



## LIBRARY BOARD MINUTES

March 9, 2016

**BOARD PRESENT:** Amir, Brooks, Christman, Core, Duval, Persaud, Ram, Rao, Reedy, Rippeon, Watts, Weedon

**STAFF PRESENT:** B. Parker Hamilton, Director; Eric Carzon, Business Manager; Fran Ware, Manager, Silver Spring Library; James Donaldson, Manager, Long Branch Library; Anita Vassallo, Manager, Davis Library, Chevy Chase; Dianne Whitaker, Manager, Collection Management; Chris Freeman, Public Services Administrator, Branch Operations and Customer Service; Linda Curvey-Brown, Acting Manager, Wheaton Library; Cindy Schweinfest, Adult Services Librarian, Chevy Chase; Angelica Rengifo, Outreach, Gaithersburg Library; Barbara McClayton, Manager, Olney Library; Nancy Benner, Manager, Bethesda Library; Mary Ellen Icaza, Manager, Virtual Services; Christopher Lambert, Library Associate, Germantown Library; Flor Benasayag Abbo, Library Associate, Little Falls Library; Patricia Karasik, Librarian I, White Oak

**GUESTS:** Tanner Wray, Director of College Libraries and Information Services, Montgomery College Libraries; Brian Rissy, Vice President, Library Sales, Gale; Victoria Baker, Director of Strategic Accounts, Gale; Monica Wilson, Public Library Representative, Gale; Jaime Robles, Chair, Silver Spring LAC

The Library Board meeting was convened by Chair Watts at 7:00 p.m.

### INTRODUCTIONS:

The Library Board members and guests self-introduced.

Library Associates are in attendance as a part of their class work which requires them to attend a Library Board meeting.

### PRESENTATIONS: *Career Online High School by Gale*

- There are approximately 70 library systems that are using the Gale Career Online High School.
- People learn in different ways and in different spaces.
- Career Online High School is another tool in which Montgomery County Public Libraries can utilize to play its role in educating residents.
- In the USA, there are 40M adults without high school diplomas.
- In Maryland, 10% of the residents do not have a high school diploma.
- High school dropouts earn \$10K less per year than their counterparts.
- Unemployment rate is 4% higher for high school dropouts.

- Eighty percent of incarcerated people are high school dropouts.
- Most likely to drop out of high school: those who fall behind early; low income students; and those with physical disabilities
- Some are forced out; some are pulled out; and for some, school is not an applicable setting.
- A library is a no judgement zone.
- The GED of today is geared towards those who are looking for secondary education.
- Two years in, close to 500 have graduated from the program with a 75% retention rate.
- The program is accredited. Grades can be transferred.
- Each student in the program is assigned an academic coach who is a certified teacher. The academic coach also serves as a tutor if needed.
- There are two phases to the program – recruitment (self-assessment via the student recruitment online site) and actual academic component (must get a 70% or better on an assessment to move forward).
- Students leave with training in a particular career path and with their high school diplomas.
- Some students in the program will never come into the library. The library will receive a regular report detailing the progress of each student in order to provide assistance if needed.
- Potential students can use library services and resources to gain computer skills and reading skills.
- There is a six-week implementation training program for library staff.
- There is no current data on how many students are matriculating into secondary education.
- Also have partnerships with other entities such as correctional facilities, workforce development groups and some corporations.
- Every scholarship has a 30 day grace period.
- Cost is \$35K to begin, and is \$30K per year (website, marketing, support, etc.). The cost is \$1,250 per student with a minimum of 25 scholarships.
- The diploma is issued by Smart Horizons Career Online High School.
- The library does not have to interview the potential students, however, most elect to do so.
- Scholarships never expire.
- Director Hamilton has a packet of data to share.
- The coaching hours are established by each coach; there is usually some flexibility.

## **APPROVAL OF BOARD MINUTES:**

The minutes from the February 10, 2016 Board meeting were approved with one correction: Brandon Rippeon's name should be added to the Board members in attendance.

## **DIRECTOR'S REPORT:**

- **Refresh Construction Projects**
  - Wheaton - Closing March 13 at 5 p.m. Closing ceremony 5-6 p.m. Anticipated reopening summer 2018.
  - Kensington Park - Soft opening March 28, grand opening April 2.
  - FY16 Projects - Timeline to start the refresh projects at Aspen Hill, Davis, and Little Falls has been pushed back to July-August 2016. County and Library staff currently reviewing 100% construction documents. DGS calendar has construction bid, bid review, and bid awards happening March to June 2016.

