

Wheaton Library Advisory Committee Meeting – January 24, 2022 – 8:00 PM

Online via Zoom



Attendees: Jessica French (Co-chair), April Rivers (secretary), Grace Manubay (Library Board Liaison), Yesvy Gustasp, Carolyn Teich, Andrew Rein, Carol Bender, Diana Dubrawsky, and Dianne Whitaker (Ex-officio -- Wheaton Library Manager).

- I. Jessica called the meeting to order at 8:05 PM.
- II. October minutes were approved. December minutes were not completed.
- III. Library Manager's Report to the Wheaton LAC – presented by Dianne Whitaker

Facilities: Although all exterior work has been postponed until Spring, a staff member recently fell in the loading dock area. Rubber matting was requested for the staff entrance. COVID-19 rapid test kit distribution began January 10, 2022. N-95 mask distribution began Friday January 21, 2022. Parking and crowd control have been issues, but overall the distribution is very successful.

Collection: Wheaton Library is receiving the *Washington Times* since Monday January 24, 2022. The branch is waiting for the carrier to resume service of the *New York Times*, *Wall Street Journal* and *Washington Post*. There is no information on how many print magazines will be resumed and when they will be added back to the collection.

Programs: All programs for January and February are once again virtual only. Wheaton staff hosted a virtual baby story time on February 2, 2022. We are continuing to host weekly Tai Chi, and monthly Adult Book discussion and Journaling programs. Our Black History month will focus on the history of school segregation in Montgomery County. That program was held on Wednesday February 9, 2022 at 1:00 pm.

Services: Branch services for weekdays were extended at all branches. Our Monday-Thursday schedule is now 10:00 am to 8:00 pm. Strategic plan input is beginning Monday January 21, 2022.

- IV. MCLB Report - Grace Manubay - board liaison.
The January joint meeting occurred. A position paper written by the board and the FOLMC was presented discussing providing services during the pandemic. April is budget season. County residents can testify about library services. Strategic planning lasts four months.

- V. New Business: Andrew asked if Sunday library hours were returning. Grace will ask at the next MCLB meeting. Yesvy asked how many library employees were out due to COVID, but only one person was out a month ago. Carolyn stated that the library bookclub virtual meeting has more attendees from out of the Wheaton area. Dianne discussed the “what do libraries mean to you” survey and how attendees could post comments at the library and online via a QR code. She sent the QR code to the LAC.

- VI. Meeting was adjourned at 8:50 PM. The next Wheaton LAC meeting is Monday, February 28, 2022, 8:00 PM, via Zoom.