

Minutes Noyes LAC

11 May 2023

Attendees

MCPL Director Anita Vassallo

Noyes LAC President Paula Dickerson

Noyes LAC Member Joanne Gillespie

Noyes Library Foundation Co-President Karen Beardsley

Noyes LAC Member Sarah Stanton (took minutes)

1. Paulette called the meeting to order 7:35
2. No approval of minutes due to lack of quorum
3. Announcement: Most of the group has expiring membership and she welcomes renewal application.
4. Reports
Library Management

Diane Whittaker would typically give the Noyes Board Liaison report, but Anita Vassallo gave the report.

Part-time librarian was promoted and is now full-time at another library. Noyes position has been advertised and we hope to get someone quickly. They are also hiring a shelving assistant.

Staff continues to replenish collection.

Programming – storytime series for the children at Naval Support Activity Bethesda (NSAB) home to the Walter Reed National Military Medical Center to celebrate the Month of the Military Child. Noyes presented 5 storytimes to 148 children. Stories ranges from We Don't Lose our Class Goldfish and the Three Billy Goats Gruff. Sean was presented with a Certificate of Appreciation.

Outdoor programming resumes. Storytime on Tuesday or Thursday mornings and a family storytime on Saturdays. They have paused take-and-make crafts but will resume.

June 17th kickoff for Summer Reading "Altogether Now" theme Kindness, Friendship, Community with big event outside Rockville Town Center at 1030

2350 people attended children's programming.

Project was put out to bid and the amount of funding available from all sources is \$3.5M, the bid came in at \$8M so more than twice what is available. The Department of General Services pulled it out of the bid process and will re-bid in the next fiscal year hoping that construction costs will be more reasonable. Renovation is paused.

Anita Vassallo also gave the Director's Report from the Board meeting on Wednesday May 10th, 2023. Several facilities will be renovated. Assessment piece for Silver Spring begins this month. Potomac reopened this month. Long Branch has money from State for exterior improvement that wasn't included in the renovation a couple of years ago.

Director's Report—personnel hired in April 6 new people at a variety of libraries. Sad for us but great for the county, lost our employee who is becoming Deputy Director of Resources for MoCo government.

For summer reading for the Kindness, Friendship and Unity theme the First Badge will go to support the Animal Shelter to help adoptable pets find their homes, Second Badge donation to Manna Food Center, and Third Badge for the Montgomery Parks to support solar effort. Kids are still getting Nationals gam tickets and a free book, but are not getting plastic toys.

Onboarded five new Board member. Talked about advocacy for library's funding. Final throes for County Council to make budget enhancement requests. We wanted to reduce the lapse target to allow us to continue to fill our vacancies. The County Executive recommends a budget to the Council. This budget year is different because the County Executive is recommending an increase in property taxes to fill the MCPS request for several million more. Suggest that members call as constituents and ask the Council to support the Library's budget request and prioritize our staffing request (supports programming and outreach).

Noyes Library Foundation Co-President Karen Beardsley gave report. What the future that the Foundation is going to look like is not a current topic for us. We are celebrating the library's birthday and doing dance parties and storybook walks. We are trying to have a travelling set and a home set - hoping we can get them durable. Hoping bid will go out next spring and someone will find it to be a wonderful place to build.

5. Old Business – None
6. New Business – None

We may need to have a July meeting because we can't elect new officers.

Meeting closed at 8:07.