

Silver Spring Library Advisory Committee (SSLAC) Meeting Minutes, September 16, 2019

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

SSLAC Members Present:

Present: Paulette Dickerson (Chair), Scott Shoreman (secretary), Ella Hu, Saa Fillie, Rebecca Calcagno, Jill Brantley, Regina Germain, Dana Anderson, Melvyn Greberman

Absent: Judy Boggess, Jessica Deibert, Rodney Elin, Maryann Nyamweya

Others Present:

Laura Briskin-Limehouse, MCPL Board Liaison; Joseph House, Friends of the Library, Silver Spring Chapter; Kate Sweeney, Silver Spring Library

July 2019 minutes: Approved as submitted. Mr. Fillie motioned to approve, seconded by Ms. Anderson.

CHAIR ANNOUNCEMENTS

- Councilmember Will Jawando is still in the process of having public meetings at all the library branches, and has had several so far. The next one on September 23, 7:00 pm, at the Chevy Chase branch. Anyone who can is encouraged to attend.
- Robyn Watts is now on the MCPL Board and has therefore left the Silver Spring LAC.

SILVER SPRING LIBRARY MANAGER REPORT

Presented by Kate Sweeney, on behalf of Uzo Onyemaechi, Library Manager

- There is a rebalancing of the system-wide collection. Materials that have not circulated for a while from one branch might be sent to another branch.
- The collections team periodically asks the Silver Spring branch about its needs for its collection. Suggestions can be submitted.
- There are two new part-time (20 hours a week) librarians who started this month, one of whom is a children's librarian. They are replacing two employees who were promoted and are now at other branches.
- The career corner program, which provides one-on-one help with resumes and job searches, has been suspended due to staffing issues and will hopefully be started again soon.
- Programs this month at the Silver Spring branch include job searching in the digital age, a sensory story time program, and District Arcade, which involves indie game developers.
- Foot traffic was 39,130 in July 2019 and 38,595 in August 2019.
- There was a question about the warm temperature in the room and the building in general. Ms. Sweeney reported that there was an HVAC system reset earlier in the day due to a fire drill, and the temperature in

the building was still warmer as a result. There have been fewer problems this year with the HVAC system.

LIBRARY BOARD LIAISON REPORT

Presented by Laura Briskin-Limehouse, MCPL Library Board.

- There is now a full slate of members on the Board.
- The Wheaton Library opening was well attended. The inside play area needs to be redesigned due to a dangerous design.
- Marilyn Praisner (Burtonsville) branch is to reopen in the fall.
- Linda.com was bought by Linked In. MCPL is ending its affiliation due to privacy concerns.
- MCPL is looking to improve circulation, adult learning opportunities, and active users.
- MCPL is targeting 20 to 40 year-olds to get library cards this month.
- LAC Handbook – There are not expected to be big changes. Please send any suggested changes, including grammatical mistakes, by the end of October.

FRIENDS OF THE LIBRARY SILVER SPRING (FOLSS)

Presented by Joe House, SSFOL President

- FOLSS All Friends meeting is September 18 at 7:30 pm. Officers will be selected.
- Next book sale is expected to be in December.
- See attached FOLSS report presented at the meeting.

PURPLE LINE

- The Chair provided an update of the upcoming work zone around the library.
- Pedestrian access will be maintained to businesses on Bonifant Street and to the library.
- SSLAC can make suggestions to the project managers about signage and access. This can be done before and during the work.
- There could be some power disruptions to the library during construction. There is supposed to be 72 hours advance notice.
- The alley where the book return is will continue to be open to vehicular traffic but access will be more difficult.

NEW BUSINESS

- The Chair suggested that SSLAC work on getting a pedestrian bridge from the Wayne Avenue garage to the library. It could be framed as part of Vision Zero, a national effort to reduce pedestrian deaths. The complications that the Purple Line will bring to the intersection of Wayne and Fenton could increase the need for the bridge.
- LAC Handbook: SSLAC members are encouraged to submit any suggested changes or feedback by the October meeting. They could be compiled and submitted together to the Board.

ADJOURNMENT

Meeting adjourned at 8:45 p.m.

Minutes submitted by Scott Shoreman, Secretary

Next meeting: October 21, 2019