



## **LIBRARY BOARD MINUTES**

**May 8, 2013**

**BOARD PRESENT:** Amir, Brodsky, Brooks, Christman, Cotter, Dickerson, Neuman, Ram, Reedy, Watts

**STAFF PRESENT:** B. Parker Hamilton, Director, MCPL; Regina Holyfield, Recording Secretary

The Library Board meeting was convened by Vice Chair Dickerson at 7:05 p.m.

### **APPROVAL OF PREVIOUS MINUTES:**

Minutes from the April 10, 2013 meeting were approved.

### **DIRECTOR'S REPORT**

- Summer Reading begins June 1, 2013. The theme is Dig into Reading. T-shirts can be purchased at any Friends of the Library bookstore. Participants who read at least five books or read for 1000 minutes will receive a backpack. MCPL thanks the Friends of the Library, Montgomery County, Inc. (FOLMC) for their support.
- Personnel changes: Jan McHenry has been promoted to branch manager for Damascus Library. Anita Vassallo has been promoted to branch manager for Davis Library; Joseph Eagan will be able to focus full-time on the reopening of the Olney branch. Chris Borawski will move from Senior Librarian at Poolesville to Assistant Branch Manager at Bethesda. Recruitments are being held to fill the Senior Librarian positions at Poolesville and Germantown.
- The Department requested and received permission from the Offices of Management and Budget and Human Resources to fill the positions at Olney and Gaithersburg branches now. The recruitments will be held now, with staff officially being hired beginning July 1.
- The process for finalizing the furniture selection, shelving and space allocation for Olney and Gaithersburg is underway. The Department is working with the Department of General Services (DGS) to take away some planned shelving in order to make more seating (chairs where the outlets are); place computers and monitors at the end of shelving; and have tile instead of carpet in the meeting rooms. The work DGS is doing to make libraries the community hubs that our customers need is greatly appreciated.
- On Saturday, May 11, a community superblock party is scheduled to be held in the Long Branch community. This is very exciting; this is the first time MCPL has had a formal collaboration with the University of Maryland (UM). Architectural students from UM have five pieces of art work on the grounds of the library.
- Tuesday, May 21, 10 AM Kay Bowman will lead a delegation to visit Congressman Van Hollen's office for Legislative Day. She would like someone from the Library Board to attend. Andrea Christman was asked to see if there is someone from the public school

system who can attend as well. Mr. Van Hollen is a huge library supporter. Board members should let Kay Bowman know no later than Friday if they are able to attend.

- May 18 is the 4<sup>th</sup> Annual Gaithersburg Book Fair. This is the first time MCPL has been a partner for this huge event. The fair organizers are looking for volunteers. Board members were encouraged to volunteer. MCPL Outreach staff, Carol Legarreta and Kay Bowman will be manning MCPL's table.
- The Gaithersburg and Olney libraries will not be opening on the same day unless Mr. Leggett has a scheduling conflict. The agency managers for these branches have already been meeting with community members and LACs. The construction blogs will be expanded to include programming and services. Dianne Whitaker will be at the Taste of Wheaton. There will be opportunities in early fall for Joseph Eagan to participate in Olney community events.
- Council met yesterday and voted unanimously in support of the County Executive's FY14 recommended budget for Libraries. A letter was sent to Board members today with budget updates.

### **CHAIR'S REPORT**

- The June 1 annual meeting will not replace the regular June Board meeting.
- Board elections will be conducted at the June Board meeting. The chair is a two-year term which can be extended for an additional year; the vice chair can succeed to the chair position; or a nominating committee can be formed. Please send your thoughts to Jill Lewis and Paulette Dickerson.
- Discussion for next meeting.
  - Branch tours
  - Council visits
  - Conversation with Director and Senior Managers
  - Petitions (paper and online)
  - Snapshot Day
  - Brainstorming sessions

### **LEGISLATIVE REPORT**

- During the Council visits, many of the Council members suggested to Board members that they prepare a list of what else is needed by Libraries beyond the County Executive's recommended budget.
- This year the County Executive met with each Board, Committee and Commission individually. Jill Lewis, Art Brodsky and Ellen Berman (FOLMC President) presented Mr. Leggett with an orange "Build Them Up" t-shirt.

### **LAC AND BOARD ACTIVITIES WORK GROUP REPORT**

- Awards
  - Lois Neuman thanked the Committee for the work they have accomplished.
  - Two nominations were submitted for the Ablard Award – Poolesville and Bethesda. Bethesda was recommended for the award because their program was very creative and had community involvement.
  - The David Chiles LAC Member of the Year Award had one submission – Ed Hsu, Quince Orchard LAC Chair. Mr. Hsu takes his role of chair very seriously and partners with other LACs.
  - A notice will be sent to the winners.
  - It was surprising that there were not more nominations, especially for the LAC chairs. The Board needs to do a better job of encouraging LACs to work in the community.

- Orientation
  - Created orientation packet for new members.
  - Four piece program – overall directions (internal); generic letter (invitation), slide presentation, and evaluation form.
  - Discussion was held regarding whether to include the slide that seeks to define the difference between the LACs and FOL chapters.
    - Emphasis the role of the LACs
    - The Board cannot speak for another organization or present information on its behalf.
    - There is information in the Board Manual about the FOL that has been vetted by the FOLMC Executive Director.
    - Art Brodsky moved that the packet be approved as presented (without the slide in question). The motion was seconded by Deborah Brooks and passed by the Board.
    - The slide presentation will be posted on the Board’s webpage.
    - The first orientation session will be in September.
    - Board members will encourage LACs to use these slides in their meetings and to share with potential members.
- The annual MCLB/LAC meeting is scheduled for June 1, 8 AM – 12 noon.
  - Location – Montgomery College, Takoma Park, Commons Building.
  - Free parking in campus garage.
  - The agenda, directions and a map of the campus will be sent to attendees.
  - Encourage LAC members to come. Please RSVP; walk-ins are welcome.

**MCPS EX OFFICIO REPORT**

- Dr. Starr has selected Frederick Hess’ “Cage-Busting Leadership” for his May 21 Superintendent’s Book Club. The Book Club will be broadcast on MCPS TV and streamed on the web. Mr. Hess will be joining Dr. Starr.
- MCPS is renovating its strategic plan, Our Call to Action. The plan is approximately ten years old. Community members can provide input via MCPS’ website; letters, emails and phone calls.
- The Chief Technology Office is also updating MCPS’ technology plan. He is going around the County talking to teachers and parents. The new plan will be presented to the Board of Education on May 30. It will be streamed live.
- The last day of school is June 14 for students and June 17 for teachers. School will reconvene on August 29.
- Gaithersburg High School is also undergoing major renovation and is scheduled to reopen in August. MCPS is trying to make new schools more community friendly.

**PUBLIC COMMENT:**

None

**ADJOURNMENT:**

The meeting was adjourned at 8:10 p.m.

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B. Parker Hamilton, Director