

Quince Orchard Library
Library Advisory Committee Minutes
January 21, 2020

Meeting called to order at 7:20pm.

Minutes from the last meeting were approved.

Present

Toni Negro - LAC Board Advisor
Linda Raden - QO LAC Chair
Jane Lin - QO LAC Member
Ken Friedman - QO LAC Member
Kathy Torg - QO LAC Member

REPORTS

Membership Report - Agnes Holioway has joined as a new member of the LAC Committee. More members are always welcome to join to provide greater vibrancy and to reflect the community.

Agency (Branch Manager) Report - No report tonight in the absence of Mr. Stewart.
Appended Report:

- The LAC Suggestion Box has been returned to its proper location.
- The meeting room will be available for the Games Club to meet on a weekly basis beginning February 25.
- The QO branch is sponsoring a class on downloading eBooks and other eResources. The remaining classes are scheduled for February 6, 13, 20, 27 and March 5, 19 26. These are 45-minute hands-on sessions conducted by volunteer Luanne Karr from 9 am to noon. Those interested can register at the Information Desk. This is advertised in the Library Calendar of Events.
- Thermal Camera Program: Get Your Home Summer-Ready – This program is scheduled for May 6 at QO and will help people understand how they can use their iPhone or Android device to use an FLIR Thermal Camera borrowed from the Library to inspect their home for heat and cold air leaks. This could save hundreds of dollars in energy costs per year. 1:30-2:45 on May 6.
- The QO branch is hopeful of finding support to add a donated piano to the meeting room. We have identified a likely candidate. This would help us add more music programming at the branch.
- The QO branch has one large display case and two smaller display cases that can be booked by individuals or organizations on a monthly basis for topical displays. Those interested should check at the branch Information Desk to book a month.
- Timothy Hendricks who was in charge of our Children's Services has now moved over to Adults. Nancy Sillcox, who was in charge of Adult Services has relocated to Olney. We now have a vacant position in Children's Services that we are seeking to fill.
- A student volunteer has offered to help us refurbish and upgrade our STEM stations in the first alcove.
- The QO branch will have book displays relating to Black History Month in February

Library Board Liaison Report -

-Anita Vassallo, previously the acting director of MCPL has been confirmed as the permanent Director.

-The final revision of the LAC handbook has been made. It is now posted on the website.

-There is a new chair, Sondra Roberts, of the Library Board as the old chair resigned. There are many new members on the board as several terms expired.

-There have been staff changes in many branches.

-There is a change in the way county budgets are to be determined. The County Executive, Mark Elrich has put together BOLTS, committees of various county employees and community members to advise as per his initiatives. He has 7 primary initiatives of which two are linked to the MCPL

- