

## **Silver Spring Library Advisory Committee (LAC) Regular Meeting Minutes**

March 18, 2019 7:30 p.m.

Texts of reports and comments are surrounded by # # # and were submitted to the Secretary via email after the meeting.

Meeting, at Silver Spring Library, 3rd Floor Conference Room, called to order at 7:33 p.m. by Chair Paulette Dickerson.

Sign-In Sheet at front table.

### *SSLAC Members Present:*

*Present:* Paulette Dickerson (Chair), Melvyn Greberman, Mary Ann Nyamweya (Secretary), Scott Shoreman.

*Absent:* Dana Anderson, Judy Boggess, Jill Brantley, Jessica Deibert, Rodney Elin, Kristen Maki, Jennifer Okosun, Robyn Watts.

### ***Others Present:***

Kim Durcho, MCPL Board Liaison; Joseph House, Friends of the Library, Silver Spring Chapter; Uzo Onyemaechi, Silver Spring Library Manager, Myra Remigio-Leonard, Silver Spring Library Senior Librarian.

**ROUNDTABLE INTRODUCTIONS** took place.

### **APPROVAL OF MINUTES**

No quorum has been available to approve the January or February minutes.

### **CHAIR ANNOUNCEMENTS**

LAC membership:

Two resignations: Jennifer Okosun and Michelle Prikhodko.

New member: Lisa Thomas.

Montgomery County Executive Marc Elrich, last Executive Budget forum on March 27, at Montgomery College, Takoma Park campus.

FY20 budget hearings start April 8. The budget came out last week, roughly ½ of 1% higher than last year for Libraries.

April 29 testimony mid-day, 2 p.m., 3rd floor, County Council Chambers. Craig Rice chairs the Education/Culture Committee, which has jurisdiction over libraries. If any can attend, wear library color (orange).

### **SILVER SPRING LIBRARY MANAGER REPORT**

*Presented by Uzo Onyemaechi, Library Manager.*

Introduced new Senior Librarian, Myra Remigio-Leonard.

# # #

### **COLLECTION/STAFF**

We continue to process our new books and weed the collection to meet our goal of meeting the needs of our community and fulfilling our Strategic plans. To that effect we are meeting our requirements for circulation of most of our collection in all formats.

We have a new format called Vox Books –

***Print book, meet audio book. VOX™ Books are the world's first audio books that live in print books. The permanently attached VOX™ Reader transforms an ordinary print book into an all-in-one read-along. There's no need for computers, tablets or CDs. Children simply push a button to listen and read.***

***VOX™ Books combine outstanding picture books and non-fiction with audio recordings that capture children's attention and make learning and literacy development fun.***

**Features:**

- **Hardcover book with full audio recording. Simply push a button to listen and read, from beginning to end.**
- **Speaker for parent + child or group listening plus earphone jack for individual use.**
- **Fully portable read-along with rechargeable battery provides 100+ listens before recharge.**
- **No data or Wi-Fi required.**

Another Senior Librarian coming in April 2019 from out of state – Pennsylvania.

There is a search for new Library Director and the interviews are being conducted starting this week. Our current Acting Library Director, Ms.. Anita Vassallo, is a candidate.

**FACILITY**

Foot traffic of approximately 30,220 customers for the month of February 2019 – affected by weather, holidays, and construction all around us.

**PROGRAMMING**

***Montgomery County Master Gardeners*** provide a variety of resources to assist library customers in solving their gardening problems. They have weekly and monthly plant clinics at various locations around the County, where you may bring your questions and pick up information sheets on various topics. You may also bring your plant samples or photos with you to the plant clinics so they can respond to your gardening problem. The program runs from March to October every year.

***INVESTMENT 101*** – This Saturday, March 23, 2019, please join us to learn about investing and avoiding fraud from the U.S. Securities and Exchange Commission (SEC). Topics include: - smart use of credit, types of investment products and their risks, impact of fees, common red flags of fraud, and questions to ask before investing.

***American Sign Language 101*** – The emphasis of this class will be on vocabulary development, conversation, and practice. These sessions are appropriate for family members, teachers, child care providers, students ages 14 and older, and anyone who wishes to learn sign language. This program is sponsored by Montgomery County Association of Hearing Impaired Children, Maryland Deaf Culture Digital Library and Montgomery County Public Libraries.

We continue to provide our regularly scheduled weekly programs.

