

DRAFT

Noyes Library for Young Children
Library Advisory Committee
Thursday, June 18, 2020, 7:15 pm
via Zoom

Attendees:

Mark Winek (chair); Brigitte Dubois (secretary); Toni Negro (library board liaison); Kate Sweeney (agency manager); Diana Ditto (Noyes Foundation representative); Lesley Maloney; Sarah Stanton; Paulette Dickerson; Joanne Gillespie

1. Call to order: 7:22 pm
2. Introductions
3. Approval of minutes:
 - a. The minutes from February 13, 2020 were approved.
4. Reports
 - a. Chair's membership report (Mark)
 - i. Mark introduced Kate Sweeney, the new agency manager for Noyes.
 - b. Agency manager's report (Kate)
 - i. Kate reported that the countywide library reopening process due to the coronavirus pandemic is just beginning. Due to its small size, which makes social distancing difficult, Noyes won't reopen at the same time as other branch libraries, and no date has yet been set for its reopening.
 - ii. Staff from Noyes will be working at Kensington Park Library; they may move to other branches as staffing needs evolve, and will return to Noyes as soon as it reopens. Book drop reopening, phone service and contactless pickup are scheduled to begin in June and July.
 - iii. All branch libraries have been doing virtual programming via internet throughout the pandemic. No in-person programming will take place this summer or anytime in the immediate future. Noyes staff members Sean and Luz are involved in virtual programming. Online children's programming has been very popular.
 - iv. Kate noted that MCPL was able to get virtual programming developed and operational quickly during the pandemic, which is a positive. She noted that visitors are able to easily experience programming from many different branches and that it might be good to have some virtual programming continue even after reopening. All virtual programming has been done by staff from home thus far, but some might be filmed from libraries in the future.
 - c. Library board liaison report (Toni)
 - i. Noyes did not receive additional library funding for extended hours, due changes related to the pandemic.

- ii. Much budgetary funding for collections-building has been diverted towards virtual programming.
- iii. Library fines were canceled during the pandemic closure and digital library cards have been made available.
- iv. On June 24, MCPL will host a virtual conversation regarding LGBTQ concerns.
- v. The LAC handbook has been updated and is available online. There have been some major changes, and all members should familiarize themselves with it. A written description from the LAC chair for the annual LAC report is due in June.
- vi. Councilmember Will Jawando hosts a children's storytime on Wednesdays at 11:30 am. Noyes librarian Sean has been supporting these behind the scenes.

d. Noyes Library Foundation report (Diana)

- i. Fundraising for the Noyes renovation is on hold right now, due to fundraising challenges related to the pandemic and financial crisis.
- ii. Foundation members have met with three county council members to request further budgetary support for the renovation. Council members verbalized support but said the pandemic is a current impediment to additional project funding.
- iii. The county architect has received authority to submit plans necessary to have the renovation project permitted. This will allow her to seek actual bids on the project from contractors. Foundation members hope bids may come in lower than estimated and that the project will interest builders who have experience working with historic buildings.

5. Election of officers for 2020-2021

- a. Mark and Brigitte were reelected chair and secretary, respectively.

6. New business

- a. The next meeting will be held Thursday, August 20 at 7:15 pm.
- b. The group reviewed a blurb written by Brigitte to recruit new Noyes LAC members. Members agreed to modify it as needed and post it to local listserves.

7. Open floor

- a. Toni encouraged the group to keep in mind the ideas for an LAC project that are listed in the February meeting minutes. She noted that her board term may expire in September.

8. The meeting was adjourned at 8:27 pm.