

## Wheaton Library Advisory Committee Meeting – April 16, 2018 – 7:30 PM



**Attendees:** Carolyn Teich (Chair), April Rivers (secretary), Kassahun Teffera (LAC), Thelda McMillian (LAC), Jane Williams (MCLB), Tali Rasooly, Naomi Kawin, Yesvy Gustaap, Carol Bender, and Dianne Whitaker (Ex-officio -- Wheaton Interim Library Manager).

- I. Carolyn called the meeting to order at 7:30. The March minutes were approved.**
- II. Library Advisory Committees for Wheaton and White Oak Report presented by Jane Williams.**

The board met April 11.

### **Highlights from Interim Library Director's Report**

Director Vassallo said of the April 2 White Oak e-opening: "There was a great crowd. The responses to the refreshed building have been overwhelmingly positive." She noted the Bethesda re-opening will be April 14 at 10 a.m. It will include the dedication ceremony renaming the branch for Connie Morella.

FY 19 refresh projects are the following:

- Marilyn Praisner. A concept meeting was held April 5 with the architect and the Department of General Services (DGS).
- Long Branch. DGS is still working on the contract with the architect.
- Maggie Nightingale. Review will begin after the opening of the Bethesda branch.

Ms. Vassallo covered various programs, including the March 24 launch of *1,000 Books before Kindergarten*. The goal is for parents to read 1,000 books to their children before they enter kindergarten, to encourage early literacy skills and family engagement.

### **Library Board Actions**

The board welcomed two new members in person. A third was unable to attend.

The LAC Workgroup brought a final draft of the revised LAC handbook and the LAC brochure to the board for review. The board approved both. The brochure will get a couple of minor revisions before printing and distribution. The handbook will be distributed as soon as the County Attorney's office has reviewed it. The Policy and Practices Workgroup of the board had reviewed the revisions prior to the board meeting.

MCLB members next reported on the Library Advisory Committees to which they are liaisons.

The next MCLB meeting will be May 9.

### **III. Library Manager's Report to the Wheaton LAC – presented by Dianne Whitaker**

Facilities – Wheaton Library and Community Recreation Center progress is continuing on exterior wall framing and concrete work. The second story sub-flooring is being poured. Rough-ins and placement for plumbing, electrical, fireproofing, insulation, and mechanical equipment are continuing.

The Wheaton Interim branch had a minor elevator and plumbing issue. These were addressed.

Collection - A community analysis is being worked on to determine types of materials to be purchased for the new Wheaton library's collection. Community input is welcomed and encouraged. Additional personal finance materials were added to support Financial Literacy month programming. Wheaton Interim has many new families borrowing picture books.

Kemp Mill neighborhood: April sent out a message on the Kemp mill list serve asking for collection suggestions. Neighbors responded with Kosher cookbooks and graphic novels for adults.

Programs - There were nine persons who attended a workshop on Identity Theft Prevention sponsored by the Montgomery County Consumer Protection Office. There will be a special nature themed craft program on Thursday April 19 at 4 pm to celebrate Earth month. Monday evening and Tuesday morning story times will be continuing through the summer. This year summer reading will begin on June 9 and end September 9, 2018. The theme will be "Libraries Rock".

Services - All functions of the Mid-County Express are currently working including Holds Lockers and Lending Library Vending Machine.

From the MCPL website, "Montgomery County Public Libraries (MCPL) has received a [National Endowment for the Arts \(NEA\) Big Read grant](#) in partnership with the [Friends of the Library, Montgomery County \(FOLMC\)](#), [Montgomery Community Media](#), the [Gaithersburg Book Festival](#), and [Montgomery History](#). The Big Read goal is to revitalize the role of literature in American culture and spread the transformative power of literature into lives."

The Big Read kick off book is "The Beautiful Things that Heaven Bears" by Dinaw Mengestu. The book tells the story of the immigrant experience in Montgomery County.

### **IV. New Business**

a) The Wheaton LAC will need a new chairperson and secretary after June 2018.

**V. Adjournment and next meeting**

The meeting adjourned at 8:45. The next meeting is May 21, 7:30 PM, at the Wheaton Interim Library.