

## MCCAB Meeting Notes 11.17.2022

7:00 p.m.

Call to Order & Welcome

Meeting Protocols

Introduction

Aquilla Ridgell Chair

Objective:

Welcome

Review of protocols for online meeting

Guest introduction

7:05 p.m.

Agenda

Minutes

Aquilla Ridgell Chair

Objective:

Acceptance of 11/17/22 agenda - completed

Acceptance of 10/20/22 minutes -

The screenshot displays a Zoom meeting window. On the left, a document titled 'MCCAB Meeting Notes 11.17.2022' is open, showing the agenda and objectives for the meeting. The main area shows a grid of 17 participants, with some names visible: Susanna Parker, Rob Fox, Aggie Alvez (she, her), Serge Thomas, Natali Fani-Gonzalez, Arquilla Ridgell, David Lorenzo, CM Evan..., Luisa Cardona, Dianne Whitaker-MCPL, Gary Fellman, Philip Ardanuy, Debra Liverpool..., Carmen Kaarid, Barrett, Dan Obrzut, Elroi Yigezu, and Tameka Nichols... On the right, a 'Participants (17)' list shows the names and initials of all attendees, along with icons for mute, video, and chat. The bottom of the screen shows the Windows taskbar with the time 7:18 PM on 11/17/2022.

7:10 p.m.

Mid County Directors Report Luisa Cardona MCRSO Director

Objective: Update on the Mid-County Regional Area

County budget forum was good, and had attendance by 3 MCCAB members and about 24 community members, we can take into account the points made by people in the session.

Last night's Spanish forum had over 80 people at the recreation center, learned from Monday and had time for testimony and questions from people.

7:15 p.m.

County Council Report(s) TBD Objective: Updates

David Lorenzo from CM Glass – haven't had a public health officer for the county for a few years, we just hired a new one, Dr. Davis, a MoCo native, VP of health equity at a Bethesda based firm.

Building decarbonization bill session, don't have council session next week because of Thanksgiving  
For Mid-county – office has been working on college view/Pendleton drive for a 4 way stop sign instead of a two way stop sign.

Working with Lt. Bungee on Inwood Ave and the traffic safety issues there, people keep running the stop signs especially near the school, get one of those speed monitoring machines.

Debra - Camera on the stop sign?

Luisa – apparently stop sign cameras aren't allowed by state regulations.

Arquilla – is it possible to park a police car there for a while, even an empty one?

7:20 p.m.

Wheaton Urban District Advisory Committee Report

Rob Fox WUDAC Liaison

Objective: Updates

Updates from the fire chief on budget priorities and lithium battery risks, particularly for e-scooters  
Bethesda Urban Partnership presentation on their governance and how they have managed their needs  
Arts and cultural center in the space behind the AVA building, on the bottom floor with affordable housing above it, they wouldn't have to pay for space

7:25 p.m.

County Commuter Options Michelle Golden

Senior Marketing Manager

MCDOT, Comuter Services Section

Objective: To receive an update on Commuter Services programs and outreach activities

8:05 p.m.

MCPL Strategic Plan Anita Vassallo Director

Montgomery County Public Libraries


Objective: To receive a presentation and update on FY23-26 MCPL Strategic Plan

montgomerycountymd.gov/library/


PL PUBLIC LIBRARIES

Books & More ▾ Events ▾ Services ▾ Youth ▾ Older Adults ▾ Locations ▾ Learn & Research ▾ Use the Library ▾


### Popular @ MCPL



Storytimes




Discussions



Ask A Librarian

eBooks & eAudiobooks

Get a Library Card



### Strategic Plan

FY 2023 - 2026 Strategic Plan


#### New Strategic Plan

Check out our FY 2023-2026 Strategic Plan: Increasing Equity in Access and Opportunity.

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montgomerycountymd.gov/library/resources/files/about/strategicplan-fy23-fy26.pdf

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# MC Montgomery County PL PUBLIC LIBRARIES

## Increasing Equity in Access & Opportunity



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Calendar - Anita.Va... Emergency webpag... MCPL News Montgomery Count... Covid metrics/info Incident Reports Reduced and Suspe... Microsoft Forms Other bookmarks

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Talking: Anita Vassallo, MCPL Di...

changing context of the world they live in. To create this framework, MCPL partnered with the Montgomery County Innovation Team (Innovation@MCG) to deeply engage community members and MCPL staff in surfacing and prioritizing community needs for its next strategic framework.



