

## Davis Library Advisory Committee for February 23, 2021

7:05p – 7:50p

### Virtual Meeting Minutes

Attendees: Jonina Duker, Diane Marcus, Linda Hubbard, Connie Locraft, Moutusi Sau, Steve Warrick (Library Manager) and Dan Melnick (MCPL Board Liaison).

7:05 P.M. call to order by Co-Chair, Linda Pottern

#### **Davis Library Manager's Report (Steve Warrick)**

##### Update of Library Openings and Staff:

- Davis Library and all MCPL branches are physically closed to the public (reopening date unknown) but are open for phone calls and Holds to Go service and telephone reference.
- Staff members are involved in multiple job-related tasks ranging from telephone reference, Holds to Go (recently numerous pick up appointments had to be rescheduled due to weather conditions), shelving, and inventory. Davis still has 2 p/t positions open. One staff person detailed to Connie Morella should be returning to Davis soon.
- Davis staff continues staying connected to the community through virtual programs. The children's staff all participates in storytimes, book discussions and other programs and the adult staff also have been hosting many virtual programs including our English Conversation Club, book and film discussions.
- Councilperson Jawando has been scheduling visits to library branches and conducting zoom meetings with library and community members. Several Davis LAC members attended the Little Falls Library event and said that it should have been called a town meeting since tour of the library and Q & A's were limited. Davis is scheduled for a March 4th meeting (see Liaison report below).

##### Electronic Resources:

- Web page changes are on-going and now include Highlighted Guides to assist in searching. Feel free to peruse the site as it is becoming more streamlined and user-friendly.

##### Facility Issues:

- A couple of work orders in for basic repair have been completed. After multiple requests we are still awaiting response re repair of the Deep Rut near the drive by the KID Museum which is a potential site for serious car and pedestrian injuries.

## MCPL Board Liaison Report (Dan Melnick)

### Review of the Joint meeting of the Montgomery County Library Board, LACs and Friends of the Library with the LAC

The LAC considered information about the MCPL's budget situation as reported by the MCPL Director:

- County has budgetary problems requiring some reductions. Recently, there was a proposal to make some cuts in the MCPL budget for the current year. The largest would have cut \$250K from the collections budget. But the Council did not agree to this.
- The new budget for FY 22 will be considered shortly. It is expected that the County Executive (CE) will send his proposal to the Council on or near March 15<sup>th</sup>. It is likely that it will not have any increases and might require some decreases due to COVID spending and due to an expected loss in revenue. Federal action in support of local governments could change this. The LAC discussed ways of showing support for the MCPL in light of the restricted budget situation.

### What LAC members and others can do to support MCPL in its budget request:

- The Joint meeting had circulated a toolkit for contacting key decision makers to communicate the need for strong support of the MCPL. The toolkit outlines what can be done in support of the MCPL budget. Two actions are possible: Write, e-mail or use social media to contact Council members and the CE and/or record and submit a video.
- Record a video speaking about the outstanding things MCPL and Davis Library has done for you and your family, friends and neighbors during this pandemic.
- LAC considered how its members could inform Members of the County Council and the CE about how LAC members and their neighbors have used the MCPL services since COVID crisis started. There was a discussion about the need to emphasize the importance of the Davis branch and the MCPL's resources particularly at a time when many people are observing public health restrictions and isolating in their homes.
- It was decided that members of the LAC would use the occasion of the virtual visit (March 4th) of Councilperson Jawando to present some of this information. Others may write or contact members of the Council individually. The chair of the LAC and the Board liaison agreed to serve as resources for LAC members who decide to do this.

### New Business

- **LAC members should attend the 6:30-8:00 P.M. Davis Library March 4th Zoom "town hall" meeting conducted by Councilperson Jawando.** Preformed comments or questions should be submitted to our Liaison (and DVLAC Co-Chair) to be forwarded to the presenter prior to his visit.
- No March DVLAC meeting is planned but a possible April meeting date is being decided.

The meeting was adjourned at 7:50 P.M.

Respectfully submitted,  
Linda Pottern, Davis Library Advisory Committee Co-Chair

February 28, 2021