

Wheaton Library Advisory Committee  
June 17, 2024  
7:00-8:00 pm via Zoom

Join Zoom Meeting  
<https://us06web.zoom.us/j/82303357497>  
Meeting ID: 82303357497

## Agenda

1. Call to order
  - Approval of minutes from last meeting, May 20, 2024
2. Reports
  - Membership Report
  - Agency Manager's Report
    1. Collection
    2. Facility
    3. Programming
    4. Services
  - Library Board Liaison Report
3. Unfinished Business
4. New Business
  - Discussion with agency manager on the following topics:
    1. Collection needs
    2. Facility issues
    3. Questions/input about programming
    4. New needs in community for services
    5. Community happenings that could have library impact

## Meeting Minutes

Attendees: Yesvy Gustasp, Thelda McMillian, Ania Terajewicz-Waller, Farah Nageer-Kanthor, Diana Dubrawsky, Grace Manubay, Hoa Nguyen (Helen), Carol Bender, and Dianne Whitaker (ex-officio)

Absent: Eric Wallace and Carolyn Teich

### Opening Business

- Dianne amended the minutes and Yesvy Gustasp called for a motion to approve the minutes for the May 20, 2024 meeting. Ania moved and Yesvy seconded and the minutes were approved.

## June 17, 2024 Manager's Report to the Wheaton LAC

### Facilities

- Some long-standing issues with the sun shades in the main library area re. getting the contractor to come out to fix
  - o Yesvy commented that it is warm on the Arcola side but it is cold on another side so may need to recirculate the air.
  - o Dianne added that they will submit a work order to look at un-evenness in air circulation in the facility where the computer, children, and staff areas that require some attention
- Program room doors still need to be repaired and they first need to find a contractor
- Moving to an in-house work order system in July and that is likely to impact how things move forward
- Most things are working fairly well at the moment

### Collection displays

- Current focus is on the summer reading program
- Pride Month, Juneteenth, Caribbean Heritage, Travel, and a display on Summer and Outdoor Adventures in the Children's area
- FY25 budget set aside funds for Hoopla and Libby as they have grown in popularity for E- and Audio books (while CD book use and demand has dropped)

### Program Update

- Adventure at your Library is the theme for this year's summer reading program; 0-5- and 6-12-year-old programs and another teen-focused program where, upon reaching 3 activities, you get a badge and can be entered into a raffle for a prize are currently underway; badges are offered for different reading accomplishments but there is not a focus on keeping a reading log but rather on encouraging a range of literacy building activities.
- Link between the summer program and supporting the county's parks
- 4 special programs for children: Found in the Stars, A Galactic Coming of Age Adventure, a double-Dutch jump rope presentation in the Gyn, Mike Rose Magic in early July, cartooning classes will be offered in the last week of June;
- The Summer adult reading program includes a trivia pub night and Silver Spring Farmer's Market program
- Continuing with family story time, bilingual story time, and inter-generational reading programs. Wheaton has been having 'grand-readers' for 3+ years
- Adult programs: monthly computer help; weekly yoga; conversation club; master gardeners composting workshop; information from HHS about the Villages program
- Dianne encouraged members to join the adult reading program

- There was a regional kick-off for the summer reading program at White Oak on June 15<sup>th</sup> which had about 70+ participants and Wheaton also hosted a 'Beginning Genealogy' program for African Americans which was in honor of Juneteenth

#### Staff Update

- No staffing changes at the Wheaton library for June
- Director search update: currently interviewing and have appointed an acting director, Angelisa Hawes, who has been Dianne's direct supervisor for the last 4.5 years
- Yesvy commended Adult Services Librarian Alan H. who facilitated an AI program - presentation was by U of MD faculty member-which was well received and there is a demand for it to be available online

#### Library Board Liaison Report from Grace Manubay

- Board meeting was last week which was the last meeting with the outgoing director, Anita Vassallo
- Interviews are being held currently virtually and selection process will identify 2-3 candidates for in-person interviews in July
- Interim director will take on that role on July 1st
- Any new director won't be confirmed until the Fall since County Council takes a summer recess and they would need to confirm a new director
- The Board is also interviewing for members as there has been some transition in membership
- Heard from another regional manager, Patrick, who shared information about the programming. Dianne is due to present to the board in October and Steve Warwick from Germanton/Gaithersburg will present next
- Grace reminded that these meetings are held on the 2<sup>nd</sup> Wednesday/month @ 7pm and are open to all and the minutes are posted online as well
  - o Yesvy asked Grace if they can reconsider having a Zoom option for these meetings to allow observers-only to participate and Grace agreed to bring the question forward.
  - o Grace also explained that LAC members can raise questions during our regular LAC meetings and she can bring them to the larger Board meetings
  - o Dianne shared that staff have had a refresher on working with the Union; doesn't expect any additional major staffing changes; and suggested that they will wait and see how things evolve

#### Unfinished Business

- None

#### Questions/Discussion

- Ania raised a question about Hoopla. Hoopla is expanding the number of titles that they provide but there is still a cap at 10 items checked out in a month.

- If you check out a book on Hoopla and return it the same day, it still counts towards your 10 check-outs.
- Hoa asked about changes in Board membership for June and why that was. Dianne explained that Farah was the last person to join who was approved at the May meeting. At this time of year, there is a slow-down on the number of members. Some LAC have 15 people and Wheaton's LAC is 'healthy' with 10 active members.
- Yesvy shared that 3 absences in a row without responding or indicating an absence can lead to your removal from the LAC. Dianne explained that 3 is a minimum requirement and it is the responsibility of the Chair to reach out to the member to find out if they're still interested in/able to continue after 3 consecutive absences.
- Yesvy commended Alan on the session about how to become a Google Cloud Engineer.
- Dianne shared that UDEMY and LinkedIn Learning provide various employee and business training which can be college-level courses free of charge with a MCPL library card.
- Yesvy asked about any updates on Senior Planet offerings at Wheaton. Dianne explained that this topic needs to be discussed with the Senior Center because similar offerings are done upstairs but there needs to be communication between the Center and Senior Planet.
- Carol shared that the Rec Center is not currently doing anything with Sr. Planet and due to budget cuts, that have affected the exercise program this may be a good time to check in on what is possible.
  - o Dianne will find out from Olney more about their Sr. Planet programs to better understand what Wheaton can offer. Sr. Planet programs are 65+.
  - o Dianne explained that WLAC worked with Sr. Planet between Sept 2019-March 2020 and it would be interesting to re-explore what current partnerships are possible
  - o Yesvy offered that the county's current program for accessing free chrome books is reaching a number of Seniors how meet the AGI threshold as he has helped a number of seniors to apply for the program
  - o Yesvy praised Scott for his teaching on Gmail and asked if he can also teach on other topics such as using Chrome.

#### New Business

None

#### Upcoming meetings

- **Dianne reminded everyone that the next meeting is on September 16<sup>th</sup>.** She asked if everyone is open to continuing a virtual format for next year. Carol asked about a hybrid option and there was discussion about how that went when it was last tried. Dianne suggested having at least 1 in-person meeting and perhaps November-April can be virtual. Ania said she won't be here Sept-Oct-Nov but can join virtually.
- September will be a hybrid meeting and we can try it and see if it makes sense to maintain this option. Dianne will send out the meeting information a few days ahead, she'll be away from Aug 28-Sept. 14<sup>th</sup>. Yesvy will send an advance reminder before the September meeting.