### Process

Together, MCPL and Innovation@MCG employed human-centered design methods such as future envisioning, user need statements and co-design workshops to build a collaborative strategic plan. We began the process by inviting every library staff member to complete a "destination postcard" that captured their vision for MCPL in 2025. These postcards provided important insights about what staff perceive to be the role of the library and what it would take to more fully live into that role. We also invited county

**Above, right:** A staff destination postcard  
**Left:** Positive feedback from MCPL customers

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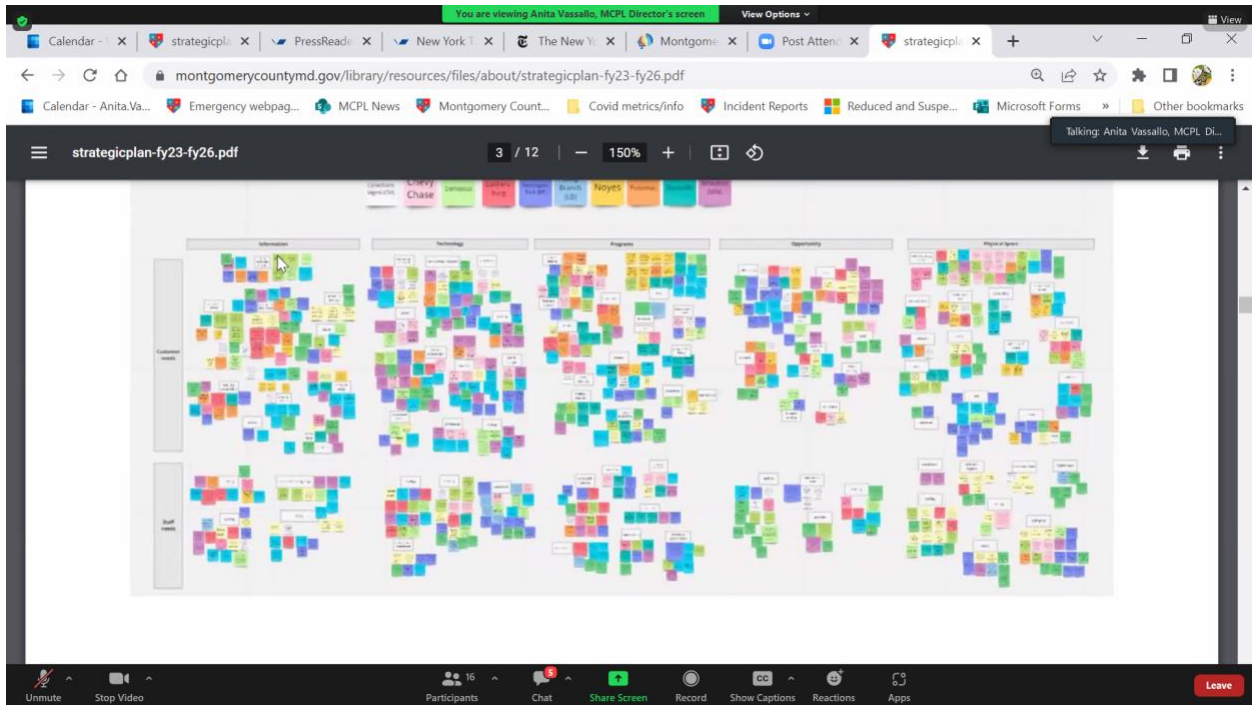
Talking: Anita Vassallo, MCPL Di...

residents and visitors to the library to share their reflections on and aspirations for the library through vision boards, focus groups and an online survey. The customer responses revealed strongly positive emotional associations with libraries, as well as a range of needs and preferences about the services that MCPL currently provides or might offer in the future.

