeting January 14th, 2026 - TBD
4. Unfinished Business
 - a. Meeting Schedule and Format for 2025-2026 - tabled until Melanye is able to discuss. Preferred to be virtual due to shifting schedules.
 - i. Next: December 18th, 2025 @ 7 PM virtually
5. New Business
 - a. Collection needs
 - b. Facility issues
 - c. Questions/input about programming
 - d. New needs in the community for services
 - e. Community happenings that could have library impact
6. Meeting adjourned @ 8:02 PM