

Wheaton Library Advisory Committee Meeting – June 17, 2019 – 7:30 PM



Attendees: Elaine Myada (Co-Chair), Jessica French (Co-chair), April Rivers (secretary), Jane Williams (MCLB), Thelda McMillian, Carolyn Teich, Yesvy Gustasp, Diane Dubrawsky, Naomi Kawin, Carol Bender, Kassahun Teffera, and Dianne Whitaker (Ex-officio -- Wheaton Interim Library Manager).

- I. Elaine called the meeting to order at 7:30 PM. The May minutes were approved.
- II. Joint Meeting, presented by Jane Williams
The board met June 12.

Highlights from Interim Library Director's Report

Assistant Director James Donaldson (newly promoted to AD) represented Anita Vassallo, who was at Councilmember Jawando's first "community conversation" at the Silver Spring Library. Mr. Donaldson gave the following update on refresh projects:

- Long Branch -- no official date for closing,
- Marilyn Praisner – demolition is moving quickly,
- Wheaton – interim library closing June 22, in preparation for late summer opening of new Wheaton Library and Community Recreation Center.

MCPL has received five awards from the National Association of Counties for outstanding programs: Books@Home; No J Fines: more Reading, More Access; Library of Things: Music; Enhancing Conversations: Intergenerational Book Discussions; Managers' Academy & Frontline Supervisors Cohort: Initiatives for Success.

The county will move toward outcome-based budgeting and the Office of Management and Budget has met with MCPL to begin the first steps.

Board Actions

The board approved seven applications for LAC membership: Aspen Hill (1), Germantown (1), Olney (3 renewals), Potomac (1), Quince Orchard (1). The board awaits approval from the County Executive and County Council of nominations for four new board members.

The board elected Jensen Chiu chair and Jane Williams vice chair for one-year terms.

The group approved adding two questions to the LAC annual report form for 2018-19:

1. What were your notable accomplishments for this year?
2. What worked well for your group this year? What good practices have you developed that you would recommend to others? What is an area of growth with which you may need help?

These supplemental questions will be asked to collect narrative information that can be compiled and shared among LACs. The revised report form will be sent to MCLB board liaisons who will share it with LACs. It will also be added to the LAC Handbook.

The board's next meeting will be July 10.

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

Library Manager's Report to the Wheaton LAC – June 2019

Facilities – The Wheaton Library and Community Recreation Center has reached approximately 95 percent completion. The library flooring has been installed. Shelving will be installed this week. The new building interior work is nearly complete. The exterior work is in progress, estimated final completion is late summer. The Wheaton Interim will be closing to the public on Saturday June 22, 2019 at 6:00 pm. Staff will begin to move materials to the new building after June 26, 2019. The date for the Grand Re-opening has not been announced. It is estimated to be in very late summer.

Collection- Preparation is being made to refine the ordering of the World Language collection in FY20. New materials are being ordered based on Wheaton staff selections. There will be approximately 70,000 to 90,000 items in the new Wheaton library. A final collection count will not be known until after inventory in late August.

Programs: Program planning has begun for Fall and Winter 2019-2020. The Library Manager attended a Recreation Dept. sponsored town hall on June 12, 2019. There many ideas for joint Recreation and Library programming.

Programs for Fall 2019 will be set by July 1, 2019. There will be a Wednesday morning toddler story time, Circle Time and block play on Tuesday mornings. A possible sensory story time on a weekday afternoon and a possible Spanish-English bi-lingual story time every other Saturday. The following adult programs are planned: SCORE, Adult Book club, Senior citizen Computer classes through Senior Connect, and a drawing class for seniors.

There will be a teen videography class conducted by the Ghandi brigade and middle school animation and graphic novel classes. There are special events being planned to commemorate Hispanic-Heritage month, Contemporary Conversations in March and Inter-Act Family Story Theatre events planned January-April. Due to the impending move, Wheaton is not actively participating in Summer Read and Learn 2019.

Services: Holds pick-ups may be suspended until Fall or designated for another nearby branch. Items checked out this week may be renewed up to three times as long as there are no holds. This may enable customers to hold items through the summer.

IV. New Business

There was considerable discussion for the Wheaton LAC to be allowed a walkthrough of the new facility, possibly in August, to help plan for the grand opening ceremonies. The LAC would like to have a table at the opening to attract more members that better reflect the diversity of the community.

Elections: Elaine and Jessica will remain as co-chairs. April will remain as secretary.

Wheaton Book Club: Will meet at the White Oak Library in July and August.

- V. The next meetings will be held on 9/23/19, 10/28/19, November meeting is a joint session with the Friends of the Library, 12/16/19, 1/27/20, 2/24/20, 3/16/20, 4/20/20, 5/18/20, & 6/15/20. Some meetings will be held on the fourth Monday of the month because of Monday holidays.