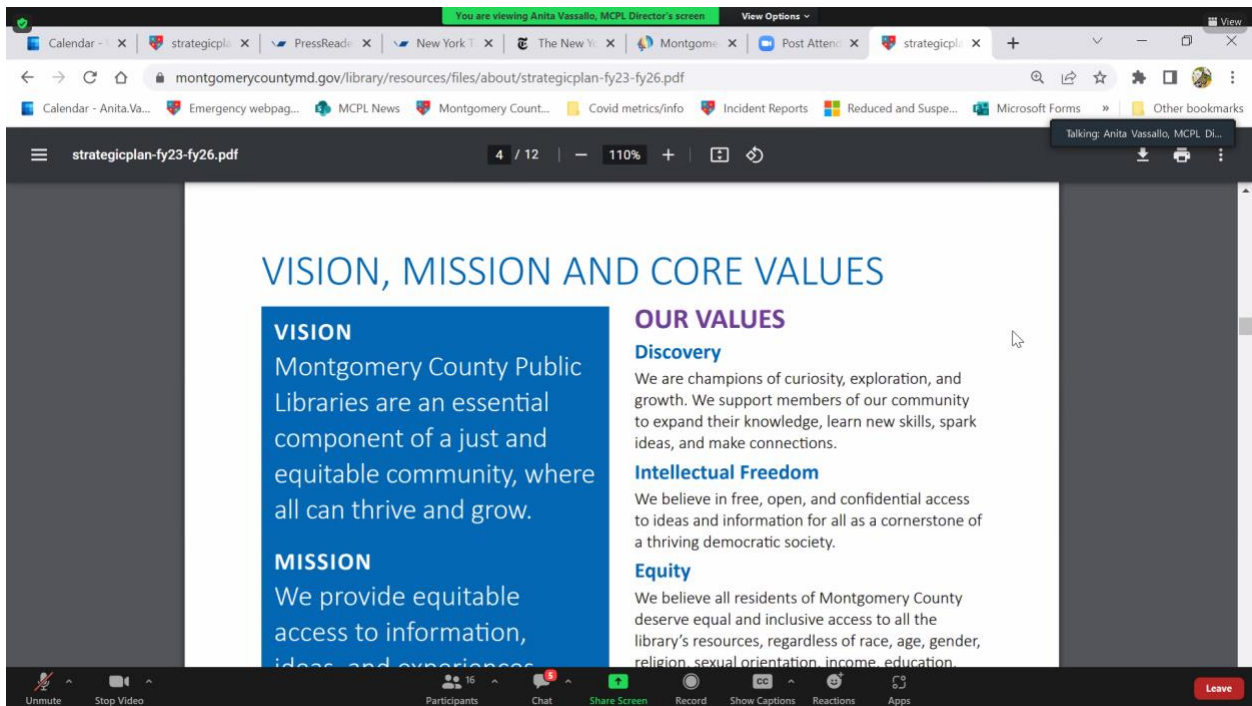


Through workshops with every MCPL branch and team, all MCPL staff reviewed the feedback from customers, defined both customer and staff needs, and ideated on ways to address those needs. From these generative discussions emerged a new vision and mission for the library, grounded in a set of core values that represent what MCPL stands for as it turns toward the future. The vision and mission serve as the foundation for MCPL's strategic goals and priorities, which were co-developed with experts from

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Broke into Information technology programs physical space



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**VISION**  
Montgomery County Public Libraries are an essential component of a just and equitable community, where all can thrive and grow.

**MISSION**  
We provide equitable access to information, ideas, and experiences that spark imagination and expand possibilities for all.

**OUR VALUES**

**Discovery**  
We are champions of curiosity, exploration, and growth. We support members of our community to expand their knowledge, learn new skills, spark ideas, and make connections.

**Intellectual Freedom**  
We believe in free, open, and confidential access to ideas and information for all as a cornerstone of a thriving democratic society.

**Equity**  
We believe all residents of Montgomery County deserve equal and inclusive access to all the library's resources, regardless of race, age, gender, religion, sexual orientation, income, education, language, disability, and/or immigration status.

**Respect**  
We strive to treat everyone with kindness, provide a safe and welcoming environment for all, and

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**To accomplish its mission over the next three years, MCPL will continue to provide its core services for all while supporting the following populations in particular to thrive:**

<b>GOAL 1</b> Children 5 and under are ready for kindergarten	<b>GOAL 2</b> Teens are ready for college and/or the workforce, and to be lifelong users of the library
<b>GOAL 3</b> Speakers of languages other than English can participate fully in American society	<b>GOAL 4</b> Residents with limited access to technology and/or the internet can navigate a digital world to get what they need

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Children 3 and under are ready for kindergarten	and/or the workforce, and to be lifelong users of the library
<b>GOAL 3</b> Speakers of languages other than English can participate fully in American society	<b>GOAL 4</b> Residents with limited access to technology and/or the internet can navigate a digital world to get what they need

