

Silver Spring Library Advisory Committee (SSLAC) Minutes
April 15, 2019

SSLAC Members present: Paulette Dickerson (Chair), Dana M. Anderson, Jessica Deibert
Rodney Elin, Melvin Greberman, Scott Shoreman, Robyn Watts

Also present: Laura Briskin-Limehouse (LAC Board Liaison), Uzo Onyemaechi (Silver Spring
Library Branch Manager), Regina Germain (guest)

I. Meeting called to order by chair at 7:43 pm.

II. Announcements

- a. Chair testified as an individual in support of library at a County Council budget hearing last week.
- b. Chair discussed where we are in the budget process for FY 2020 and the upcoming meetings of the County Council Education and Culture Committee and the full council. SSLAC members are encouraged to write letters or emails to the county council in support of increased library funding in the FY 2020 budget.
- c. Melvin Greberman and Uzo Onyemaechi attended the LAC Board potluck. Councilmember Will Jawando was there.

III. The chair proposed writing a letter to invite Councilmember Jawando to a meeting. There was unanimous approval.

IV. Branch Manager Report

- a. A new senior librarian, Kate Sweeney, started this week. She previously worked as a librarian in the District of Columbia Public Schools for ten years.
- b. Foot traffic for Silver Spring library in March 2019: 35,262
- c. April 2019 programs at the Silver Spring library include a U.S. Census job event, financial literacy programs, National Poetry Month, and vinyl record day.
- d. The AARP helped 300 people this year with the taxes at the Silver Spring library.
- e. Rodney Elin asked the branch manager about materials returned through the book drop not getting checked back in. He said that books get automatically scanned and checked back in through the book drop but that occasionally a returned item is missed and does not get checked back in. The staff is directed to check items back in for patrons who improperly get past due notices.
- f. There are new automated check-out machines in the library.

V. Minutes Approval

- a. December 2018 minutes: Approved as submitted (Scott Shoreman motioned to approve, Robyn Watts seconded).
- b. February 2019 minutes: Approved as amended (Dana M. Anderson motioned to approve, Robyn Watts seconded)
- c. March 2019 minutes: Approved as amended (Robyn Watts motioned to approve, Jessica Deibert seconded)

VI. LAC Board Liaison Report

- a. The Praisner branch closed on April 13, 2019 for a refresh. Work on the Wheaton branch is expected to be substantially completed around the end of April or beginning of May 2019. Work on the Long Branch branch is expected to start in August 2019.
- b. IndieFlix is now available through the library website.
- c. Councilmember Jawando is trying to meet with every library branch
- d. The Gaithersburg Book Festival is on May 18, 2019 from 10:00 am to 6:00 pm at city hall.
- e. See attached Montgomery County Library Director's report from April 10, 2019

VII. Purple Line: Work in downtown Silver Spring is supposed to start soon. It has been six months since the last community action team meeting.

VIII. New Business

- a. Robyn Watts asked why the Library Director has to approve any purchase of \$100 or more for the library by the friends group. It was noted that this could be a policy that the new director reconsiders.
- b. Robyn Watts discussed there being insufficient handicapped parking in the Wayne Avenue garage, and wants to raise this with the Silver Spring Parking Lot District.

IX. Meeting adjourned at 8:38 pm