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**Discussion:**

VOX Books demo.

Garage/bridge to parking/parking. Revisit in future meeting.

**LIBRARY BOARD LIAISON REPORT**

*Presented by Kim Durcho, MCPL Board.*

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**Library Board Activities**

- The Board created an advocacy toolkit to be distributed to LAC and FOL members to help with efforts regarding the FY2020 budget this spring.
- The posting for new Board applicants was open and is now closed. We are waiting to receive applications in order to hold interviews and fill vacant positions.

- At the next meeting we will be discussing the annual report and its effectiveness. We would like to ask for input from LACs on how they view the annual report and what might make it a more helpful document.

**Director's Report**

- The search committee is holding interviews for the Director position on Monday and Tuesday this week.
- Refresh Projects
  - Chevy Chase – No definite date
  - Long Branch – No definite date – anticipate August 2019
  - Marilyn Praisner – No definite date – anticipate late April 2019
  - Wheaton – Substantial completion expected late April/early May 2019
- The County Executive presented his FY20 Recommended Operating Budget on March 15.
- Make Music Montgomery, MCPL's first music competition, is taking submissions through March 18. Performances will be held in front of judges at Just for the Record – A Vinyl Day on April 27.
- MCPL recently started offering Qello, a collection of concert films and music documentaries.
- VOX Books have also been launched as a part of the collection. They are audio books that live in print books.

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**Discussion:**

Today is Kim Durcho's last meeting as Board Liaison to the SSLAC. She is on the Board through mid-April. There will be an interim liaison over the next few meetings.

A bit of a lag right now for the Library Board, happens whenever there is a new new County Executive.. Library Board is down three people. Applications come from the County, then any candidates chosen need County Council approval.

Programming ideas: If someone has suggestions for specific programs for the Library, ideas should be submitted to the Library Manager for consideration.

**Action items Person responsible Deadline**

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**FRIENDS OF THE LIBRARY**

*Presented by Joseph House, President, Silver Spring Chapter*

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- In February, we brought in Kim Roberts, to discuss her book, A Literary Guide to Washington, DC. Also, on March 16, we had Ai-Ling Louie, present as part of our Children's Author Series. Future events are being planned and will be advertised in our newsletter, on Evanced, and via e-mail and other communications means. I am expecting a full report on the success of the events at our next board meeting, slated for March 27<sup>th</sup>
- We've had a run of bad luck and poor timing with our last two meetings. Our January meeting, for our Executive Committee, was cancelled and I encouraged our membership to attend the budget forum at the Civic Building, which was held on the same night; our February meeting was cancelled due to snow and has been rescheduled for this month. Our All Friends meeting will be in June on a date that will be determined at the March meeting

- We are setting dates for our next book drives in April. These drives will allow the community to donate books to the chapter that will be sold on our book carts and at our book sale, tentatively scheduled for May 4. We look forward to seeing everyone at the drives and at the sale!
- Library Lovers Month was a big success, once again. We sponsored numerous activities, including making Valentine's, West African Drum music, and a performance by Mark Jaster, who was trained by Marcel Marceau
- Don't forget FOLMC's Library After Dark Gala (tickets available at: <https://www.folmc.org/events-calendar/library-after-dark/>) on April 13 and Just for the Record, a Vinyl Record Festival, at the Silver Spring Library, on April 27

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**Discussion:**

Books, DVDs, CDs, Friends of the Library takes them all. What can't be sold will go to Wheaton.

Book cart sales continue to be successful.

Action items Person responsible Deadline

√ December Holiday party and possible LAC participation. FOLSS liaison Next meeting

**ONGOING BUSINESS**

**Discussion:**

Advocacy. Plans to invite County councilmembers to an LAC meeting were discussed.

Purple Line: no update.

√ Updated list of SSLAC membership. Mary Ann Nyamweya next meeting

√ Recruitment of new LAC members. All members ongoing

√ Agenda for SSLAC to focus on going forward. All members next meeting

**ADJOURNMENT**

Meeting adjourned at 8:38 p.m.

**For agenda items, send to Dickerson - two weeks' notice is needed.**Action items Person responsible Deadline√ Establish who is official administrator of the SSLAC ListServ, inform group. Paulette Dickerson next meeting

Minutes submitted by Secretary, Mary Ann Nyamweya.

Next meeting: April 15, 2019.