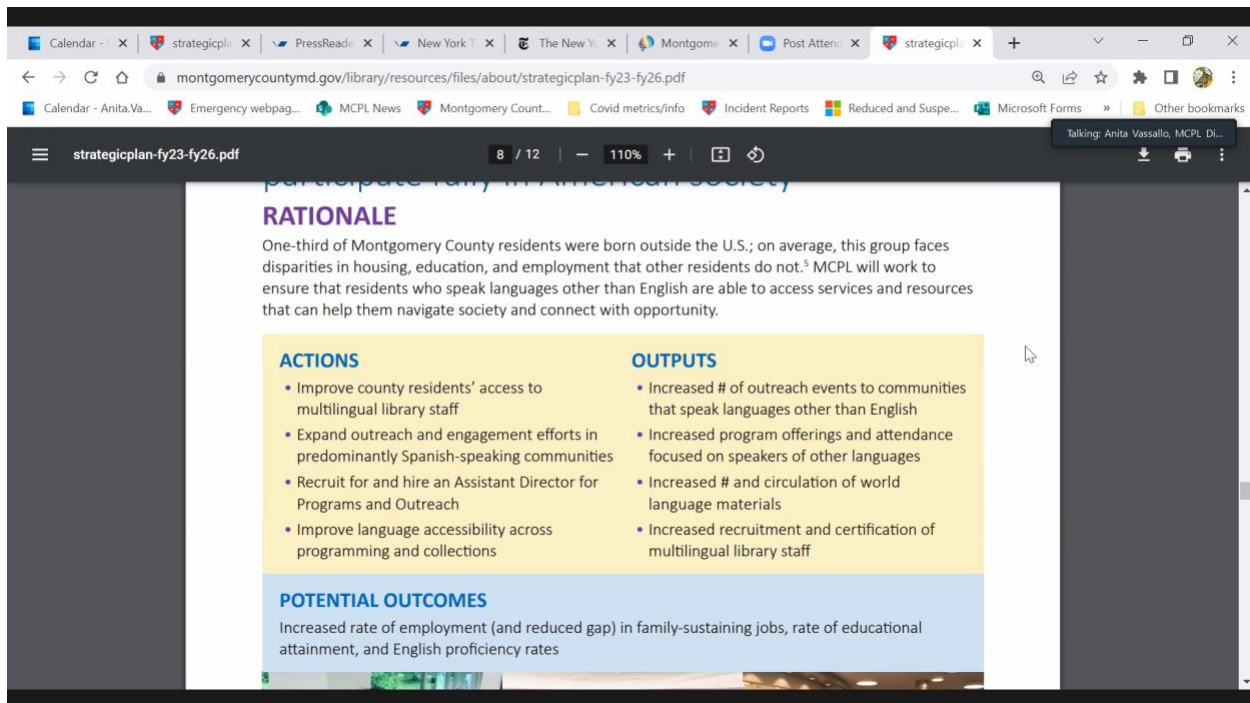
To achieve these goals, MCPL will explore launching its strategic priorities at branches located in and around **Equity Focus Areas**.<sup>2</sup> These are parts of Montgomery County that are characterized by high concentrations of lower-income people of color, who may also speak English less than very well. Residents in these areas are susceptible to systemic racial and social inequities, which MCPL acknowledges its historic role in perpetuating and its ongoing role in disrupting. MCPL pledges to work with these and other communities implicated in the strategic plan to understand and respond to their needs and interests.

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supports, from rich programming to an expansive children's collection, and will work to ensure that all children and families are able to access them.

<p><b>ACTIONS</b></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Develop an early literacy framework for MCPL in partnership with county agencies, departments and organizations working on early childhood development</li> <li>Optimize opportunities for children and caregivers to engage with libraries, particularly in communities with high concentrations of Spanish-speaking children and low-income households</li> <li>Conduct community outreach and engagement to promote the library's early literacy programs, including 1000 Books Before Kindergarten and MCPL's Summer Reading Program, and resources such as Every Child Ready to Read</li> </ul>	<p><b>OUTPUTS</b></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Increased participation in MCPL's 1000 Books Before Kindergarten and Summer Reading Challenge, with a focus on increasing promotion in Equity Focus Areas</li> <li>Increased # of and participants in, storytimes, particularly at branches located in or near Equity Focus Areas</li> <li>Increased # and circulation of children's materials, particularly at branches located in or near Equity Focus Areas</li> </ul>
<p><b>POTENTIAL OUTCOMES</b></p> <p>Improved kindergarten readiness rates, particularly among English learners and children</p>	



Gary – we read a lot of non-fiction, and we use a lot of the NYTimes and similar, and it's very hard to get anything except an electronic copy of anything that's non-fiction NYTimes best sellers. It can take a year to get a physical book, and don't know if that's a policy decision.

Anita – there are a couple of things that have affected that. We work with a book jobber, and Baker and Taylor had a ransomware attack earlier this year, so we were not able to order anything from them. We hired a new manager for collection management, and a new senior librarian. There isn't a policy to reduce the number of print non-fiction titles, but because we have a static budget and have shunted more money to e-materials because they're so popular, we may not be purchasing as many copies as we have in the past. There is another method we've used, which is "lucky day" which are leased copies from B&T for high demand titles.