- FY17 Projects - DLDS has notified Libraries that they have awarded \$500,000 in State Capital Grant funding to each of the three FY17 projects - Bethesda, Quince Orchard, and White Oak. Design work on these projects will start late summer 2016.
- FY18 Projects - Libraries has made a recommendation to Mr. Leggett to forward to Council on the projects for FY18. We will announce them as soon as the County Executive has approved and Council has been notified.
- Noyes Library: Assistant CAO Ramona Bell Pearson and PSA for Facilities and Strategic Planning Rita Gale attended the Noyes LAC meeting on Thursday, March 3 to answer questions about ADA improvements and the status of the MOU/Renovation. Ms. Bell Pearson indicated that the latest draft of the MOU had been sent to the Foundation in January; the Foundation members present at the LAC confirmed that Foundation attorneys were finishing the review. An internal staff meeting with County personnel and members of HHS Committee was scheduled by Chair Leventhal's staff for today to review outstanding questions about the MOU.
- **Library Card Initiative – *Library Link***
  - MCPL and MCPS have signed the partnership agreement (the Memorandum of Understanding) to proceed with *Library Link*, as part of the national initiative ConnectED Library Challenge, by which every student enrolled in MCPS will receive a library card.
  - Harmony Hills Elementary will be the next school to have students signed up for library cards.
  - As part of this initiative, MCPL will begin working with Elementary Schools first (from now to December 2016) and will continue with Middle Schools (January to June 2017) and High Schools (September to December 2017).
- **MCPL KIOSK**
  - The MCPL KIOSK at the Longwood Recreation Center has moved to the Mid-County Community Recreation Center. The equipment is in the process of being activated. Library materials will soon be placed into the vending machines. The holds locker is being upgraded. Staff are being trained and the new location will be activated shortly.
- **Barbershop Depository Collections – Pilot 2016 (See attachment)**
  - NAACP Youth Council will volunteer to keep up the collection.
  - Feedback will be received from the NAACP Youth Council, Outreach Team and the staff of the salons and barbershops where the collections are located.
- **Poolesville 25<sup>th</sup> Anniversary**
  - Celebration will be held during the week of April 11-16. Culminating with a formal program on April 16, 2 p.m.
- **County Executive's Recommended Budget** will be released at a press conference at noon on March 15.

## **CHAIR'S REPORT:**

- The School Board has approved the hiring of Mr. Jack Smith as MCPS superintendent.
- Business cards and standardized email accounts.
  - According to the County Executive's Office, Board members can have generic business cards.
  - Can the Board use, MCPLboard.org – Director Hamilton will check to see if this is permissible.
- Chair Watts shared a sign from Library Lovers Month, "Library saved my life, taught me English, got me a job."

- Fine Structure:
  - Work Group: Anne Core, Kim Persaud, Tanner Wray, and Bill Duvall (lead)
  - Have a fact finding mission (what other library systems are doing) prior to having a full discussion.
  - It was suggested that a public input session be held at an upcoming Library Board meeting.
    - The Board meetings are public meetings, and the agendas must be published. The public has the opportunity to attend and give input.
  - The Work Group will gather information in order to make informed recommendations to the full Board. This should take approximately six months.
- TAG members – will they be required to join the LACs through the application process or participate as public attendees?
  - It was moved, and without objection, accepted that the TAG members do not have to be members of the LACs.

**PUBLIC COMMENT:**

None

**ADJOURNMENT:**

The meeting was adjourned at 9:00 PM.

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B. Parker Hamilton

# Barbershop Collections

- Barbershop books are part of the collection of Montgomery County Public Libraries (MCPL).
- Books are selected to be of interest to children ages 2–12.
- MCPL is partnering with the National Association for the Advancement of Colored People (NAACP) Youth Council, Montgomery County, MD Chapter to provide teen volunteers to check the collections weekly, interact with children and read to them, and provide feedback about the collection.
- MCPL provides the book holder and the books.
- MCPL staff members will refresh the collection every 6 weeks and provide readalouds, sign up families for free library cards, and share information about free resources at the library.
- Books in the collection are to be read and enjoyed in the barbershop or beauty parlor.
- If any book is missing, the barbershop, beauty parlor, or customer is not responsible for its replacement.

