

## Silver Spring Advisory Committee (SSLAC) Minutes, October 19, 2020

Meeting online via Zoom

### **SSLAC Members:**

*Present:* Scott Shoreman (Chair), Regina Germain (Secretary), Rebecca Calcagno, Melvyn Greberman, Ella Hu.

*Absent:* Dana Anderson, Jill Brantley, Paulette Dickerson, Jessica Deibert, Saa Fillie, Mary Ann Nyamweya, Rodney Ellin.

### **Others Present:**

Uzoma Onyemaechi, Silver Spring Library Manager

Laura Briskin-Limehouse, Library Board Liaison

Linda Curvey Brown, Senior Librarian / Assistant Manager at Silver Spring Library

### **Chair Announcements**

1. Discussion of our experiences reserving materials from the library and using the contactless pick up over the last month. The Chair mentioned that he used the Contactless Pickup and it took four days for a book he ordered online to be ready for pickup. The Secretary also mentioned that it was easy to schedule Contactless Pickup for to books she ordered.
2. Purple line update. There will be a Purple Line Corridor Coalition annual meeting on Tuesday, November 17 from 9:00am to 12:30pm. Information and registration is available at: <https://www.eventbrite.com/e/plcc-virtual-annual-stakeholder-meeting-tickets-124694804517>
3. The Chair also mentioned that there is a November 18 online meeting of the Friends of The Library Montgomery County (FOLMC)

### **Silver Spring Library Manager Report**

1. Collection - The Silver Spring Library is serving the public with Contact-less Services using the Library Lane Entrance. Hold Lockers are shut down till further notice.
2. Staff - Two of our employees transferred to other branches: - **Susan Smith** (Librarian I-Adult) went to Long Branch but currently at Wheaton until they reopen. **Tina Kao** (Library Associate-Children) went to Quince Orchard. We have a new transfer – **Linda Curvey-Brown (Senior Librarian from Rockville Memorial Library)**.

3. Programming – The Library moved its programs to online using a Zoom account paid for the Library Administration with the help of the Friends of the Library, Montgomery County [FOLMC]. They have been tremendously successful, especially the story times. The Library has restarted our Spanish, Amharic, French story times, and English Conversation Club. We have also added French Conversation Club, Spanish Conversation Club (transplants from Long Branch), and Spanish Book Club (transplants from Gaithersburg).
4. Services - The Library had its annual Staff Development and Training Day (usually on Columbus Day). This year's theme was "Racial Equity and Social Justice." There were a slew of speakers including the opening keynote speaker, Dr. Carolyn Coleman, Vice President of Montgomery County NAACP; "*The Journey to Inclusion*" by Kelli McLoud-Schingen; "*Moving Beyond Tolerance: Why Striving for Cultural Competence is Essential*" by Dr. Rene Hill; Environmental Justice, Dr. Orgbon, III; Diverse Books by Kathie Weinberg; Tiffany Ward, Montgomery County's Equity Officer; and the closing keynote speaker was Dr. Christine A. Platt: Exploring the Black Experience Through Her Work as Historian, Author, and Activist.

### **Library Board Liaison Report**

1. New Hires: Digital Strategies is now at full strength after recently hiring a Program Specialist.
2. The Summer Reading Program had its highest participation rate.
3. There is no date for when the county will move from Stage 3 to Stage 2 under current Covid-19 restrictions.
4. Computer Labs and Printing are slowly reopening.
5. At the moment, the budget does not need more savings this fiscal year.
6. The Fines and Fees Task Force proposal to eliminate fines was approved by the Board and is moving up the chain for approval.

### **FOMCL Report**

Joe House sent the following report by email to the Chair:

1. While the branch continues to be closed, we are still open and functioning. We have been helping the branch produce programming throughout the pandemic. Most recently, we sponsored the virtual magic show held this month. We also supported Summer Reading programs and other activities through our sponsorships.
2. We are not currently taking book donations, but FOLMC is at the Rockville location of their bookstore on Boiling Brook Parkway. If anyone has donations, they can reach out to FOLMC and get details or bring the donations by the store (which is open for shopping).

3. We are still having meetings as a board and intend to have our annual meeting and elections in December. We currently need a Membership Chair, and anyone interested in helping the chapter in any way should attend the meeting or reach out to me for additional information. As soon as I have a date for the meeting, I will share it with the group.

### **New Business**

- The Silver Spring Library Manager, Uzoma Onyemaechi, noted that he raised Ella Hu's willingness to help with Black History Month to his staff and Linda Curvey Brown will reach out to Ella Hu.
- Uzoma also noted that he will reach out to Dana about programming and that he will follow up with Mel Greberman about programming for aging. Mel stated that he is a member of the Montgomery County Health and Wellness Advisory Group.
- The Chair also discussed the need for Committee members to show up for meetings so that we can have a quorum. There was discussion about sending a letter to members who have missed meetings.

### **September 2020 Minutes**

There was no quorum to approve the minutes.

### **Adjournment**

The meeting was adjourned at 8:15pm