Susanna – are there plans for redeveloping other libraries like Chevy Chase?

Anita – no other libraries are in the state CC was in, so we don't have that plan. Opening up some of these buildings creates unexpected issues, like asbestos, plumbing, HVAC, electrical. The Potomac library is undergoing renovation, the Noyes library will be undergoing a significant renovation in the next year. The recreation department is following our lead in refreshing buildings instead of doing full teardowns that are more intensive

Arquilla – the priorities for children seems to overlap with MCPS?

Anita – we start at birth, so that includes baby storytime.

Arquilla – so if I were a mother how would I access this resource?



Anita – you could come in and tell us your situation and we'd provide you with resources and storytimes and reading lists.

Aruilla – as a child I loved field trips to the library – do the schools do that anymore?

Dianne Whitaker – the answer is yes, we have to schedule them, but Arcola and 1<sup>st</sup> grade classes come through this fall, a few of the local pre-schools asked to schedule visits. There's been a number of requests for outreach teams and children's librarians.

Rob – question about the availability of storytimes for working parents and also questions about the pre-printed reading lists that some libraries appear to have but others do not.

Anita – a lot of what you were doing was hitting right during the pandemic, beginning this year in February the libraries are open for 8 hours on Sunday and Sat from 10-6, storytimes programming should be offered on both days at the library. We had a lot of vacancies during the pandemic, 100, and by the end of the year that should be whittled down to 30. We're well aware that the days when working parents are able to come to the library are the weekend, Wednesday evenings storytime as well. In terms of reading lists, the county has a paper reduction policy, what you probably picked up was the reading lists we do print out during summer reading, specific ones for pre-k and kindergarten and up. Once summer is up they're printed out throughout the system.

Aggie Alvez – is there a way for seniors to volunteer?

Anita – there is, there are application forms and you can ask at a library for what is needed.

Dianne Whitaker – there are pull lists that people can volunteer to help process and get for library staff. Volunteers might help children's staff with preparing materials for crafts. The libraries have been giving out masks and COVID-19 test kits.

8:45 p.m.

Community Concerns Community members Objective: Opportunity for public comments

Concerns near Rodman's about drinking, loitering, garbage can fire, bad behavior from Susanna Parker Discussion of DHS, mental health services, street response/task force on loitering outside of beer and wine stores outside the county and wanting to discuss that in our next committee meeting and try to get them scheduled to come in

8:57 p.m.

Adjourn Aquilla Ridgell Chair

Objective:

Close out meeting

19:17:16 From Serge Thomas To Everyone:

Good to hear that the recommendations were forwarded!

19:18:57 From Serge Thomas To Everyone:

I second

19:21:42 From Luisa Cardona To Everyone:

<https://www.montgomerycountymd.gov/OPI/budget-forums.html>  
19:21:52 From Luisa Cardona To Everyone:  
The above is the link to the budget forums

19:28:28 From Luisa Cardona To Everyone:  
I did forget to mention that if anyone wanted to donate to the families that were impact in the Gaithersburg Fire here is the link <https://mhpartners.org/gaithersburgfire/>

20:04:36 From Aggie Alvez (she, her) To Everyone:  
[alvezagg@gmail.com](mailto:alvezagg@gmail.com)

20:05:03 From Dianne Whitaker-MCPL To Everyone:  
<https://www.montgomerycountymd.gov/Library/about/outreach.html>

20:09:10 From Dianne Whitaker-MCPL To Everyone:  
1000 Books Before Kindergarten program

20:22:19 From Tameka Nicholson To Everyone:  
Thanks Anita and Dianne. Great information.

20:22:53 From Serge Thomas To Everyone:  
Thanks Anita 😊

20:32:02 From Luisa Cardona To Everyone:  
[https://www.montgomerycountymd.gov/OPI/make\\_right\\_call.html](https://www.montgomerycountymd.gov/OPI/make_right_call.html)

20:32:23 From Luisa Cardona To Everyone:  
301-279-8000 only to report non-emergencies, and

20:33:57 From Dianne Whitaker-MCPL To Everyone:  
The only recourse we have is a Disruptive Behavior Order at libraries and Rec Centers.

20:37:02 From Dianne Whitaker-MCPL To Everyone:  
Several outreach programs for substance abuse and mental health services such as Pathways and Everymind do send workers out to various sites.

20:38:17 From Serge Thomas To Everyone:  
It's disturbing to me that the DC area (including MoCo) seems to tolerate people who are mentally ill living outside who need help.

20:41:12 From Rob Fox To Everyone:  
Definitely Serge - also a big downside to Zoom that I can't "like" people's comments in the chat