

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

April 21, 2025 VIA ZOOM @ 7:30 PM - 9:00 PM

Present: *Dana Anderson, Jill Brantley, Jennifer Diamond, Regina Germain, Hira Girglani, Chauna Wiggins (Chair), 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

The Branch Manager, Kate Sweeney, provided an update on the branch staffing, collections, facilities needs, programming, and services. The new tenant for the coffee shop seems to be doing updates for moving in. Kate highlighted popular programs in the library and noted that for 76 programs in March we had 1,041 attendees. The circulation data seemed to be a bit anomalous and she is checking on them. Jennifer Diamond went to the book club program and she highly recommends it.

Wilma Brier provided an update on the MCPL Library Board and she shared the Director's report. She mentioned that Angelisa provided a report on sustainability and green initiatives. We have four LEED certified buildings (BG, Wheaton, Olney, and Gaithersburg). The board is planning to organize a networking event for LAC, possibly regionally. Possible date is June 25th. There were slight revisions to the handbook and feedback is invited on the revisions or other needs.

Discussion took place regarding the news about the dismantling of the Institute of Museum and Library Services (IMLS) federal agency with a recent Executive Order issued by the President. The agency operates with minimal staff and the rest of its staff is on administrative leave. The impact on the MCPL budget will be minimal but overall the Maryland State Library Agency will be affected in more ways. The largest stream of funding from the federal government to the state library agencies comes through the Grants to States Program that IMLS runs. These funding streams enable innovative and new approaches to library services (for example, the outreach bookmobile that hopefully we will use in next year's Thanksgiving parade was supported with this funding that came to the county from the Maryland State Library and the Maryland State Library received it from IMLS through the "Grants to States" or also known as Library Services and Technology Act (LSTA)). For more information on the "Grants to States" program and what it funds, see:

<https://www.imls.gov/find-funding/funding-opportunities/grants-to-states/state-allotment-data>

Next we moved into unfinished Business and discussed the LAC succession planning. We will hold nominations and elections on May 19, 2025. **Jennifer Diamond** would be interested in serving as a chair. **Jendayi Nyabingi** is thinking about the secretary role but is not certain yet.

We then reviewed the action steps based on the goals we set for this year: [2024- 2025 BGCEM LAC Goals & Activity Schedule](#). We have now posted a flyer that lists all the LAC meetings on the library board. Dana got the folder for the Thanksgiving Parade (applications are due in Sept/Oct) and Chauna will help Dana. We held a successful Library Lovers outreach in February. We are also in touch to get a

table for the Farmer's Market (we will need a table and a couple of chairs) and we asked for bookmarks to be available (50 copies). Paulette shared a letter we can use to recruit more members - people loved the flyer and there was a round of applause! It was also mentioned that the Montgomery College info session may be a good opportunity for recruitment- <https://mcpl.libnet.info/event/13496633>

We will continue to advocate for the refresh of the McGee Library - Chauna and Martha met with the library director, Darcell Graham, and Angelisa and Kate, and walked through the facility and highlighted some of the issues they see needing attention. We also hope to continue to foster communication among the MCPL, LAC members, and the local library community and continue to obtain advice and ideas regarding public library needs before, during, and after the renovation. The upcoming operation of the Purple Line station will most likely offer opportunities and adjustments we need to discuss and be aware of and address them. The purple line operation will change the nature of the traffic and we need to anticipate and be ready.

Under New Business there will be a purple line update after their next meeting; Jendayi is thinking of attending the College Park meeting for the purple line (to be held the day after our meeting).

Last, the group voted to approve the minutes of the previous meeting - there was a motion by Dana Anderson and Jill Brantley seconded. The minutes were approved unanimously.

The meeting was adjourned!

Next Meeting: Monday, May 19, 2025 at 7:30pm

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