

Silver Spring Library Advisory Committee (LAC)

Regular Meeting Minutes

May 20, 2019 7:30 p.m.

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

SSLAC Members present: Dana M. Anderson, Jill Brantley, Jessica Deibert, Rodney Elin, Saa Fillie, Regina Germain, Melvyn Greberman, Mary Ann Nyamweya (Secretary), Scott Shoreman, Robyn Watts.

Members absent: Judy Boggess, Paulette Dickerson (Chair), Lisa Thomas.

Others present: Laura Briskin-Limehouse (Board Liaison), Uzo Onyemaechi (Silver Spring Library Branch Manager), Kate Sweeney (Silver Spring Senior Librarian).

Meeting called to order by secretary at 7:35 p.m.

ROUNDTABLE INTRODUCTIONS took place.

SILVER SPRING LIBRARY MANAGER REPORT

Presented by Uzo Onyemaechi, Library Manager.

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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.

FACILITY

Foot traffic of approximately 32,082 customers for the month of April 2019 – affected by holidays and construction all around us.

Vinyl Records Day was 1800 people despite the bad weather (sleet) – rain mixed with snow – had more people.

Silver Spring Library will be open until 9 pm on Fridays and Saturdays from May 31, 2019 through August 24, 2019.

PROGRAMMING

Celebrate Older Americans Month with MCPL! To that extent we have had a program called “Introduction to Digital Culture” - This 5-week course offers a guide on how to assimilate to digital culture. It focuses on the practical and meaningful application of basic skills covered in an “Essentials” course. Participants will explore how to use online resources in their everyday lives and the many ways digital culture can meaningfully impact their lives. By the end of this course, participants will know how to connect more easily, avoid scams and fraud, identify reliable resources for health research, and virtually attend cultural events and museum exhibits. Course Level: Intermediate. Literature and iPads will be provided and you are welcome to bring your own devices. Location: Silver Spring Library, 3rd Floor, Meeting Room

- Kanopy – film streaming; collection includes award-winning documentaries, rare and hard-to-find titles, film festival favorites, indie and classic films, and world cinema. Cardholders can access up to 10 films per month.
- AcornTV – stream mysteries, dramas, and comedies from Britain and beyond. Acorn TV offers closed captions.

This event is free. Customers of all ages are welcome. No registration is required.

We continue to provide our regularly scheduled weekly programs.

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Discussion:

Facility cleanliness and upkeep: seeming change of cleaning staff and hours spent cleaning seem cut in half. Library Manager will check into this and let LAC know what the situation is. Cleaning is not something volunteers are allowed to do.

Question whether any plans for post office to move out of building; none known at this time.

Elin reminded new members they would receive emails from Yahoo to create IDs etc. for the SSLAC listserv. Library Manager will send information on new staff members so they can be added to the list.

APPROVAL OF MINUTES

April 2019 minutes: Elin motioned to approve, Fillie seconded. Approved as submitted.

LIBRARY BOARD LIAISON REPORT

Presented by Laura Briskin-Limehouse, MCPL Board.

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Montgomery County Library Board, Director's Report, May 8, 2019

- Personnel -The following staff changes took place during the month of April:

Transfers:

Heather Wright, Librarian II, transferred from Olney to Davis.

Jan Derry, Librarian II, transferred from Wheaton to Little Falls.

Maria Marquez, Librarian II, transferred from Little Falls to Wheaton.

New Hire: Katrin Sweeny, Librarian, Silver Spring

Promotions:

Jamie Kim was promoted from Library Associate to Librarian I; moving from Kensington Park to Maggie Nightingale.

Raeesa Farshori, was promoted from Library Desk Assistant to Library Assistant I; moving from Marilyn Praisner to Olney.

Separated from County service:

Ching-Yun Yuan, Library Assistant I

Winston Wong, Library Assistant I

- Refresh/Construction Projects Update:

Long Branch – Assessment of the plaza, back patio, and roof (topographic survey) is being completed. No date for closing is official but we are told sometime in July 2019.

Marilyn Praisner – Closed on Saturday, April 13, 2019. Moving services is finishing relocating shelves and taking the last few items to storage and surplus. Construction should begin on May 17, 2019.

Wheaton – Anticipated opening late summer (late Aug/early Sept 2019)

Maggie Nightingale - MCPL requested to delay this refresh in order to address issues at Germantown first. Councilmember Friedson and the Town of Poolesville would like to find a way to keep the Maggie Nightingale library on schedule.

- In partnership with Recorded Books, MCPL has rolled out Pongalo, offering unlimited streaming access to Spanish-language telenovelas and movies.

- The decision was made not to renew the Freegal contract after careful review of both cost and use. There are fewer than one thousand active Freegal users in a County of over one million residents and deemed the high cost of the annual Freegal contract to be prohibitive for this low level of usage. It was therefore decided to divert that spending to other higher use, higher impact services. MCPL will still offer streaming music through Alexander Street and streaming concerts via Qello, and will continue to evaluate potential music offerings as they become available.

- On Saturday, May 11, 2 PM, at the Potomac Library, the Potomac Valley Chapter of Jack and Jill of America, Inc. will present a donation of books. The donation consists of books written by African American authors and/or centered on African American themes; the reader age range is 2-19 (the ages of children in Jack and Jill). This is the 10th year they have generously donated books to the collection.

- Upcoming events:

May 11, 7 PM, Contemporary Conversations with Bob Levey, Chevy Chase

May 18, 10 Am 6 PM, Gaithersburg Book Festival, City Hall Grounds

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NEW BUSINESS

Elections

Nominations were made: for Chair, Mary Ann Nyamweya; for Vice Chair, in absentia, Paulette Dickerson; for Secretary, Scott Shoreman.

Elin moved to close nominations, Watts seconded.

Votes: unanimous in favor of each of the three nominees.

Discussion:

Consider what the frequency of LAC meetings should be – monthly, every other month? Come with ideas next meeting.

ONGOING BUSINESS

Purple Line: display model should be arriving soon.

ADJOURNMENT

Meeting adjourned at 8:40 p.m.

For agenda items, send to Chair – two weeks' notice is needed.

Minutes submitted by Secretary, Mary Ann Nyamweya.

Next meeting, and last one before Summer hiatus: June 17, 2019.