

## McGee (Silver Spring) Library Advisory Committee Minutes, June 21, 2022

Meeting online via Zoom began at 7:35 p.m.

### **SSLAC Members:**

*Present:* Scott Shoreman (Chair), Dana Anderson, Jill Niebrugge Brantley, Martha Kyrillidou, Chauna Wiggins, Rebecca Calcagno, Paulette Dickerson, Wendy Gales

*Absent:* Rodney Elin, Regina Germain, Ella Hu

### **Others Present:**

Uzoma Onyemaechi, Brig. General Charles E. McGee Library Manager

Laura Briskin-Limehouse, Library Board Liaison

Kathlin Smith, Friends of Library, Brig. General Charles E. McGee Library chapter

### **Approval of Minutes for May 2022**

Jill moved for approval of the March 2022 meeting minutes. Martha seconded her motion. There were no objections. The May 2022 minutes were approved unanimously.

### **Chair Report and Announcements**

- **Purple Line Update:** The Chair attended the Purple Line public open house on May 25, 2022 at the Civic Building in Silver Spring. Major construction around the library isn't expected to next year. A Purple Line official said that they would be willing to come to an LAC meeting in the fall and gave her contact information. The LAC was encouraged to send a representative to the Purple Line CAT meetings. Unfortunately, the only one scheduled as of now is at the same time as this LAC meeting. The next one will be in the fall.
- **Membership Update:** Mary Ann Nyamweya is not applying for another term on the LAC.

### **Brig. General Charles E. McGee Library Manager Report from Uzoma Onyemaechi**

- The name of the branch has officially been changed to the Brig. General Charles E. McGee Library. Signs and exhibits were unveiled and there was a naming ceremony.

**Collection/Staff:** There are still staffing issues. The library had to close early one day last week after broken air conditioning and extreme heat affected staffing that day.

**Facility:**

Escalators are down for service – waiting for parts.

Foot traffic for May 2022 was 14,357. In response to a question from Jill, the branch manager said that pre-Covid foot traffic was around 20,000 a month.

**Programming:**

- The summer reading program had a successful kickoff last week.
- Beginners computer class is Monday 10 a.m. to noon, and intermediate computer class is Tuesday

**Services:**

- In response to a question from Wendy, the branch manager said that the library is a venue for the Montgomery County Free computer but is not running the program. It is for people with lower incomes, and the library can help people sign up.
- Paulette asked if there is going to be a bookmobile and noted that there is \$100,000 in the capital budget for outreach. The branch manager and Laura do not know.

**Library Board Liaison Report from Laura Briskin-Limehouse**

- The Board chair is retiring from the Board.
- Jill asked about if more is known about library restructuring. Laura said no. The branch manager said that it is considered an internal staffing matter so not much public information has been released.
- There will be an open seat on the Board.

**Friends of Library (FOL) Report from Kathlin Smith**

- Some FOL chapters are considering remaining independent from MCFOL.
- The McGee chapter has been reinstated with the state of Maryland and is waiting on the Internal Revenue Service. The options for the future of the chapter can then be considered.
- Scott asked of MCPL would accept money from independent FOL chapters since they previously said they would not. Kathlin does not know if they are reconsidering.
- In response to a question from Jill, Kathlin said she would continue coming to the LAC meetings in the next year.

### **Discussion of Issues Facing LAC in the Next Year:**

- Scott noted centralization by FOL and MCPL in regards to branch management. Our branch will no longer have a full time manager. Advocacy also is a continued challenge.
- Jill noted how the LAC was not consulted about management changes and did not get any notice. We need clearer ways to give input. “Advisement” issues should be noted on the agenda, and the LAC should make more formal statements. County counsel and their staff should be invited to our meetings.
- Paulette noted that the branch manager situation is something for the LAC to give feedback on.
- Martha noted budget concerns.
- Chauna suggested alignment between the LAC chair and Board liaison for planning the LAC meetings.

### **Election of Chair and Secretary**

- Scott nominated Martha to be Chair. Paulette seconded. Martha was unanimously approved as Chair.
- The election of LAC secretary was deferred.

### **Adjournment**

The meeting was adjourned at 8:58 p.m.