

Wheaton Library Advisory Committee Meeting – February 25, 2019 – 7:30 PM



Attendees: Elaine Myada (Co-chair), April Rivers (secretary), Jane Williams (MCLB), Carolyn Teich, Kassahun Teffera, Yesvy Gustasp, Carol Bender, Laura Cooper, Louisa Magzanion, Richard Furno, and Dianne Whitaker (Ex-officio -- Wheaton Interim Library Manager).

- I. Elaine called the meeting to order at 7:40 PM. The January minutes were approved.
- II. Committee Discussion: Dianne showed the FY2020 Advocacy Toolkit on the big screen.
- III. Joint Meeting, presented by Jane Williams
The library board met February 13. It approved several applications for LAC membership, including four for the Rockville group, which is re-building, similarly to Potomac's recent efforts.

Regina Holyfield-Jewett had bookmarks for the board from the Deaf Culture Digital Library, provided by Sarah Cohen. Williams invited the group to review the DCDL website and to publicize its offering to/through board members' networks and communities. (By meeting's end, the Montgomery College Library Director had forwarded the website info to his staff.)

Acting Director's Report

There was a February 20 meeting with County Executive Elrich to discuss the Libraries' budget for FY20. There are no firm dates yet for the start of refresh projects for the Marilyn Praisner Library or the Long Branch Library. The Chevy Chase Library is undergoing a five-month assessment prior to further plans for its refresh project.

Legislative and Public Affairs Work Group

Board vice chair Kim Durcho reviewed contents of the just-released Advocacy Toolkit, which the board and Friends of the Library jointly developed.

<https://www.folmc.org/support/advocacy-toolkit/>

The position paper (in the toolkit) states tie-ins with Executive Elrich's priorities and also recommends new funding to support those priorities. The position paper can be a handout for officials when library supporters meet with them.

Upcoming Dates:

There will be Education Budget Forums in late February and March, sponsored by County Council member Craig Rice, MC Public Schools Superintendent Dr. Jack Smith, and Montgomery College President Dr. DeRionne Pollard. Upcoming forums (all of which are 6:30-8:30 p.m.) are

- March 6, Rockville High School, cafeteria
- March 11, Bethesda Chevy Chase High School, cafeteria
- March 27, Montgomery College Takoma Park Campus, Cultural Arts Center, Theater 1.

The library board's next meeting will be March 13.

IV. Library Manager's Report to the Wheaton LAC – presented by Dianne Whitaker

Facilities – The Wheaton Library and Community Recreation Center has reached approximately 80 percent completion. Drywall is continuing to be installed for many areas of the library and the shared upstairs space. Bathroom tiling is ongoing.

Maintenance of existing library facilities: Dianne explained that the Montgomery County General Services is responsible for the maintenance of all libraries.

Lighting and electrical work is ongoing. Room finishes have been selected and are being installed.

Collection – A new selection of “Playaways” have been added to the MCPL collection including a nice selection of Adult and Children's materials for the Wheaton Branch. A new item type – VOX books have been added to the collection.

Programs: Twenty- seven children and adults attended the Sunday, February 10, 2019, production of Literary Fiesta by InterAct Family Story Theatre. There will be one additional Green room rental for a MCPL program on April 10, 2019.

Services: The Wheaton branch has been asked to prepare an outreach story time program for a new MCPS MacDonald knolls preschool. This service is in development.

V. New Business

None discussed.

VI. Adjournment at 8:33 PM and next meeting

VII. The next meetings will be held on: 3/18, 4/15, and May and June are TBD.

