

Silver Spring Library Advisory Committee
Summary Minutes
January 22, 2018

Members present (10): Elizabeth Baer, Jill Brantley, Laura Briskin-Limehouse, Paulette Dickerson, Joan Flaherty, Mel Greberman, Joelle Mornini, Carlos Munoz Jimenez, Mary Ann Nyamweya, Jennifer Thornton

Members absent (6): Dana Anderson, Kelsey Babik, Rodney Elin, Minniedore Green, Deborah Hughes, Kristen Maki

Others Present (3): Silver Spring Library Branch Manager, Uzoma Onyemaechi; Silver Spring Friends of the Library, Kathlin Smith; Library Board Liaison, Kim Durcho

1. **Call to order:** The meeting was called to order at 7:40 pm by Paulette Dickerson, Chair. Self-introductions were given after call to order.
2. **Approval of Minutes of December 18, 2017** – No changes to the Draft Minutes. Minutes unanimously approved.
3. **Announcements:** Paulette Dickerson, Chair
 - a. Dickerson has not yet written a letter on the mechanical issues in the library building. She wants to send the letter to Hans Riemer (County Council Member, At-Large) and Acting MCPL Director Anita Vassalo.
 - b. MCPL MoComCon is scheduled for Saturday, Jan. 27, 2018 (11 to 4), at the Silver Spring Branch Library.
 - c. Community Advisory Team (CAT) meetings are being hosted for the Purple Line construction at Long Branch on 1/24, 6:30 – 8pm in the Oak View Elementary All Purpose Room and Bethesda/Chevy Chase on 1/31, 6:30 – 8pm in the Bethesda-CC High School Cafeteria. CAT meeting schedules can be found at <http://www.purplelinemd.com/en/community-advisory-teams-cats/purple-line-cats-meetings>, and materials from past meetings can be found at <http://www.purplelinemd.com/en/community-advisory-teams-cats/cats-meeting-materials>.
 - d. A County Executive Forum will be held at the Silver Spring Civic Building on 1/30, 7-8:30pm. Attendees are asked to wear orange to support the library.
 - e. Resignations from SSLAC include Jaime Robles, Eric Weiner, and Chris Richardson.
4. **Reports:**
 - a. Library Branch Manager: Uzoma Onyemaechi
 - i. Collection: Uzo asked for any feedback on the library collection to help the new assistant manager Roman Santillan guide collection development. About 7000 new books have recently been added to the collection.
 - ii. Staff: A new employee Eyol Joliza will join the Silver Spring Library staff. Eyol speaks Amharic and used to work for Prince George’s County library system. Eyol starts on 1/24.

- iii. Maintenance: The escalator has been fixed due to upcoming MoComCon. The security guard and a member of the cleaning staff will also work Saturday 1/27 to assist with the estimated 2000-3000 people coming to MoComCon. Both elevators are also working. Someone called from facilities on 1/22 to ask about work orders.
 - iv. Programming: MoComCon is 1/27, and a vinyl record day is being planned for most likely April 21st. Starting 2/9, the art display on the first floor will be replaced by a vinyl record display. A Spanish-language meditation class is held twice a month on the first and third Wednesday of every month at 7pm.
 - v. Resources: One more 3D printer is now working. Now two of three 3D printers are functioning.
 - vi. Uzo confirmed that the Silver Spring Post Office will be relocated to the first floor of the library building on a temporary basis (probably 2-3 years).
- b. Library Board Liaison: Kim Durcho
- i. A Joint Meeting was held January 10 related to advocacy.
 - ii. Two toolkits will be released in the Library Board publication "In the Know":
 1. A toolkit for voters, including key dates, deadlines, and who the candidates are.
 2. A toolkit for library advocacy, including talking points at budget forums and how to tell your story (**see attached 2018 Advocacy Toolkit**).
- c. **FOLSS/Arts Update:**
- i. Author Series: Jennifer Thornton reported that about 30 people came to the event with Alexandra Zapruder in conversation with Eric Weiner. LAC members Joan, Joelle, and Mary Ann were also present. The February event for Library Lover's Month will be 2/15, 7-8:30pm, Angela Davis discussing her anthology Policing the Black Man: Arrest, Prosecution, and Imprisonment (Kelsey Babik may present the intro). Several authors of essays in the anthology will also be present. The presentation on 3/15 will be given by Barbara Feinman Todd (Carlos Munoz Jimenez may present the intro).
 1. Seats were set up for the Zapruder event, but audio wasn't set up fully.
 2. It was discussed whether it may be possible to record author series events. It was mentioned that possibly the Ghandi Brigade (teen program) could record the events. It was discussed where the recordings may be uploaded (such as YouTube, Yahoo Listserv, or livestream on Facebook), and Uzo mentioned that release forms would need to be signed by anyone shown in the recordings.

- ii. Friends of the Library Silver Spring: Kathlin Smith discussed three programs planned for Library Lover’s Month (author series, The Human Body, and Piccolo’sTrunk, displayed at <https://www.folmc.org/silver-spring-chapter/>). FOLSS members will also be providing outreach from the table on the first floor of the library and at the March 24th library book sale (10am-4pm, with first hour for Friends members only and setup on 3/23 by Friends members). Volunteers are needed.
- 5. **Unfinished business:** Paulette Dickerson, Chair
 - a. **Purple Line Project Update:** Community Advisory Team (CAT) meetings for the Purple Line construction discussed earlier during announcements.
 - i. There has been no response from the Long Branch Library manager about Long Branch residents coming to SSLAC meeting to discuss Purple Line impact (since Long Branch does not have a LAC). Joan has been posting SSLAC meeting notices at Long Branch.
 - b. **Lion Statue Update:** The new location of the lion statue (on flat grass area in front of the library) may make it vulnerable to damage from dogs or children. It was voted on unanimously to write to Anita Vassalo requesting a new concrete plinth for the statue. Mary Ann said she was willing to write the request and look up history of the statue. Uzo mentioned that we may need to be aware of how the elevated lion statue could possibly block the view of local businesses.
 - c. **Library Building Signage:** It was discussed how it is difficult to see the Silver Spring Library sign versus the more prominent Levine Music sign. Directional signs to the library are also not very clear or present. It is even difficult to tell how to get to the library from the first floor lobby.
 - i. It was mentioned that Quince Orchard Library successfully got updated signage.
 - ii. Uzo suggested that SSLAC schedules a future meeting with Acting MCPL Director Anita Vassalo to discuss a list of issues we want addressed, including signage.
 - iii. Uzo also suggested that SSLAC meet with members of the Greater Silver Spring Chamber of Commerce (including President and CEO Jane Redicker) to discuss possible partnership related to signage for the library around the Silver Spring business district.
 - iv. Paulette said she would reach out to Anita and Greater Silver Spring Chamber of Commerce representatives to see if they will attend future SSLAC meetings.
- 6. **New business:** Paulette Dickerson, Chair
 - a. Dickerson may testify for the CIP budget hearings on 2/6 at 7:30pm and 2/7 at 1:30pm and 7:30pm at the council office building in Rockville. See <http://www.montgomerycountymd.gov/council/calendar.html>. Mary Ann may also attend a hearing.
 - b. Carlos asked about any results from last year’s SSLAC survey. Paulette has not received any results yet.
- 7. **Adjourn:** The meeting was adjourned at 9 PM.