

SILVER SPRING: BRIGADIER GENERAL CHARLES E. MCGEE LIBRARY
LAC MINUTES

January 27, 2025 VIA ZOOM @ 7:30 PM - 9:00 PM

Present: *Dana Anderson, Hira Gigliani, Jill Brantley, Jennifer Diamond, Paulette Dickerson, Chauna Higgins (Chair), Regina Germain, Jendayi Nyabingi, Martha Kyrillidou (Secretary).*

Present (non-voting):

1. Katrin Sweeney, Regional Manager, MCPL ([Brigadier General Charles E. McGee Library](#), [Kensington Park Library](#), [Noyes Library for Young Children](#), [Long Branch](#))
2. Wilma Brier, MCPL Board Liaison.
3. Elizabeth Lang, Facilities and Accessibility Program Manager

The roll call initiated the meeting with introductions for the two new members (Jennifer Diamond and Jendayi Nyabingi). The new members shared how excited they are to join the group and their history of library use. Scott Soreman's service to the group expired and the group thanked him for his service in absentia.

The minutes of November 18, 2024 were approved after corrections were identified for who was present and who was not (Martha moved and Paulette seconded).

Elizabeth Lang, Facilities and Accessibility Program Manager, joined the group and provided an update on the facilities renovation. LAC expressed some concern that the community feedback for the renovation was relatively limited to what LAC provided and there may be a need to do more extensive community engagement for the facilities needs of this branch especially as the purple line construction and future operation will provide a new set of variables to consider. There seems to be an impression that the building is a new building but it is a building that was heavily used and shows major wear and tear with rain water seeping through the floors and the walls whenever there is a downpour. LAC needs to advocate so everyone in the county understands that heavily used buildings will need renovation more frequently. Pending questions to be answered include:

- How do we engage the community in the renovation?
- What is the process moving forward?
- What plan is in place to address the impact/implication of the purple line?
- How can we look at this building more frequently - every three years? And how do we engage the community?
- How much funding was transferred from the expressed FOL organization to the library?

Information on the status of the renovation is available here:

<https://www.montgomerycountymd.gov/DGS-BDC/library-refresh/711502-Silver-Spring.html>

LAC asked to see the scope of work and any schematic design documents. Elizabeth will ask her supervisor if that's possible. Window films were installed in the glass walls of the building and this is making a difference for the strength of light is moderated.

Next the Regional Manager provided a report regarding programs, staffing, collections, and general facilities issues.

Wilma Brier reported from the Joint Library Board and FOL meeting; FOL is organizing tabling for February which is Library Lover's month. LAC is interested in collecting feedback and volunteers offered to follow up on this activity.

Both the chair and the secretary encouraged other members to nominate themselves for next year's chair and secretary. We would like to vote and send the new names to the Library Board by June.

Meeting was adjourned at 9 PM

- [Upcoming meetings listed on the community calendar](#)