



LIBRARY ADVISORY COMMITTEE
WHITE OAK BRANCH

January 4, 2022 Meeting Minutes

Chair Jan Bloom called the meeting to order at 7:00 PM. The meeting was held virtually on the MCPL's ZOOM platform.

Members present: Jan Bloom, Muriel Hairston Cooper, Ellen Melle, Randi Passamaneck, Barbara Shansby, Cathy Stewart, and Paulette Wright

Other attendees: Vikram Pant, MC Library Board Liaison, and Kathie Meizner, White Oak Branch Manager

The minutes from the November 2, 2021 meeting were approved.

Montgomery County Library Board Liaison Report

Vikram Pant was appointed to the Montgomery County Library Board in November 2021 and was named as the new Board liaison to the White Oak LAC.

Membership Report

The White Oak LAC has ten members. Four members' 3-year terms expire in March 2022:

- Jan Bloom, Chairperson
- Ellen Melle, Secretary
- Randi Passamaneck
- Fran Schueler

Randi Passamaneck and Fran Schueler will retire from the LAC at the end of their terms in March. Others should email completed **Application For Nomination** forms for follow-on terms on the White Oak LAC to Kathie Meizner, White Oak Branch Manager NLT January 30, 2022. There is no cost associated with LAC membership. The **Application for Nomination** form is posted at <https://www.montgomerycountymd.gov/Library/resources/files/board/lac-application.pdf>.

Branch Manager Report

Facility:

The door counts (patron visits) remain strong. For the two-month period November 1 – December 31, 2021 there were 24,259 patron visits and 18,305 check-outs (this number does not include renewals), of which 72% were completed via patron self-checkout.



Effective yesterday, Jan 3rd, White Oak will be open Monday, Tuesday, Wednesday, and Thursday from 10 a.m. to 8 p.m., and Friday and Saturday from 10 a.m. to 6 p.m.

Collection: The Children’s Section is “bursting at the seams” as many fewer children’s books are off the shelves and in the homes of our youngest library patrons. This is likely due in large part to the on-going suspension of in-person baby and toddler programs, and parents’ efforts to safeguard the health of their little ones who are too young to get vaccinated.

Staffing:



There are currently ten staff, four pages and two on-site volunteers. This staffing level is adequate to meet branch requirements and current operating hours. MCPL is actively recruiting staff across the library system. Adult Services candidates with the skills and aptitude to moderate the immensely popular on-line Dragons & Dungeons programs, particularly for female gamers, was highlighted as an area of specific need.

Programs: Library staff continues to support and deliver virtual programs. Offerings remain popular across age groups and subject matter.

UNFINISHED BUSINESS

The scheduled Election of Officers was deferred to the June 7, 2022 meeting. Current officers will continue in their positions through that date. Paulette Wright placed her name in nomination for Secretary and Ellen Melle placed her name in nomination for Chair.

NEW BUSINESS

The 3rd issue of the MCPL Newsletter was emailed to all library cardholders yesterday. The format, graphics and content of the Newsletter received multiple kudos from meeting attendees.

Mark Your Calendar: The next White Oak LAC meeting will be held on Tuesday, March 1, 2022. The meeting will be held on Zoom.

Future CY 2022 meetings are scheduled for
June 7, 2022
Sept 6, 2022
Nov 1, 2022

The meeting adjourned at 7:29 PM

Respectfully submitted,
Ellen Melle
Secretary, White Oak LAC