

SILVER SPRING: BRIGADIER GENERAL CHARLES E. MCGEE LIBRARY
Library Advisory Committee Minutes, June 20, 2023

Meeting online via zoom began at 7:30 PM.

SSLAC Members:

Present: Martha Kyrillidou (Chair), Dana Anderson, Jill Niebrugge Brantley, Wendy Gales, Regina Germain, Scott Shoreman (Past Chair), Hira Girglani, and Chauna Wiggins

Absent: Rodney Elin, Paulette Dickerson, Saa Fillie, and Diana Holmes.

Others Present:

- Eric Carzon, Silver Spring Regional Manager
- Vikram Pant, MCPL Interim Board Liaison.

1. Roll call took place.
2. Approval of minutes of the previous meeting and approval of current agenda: Regina Germain motioned and Jill Niebrugge Brantley offered a second for approval of minutes. The minutes of May 15, 2023 were approved unanimously.
3. Martha Kyrillidou moved that the committee elect Chauna Wiggins as the chair beginning in September 2023. Regina Germain offered a second. Chauna Wiggins accepted the nomination.
4. A discussion as to whether we have a quorum with six members present took place.
Discussion: There was brief discussion about whether 6/12 members qualified as a quorum. Vikram Pant shared that a quorum is defined as 51%. Vikram Pant suggested that the committee had the option to postpone. Scott Shoreman mentioned that other Committee members might join. The Committee agreed to table the vote for a new Chair pending the arrival of at least one more Committee Member.
5. Bizaye Banjaw, a guest, joined at 7:42 PM, and Martha Kyrillidou shared the agenda with Bizaye and mentioned that we are always looking for new members and referred to the Membership Report linked in the Agenda.
6. Dana Anderson arrived at 7:47. She also approved the minutes. Martha Kyrillidou shared the motion that was on the floor to elect Chauna Wiggins as the new chair. The Committee voted unanimously for Chauna to serve as the new chair beginning in September. Chauna Wiggins accepted.
7. Jill Niebrugge Brantley dropped off the call at 7:52 PM.

Reports

- a. **Library Managers Report:** Eric Carzon shared that the McGee Library has had some luck with hiring: 2.5 FTEs that will result in stronger teen programming. There are currently two vacancies. Once the full-time employees begin, the Library will be more stable than it has been. Eric attended two community meetings: (1) the Silver Spring Chamber of Commerce: Some crimes in the area; carjackings have declined but assaults have slightly increased (2) the Montgomery College's East County Campus wants to present HVAC programming at the Library. Since our last meeting, there were several Juneteenth Programs, a hybrid event, and a LGBTQ clothing swap. The Summer Reading Program kicked off last Saturday, June 17 at the Rockville location. The Library is waiting on the Welcome Collection for new Americans. Facilities: The elevator door is still broken; it has new problems. There are several issues with the doors. Over the last few months, the escalators have been off more than on.

Discussion:Martha Kyrillidou asked Eric Carzon and Vikram Pant to remind Anita about a written response to the library refresh letter that the LAC submitted earlier this spring.

- b. **Library Board Liason’s Report** (Wendy Gales arrived): Summer Reading kicked off on Saturday, June 17, 2023. Library Virtual Author talks: More are coming soon. The Noyes Library refresh will not impact the Silver Spring Library refresh. Vikram mentioned that the MCPL Director has contacts and can reach out to secure a Purple Line representative for one of our future meetings. He also shared the Maryland Open Meetings Act changes and Council recommendations/best practices that affect all Boards, Committees and Commissions (BCC). These also apply to the Library Advisory Committees. He also noted that the LAC can not invite Council members to our meetings without following protocol. He requested that we send any questions to him.

Discussion: Eric Carzon also mentioned that he had received an email regarding meeting protocol. Martha Kyrillidou recommended that we consider inviting Purple Line representatives re: the Purple Line in the future through Anita, the MCPL Director.

Martha Kyrillidou asked Bizaye Banjaw, our visitor, if the meeting was what she had expected. She commented that it was useful to see how open and sharing the meeting agenda is.

We recapped that our plan is to have a Purple Line update in our September meeting with a Purple Line representative if all goes well.

10. A reminder was made that the link to the calendar is in the agenda and Eric Carzon confirmed that our next meeting is on July 17, 2023.

11. Wendy Gales suggested that the McGee Library start a “Library Bucks” program to purchase items at the Library like earbuds. **Discussion:** Eric Carzon agreed to talk to Finance regarding her idea. He discussed the psychological impact of “free” giveaways.

12. Scott Shoreman asked about the status of the Covid19 Test kit program. Eric Carzon mentioned that there was no definitive end to the Program, and he mentioned that kits are delivered two days per week/ maximum or eight kits per week. An informal recommendation was made that we can be flexible with inventory among branches as appropriate.

13. The meeting adjourned at 8:30 PM.