

SILVER SPRING: BRIGADIER GENERAL CHARLES E. MCGEE LIBRARY
Library Advisory Committee Minutes, DECEMBER 19, 2022

Meeting online via zoom began at 7:35 PM.

SSLAC Members:

Present: Martha Kyrillidou (Chair), Dana Anderson, Jill Niebrugge Brantley, Scott Shoreman, Paulette Dickerson, and Vikram Pant, MCPL Interim Board Liaison.

Absent: Chauna Wiggins, Wendy Gales, Diana Holmes, Rodney Elin

Others Present:

- *Eric Carzon, Silver Spring Regional Manager*
- *Kathlin Smith, Friends of the Library, Brig. General Charles E. McGee Library Chapter*
- *Saa Fillie, Guest*

1. Roll Call and Introductions took place
2. Approval of minutes of previous meeting and approval of current agenda; Jill Niebrugge motioned and Dana Anderson offered a second for approval of minutes. The minutes of the [October 17 meeting were approved unanimously.](#)
3. Kyrillidou shared that Chauna Williams is willing to serve as our secretary in future meetings though not able to attend today; the group agreed to formally bring her candidacy for vote at our next meeting.
4. Saa Fillie submitted an application to serve officially in the LAC.
5. We are actively recruiting and are interested especially in representation from Montgomery College and nearby schools, teens and parents; we lost three members since last year.
6. Eric Carzon offered a report on the current state of development in collections, facilities, programming and services; [Agency Manager's Report.](#)
7. We discussed the budget review process; budget hearings place a strong emphasis on the [Racial Equity and Social Justice vision](#) to bridge the disparities in MC. Key projects of interest on the budget for the library are summarized in [21st Century Library Enhancements.](#)
8. We asked Eric Carzon to check on what is the protocol for inviting Kate Stewart, our MC Council District 5 representative to one of our future LAC meetings.
9. Vikram Pant offered a [Library Board Liaison Report](#) and provided information from Anita Vassalo's, MCPL Library Director, [December 2022 report.](#)
 - a. On Dec 15 Anita Vassallo sent an invitation to staff, board members, and chairs of the LACs to attend a meeting at the Rockville Memorial Library where Kristin Mink, Concilmember, District 5 and new Lead for Libraries assumed her role.
 - b. Kyrillidou met Kristin Mink and also had the opportunity to meet the Montgomery College Library Director who pointed out the that closing of MC library will probably create more traffic in nearby branch libraries (this includes the BGCEM Branch); Kyrillidou suggested that it would be a good idea to have an MC student in our LAC. Paulette mentioned that we had students as members of our LAC before, especially those involved

in the Lego program which is just starting again; there are also volunteers helping on the third floor.

10. We discussed that there is a pending invitation sent by Paulette Dickerson to the organization responsible for starting work with the Purple Line and we are expecting they will join one of our future meetings. [Community Advisory Team Meetings \(CATs\) have been postponed until early 2023 \(the Silver Spring one is scheduled to take place on Feb 9 at 6pm\)](#). The committee members pointed out that we need good signage where the tunnel under the BGCEM library is.
11. In preparation for the facilities review in the branch, we reviewed a few areas where the building needs attention summarized in a [pictorial summary of observations](#). Also, a worksheet has been shared with Eric Carzon and the rest of the members for those interested in doing a more systematic review of the building areas. We also reminded the group of the [advocacy letter sent by Scott Shoreman \(Feb 2022\)](#) that resulted in the upcoming review.
12. Martha Kyriallidou also shared information about a foreign language material program developed in CA for discussion in a future meeting ([Khmer Language Program in Long Beach Public Library funded by CA State Library](#)) as another way to support the increasing diversity in the county residents. MCPL has hired a new outreach manager so more programming will focus on outreach activities in future months and years.
13. Kathlin Smith pointed out that the children's department in our branch was envisioned as an early literacy center in response to the budget hearings and MC's emphasis on kindergarten readiness and daycare provision for preschool children.
 - a. She also pointed out that the former local Silver Spring FOL chapter has been reconstituted for tax purposes and they will have a meeting to decide how to proceed with the upcoming request to merge with the central FOMCL; they are still trying to understand the implications of the various choices they have in front of them; she will update us once the current chapter members have an opportunity to meet and decide on next steps later in January.
14. The meeting was adjourned at 9 PM.