

Noyes Library for Young Children
Library Advisory Committee
Thursday, November 14, 2019, 7:15 pm
Kensington Park Public Library

Attendees: Mark Winek (chair); Brigitte Dubois (secretary); Toni Negro (library board liaison); Anita Vassallo (library director); Katie Rangas (Noyes Foundation representative); Paulette Dickerson; Joanne Gillespie; Sarah Stanton

1. Call to order: 7:19 pm
2. Introductions
3. Approval of minutes
 - a. The minutes from September 19, 2019 and April 4, 2019 were approved.
4. Reports
 - a. Chair's report (Mark)
 - i. A sign recruiting new LAC members has been posted at Noyes. No new applications have yet been received. Mark asked current members to recruit new LAC members within their communities.
5. Agency manager's report (Anita)
 - a. Christine Freeman has been promoted to Agency Manager at Aspen Hill Library, a promotion from her prior position as Program Manager for Early Childhood. Due to this change, Christine will no longer participate in Noyes LAC meetings.
 - b. Anita explained that the position of Program Manager for Early Childhood is now vacant as a result of Christine's promotion. The position description is being reviewed and will be posted. Anita described the scope of the position and explained that the new position description will not require candidates to hold an MLS and might be appropriate for candidates holding an advanced degree in early childhood education. Anita asked LAC members for suggestions regarding where to post this vacancy (contact at anita.vassallo@montgomerycountymd.gov). She noted that "early care and education" is one of the county executive's top priority areas.
 - c. Linda.com will still be available to MCPL users since Linked In has rolled back on the privacy issues that were a concern.
 - d. Marilyn Praisner Library will be coming out of a "refresh" and a public celebration will be held on site November 21.
2. Library board liaison report (Toni)
 - a. The last MCPL board meeting was held Oct. 23. Various "refresh" projects were announced, including at Chevy Chase Library. The Noyes Foundation presented architectural plans for the Noyes renovation at the board meeting.
 - b. Toni encouraged LAC members to write letters to the county executive in support of early childhood library services and to shine light on Noyes Library. She reiterated the

county executive's interest in "thriving youth and families" and his great interest in early childhood education; there is hope that he can be shown how important libraries can be to this initiative.

- c. There was no library achievement award presented this past year. An application was submitted by the Noyes LAC. Toni urged the LAC to move forward with another project this year.

3. Noyes Foundation report (Katie):

- a. The Noyes Foundation currently has 10-12 members and is interested in recruiting new members.
- b. Katie explained that she will be resigning her position as treasurer of the Noyes Foundation in January and that a new treasurer was voted in last month.
- c. The Foundation has retained Lynch Pinnacle, a PR firm, to help secure the remaining funds and grants needed to meet the Foundation's commitment to raise \$1.6M by December 31, 2019. \$800K has been pledged thus far, including bonds from the state of Maryland and \$75K from Friends of the Library.
- d. The group discussed that the Foundation's fundraising efforts have been focused primarily on the Kensington community thus far and that another approach could involve looking beyond the Kensington community to secure funds.

4. Unfinished business:

a. Ideas for the new Noyes addition:

- No ideas for the new addition were shared.
- Katie suggested that a programming initiative for Noyes could involve upgrading some of the old penny theaters located in the attic at Noyes.
- Toni urged members to consider a new initiative, such as a recruitment effort for attracting new LAC members, or new programming ideas.

b. Parking:

- The group discussed that currently there seems to be no solution to the limited parking around Noyes. Katie may inquire with the town of Kensington to see if installing four-hour parking signs might be feasible.

5. New business:

- a. January-February 2020 LAC advocacy: The Office of the County Executive (Marc Elrich) will be holding budgeting meetings in January, February and March. The next meeting will be held January 9.

6. Initiatives for the year

- a. Mark asked members to come to the January meeting prepared to share one idea for a project that the LAC could focus on over the coming year.

7. Open Floor:

- a. Toni expressed that the Noyes Foundation's fundraising efforts have been quite localized and might benefit from broader county-wide exposure due to the fact that it is a branch library within the broader MCPL system.

8. Adjournment: 8:38 pm