

Davis Library Advisory Committee (DVLAC) December 19, 2022

Virtual Meeting Minutes

7:10 P.M. - Call to order and attendance by Co-Chair 1- Linda Pottern

Attendees: Jonina Duker (Co-Chair 2), Diane Marcus, Linda Hubbard, Kate Sweeney (Regional Manager-Bethesda) and Marilyn Schiff (MCPL Board Liaison)

Regional Manager's Report (Kate Sweeney)

1. Regional staff/administrative updates: Davis Branch Supervisor (Kirstra Otto) has been hired will be going through a day long orientation before reporting to the branch on December 20 (Kate will be her point of contact). We have a new PT Library Desk Asst, who has been promoted from a Shelving Assistant position, P-T Children's Library Associate Position is not yet filled but will be advertised early next year. As our staffing situation has improved, the Potomac Library staff working at Davis have been reassigned.
2. Current/future programs and Activities: Programs from January-March 2023 under consideration Family Story time will be on Tuesday and Wednesday and baby-story time on Wednesday, Musical group discussion (Notes in Time) will be conducted, Science Saturday- popular activity will be held, future teen programs with a science consultant, Art programs are being designed, MCPL will be running a Winter reading program similar to the summer program but a new exciting initiative. Book discussion groups and other activities are listed on the website and in the libraries.

MCPL Board Liaison Report (Marilyn Schiff)

1. Budget Advocacy forums conducted by the county executive: As MCLB member/county citizen, I attended five forums and told the LAC that hearing the needs and concerns of fellow citizens made me realize how diverse our county is. I recommended that people attend some of them next year.
2. Library Refresh: The Noyes library will be closed for a refresh this Spring.
3. Staffing: The library is allotted 400 full-time equivalent staff members. There were many staff departures during Covid and in 2022 MCPL hired a new human resources Director, Dr. Lolita Weedon. Since her arrival, the hiring process has become faster so that now only 45 days elapse between advertising position and filling it. Through November 2022, 53 new employees were added to the MCPL staff. And MCPL has added a full-time data manager.
4. I mentioned the personnel policy that allows staff members to switch branches

when openings occur. Kate Sweeney filled in the details of how this is done.

5. Branch Libraries Requests - The LAC at Little Falls had asked their library board liaison to suggest that hard copy periodicals be purchased again for the branches. Anita replied at the Board meeting that the system now only has a few newspapers and does not plan to subscribe to more hard copy periodicals. The main reason is the very high cost of hardcopy periodicals and also a heavy user of staff time because new issues have to constantly be added to the collection.

Committee Members Input and New Business:

1. The committee recommended that our Regional Manager, Kate invite the newly appointed Davis Branch Supervisor (Kirstra) to attend our next call to meet and interact with the DVLAC members.
2. The Attendance at the virtual Joint meeting of FOLMC Inc; MCPLS, LACs on January 11, 2023, will be considered in lieu of a DVLAC meeting. (The date for a February or Spring virtual DVLAC meeting TBD).

Save the Date: Registration 2023 Joint Meeting #2, January 11, 2023, 7:00 P.M. Virtual. (Registration info to be sent soon)

Meeting was adjourned at 8:10.

Respectfully submitted,

Linda Pottorn, Davis Advisory Committee Co-Chair-1.

12/28/2022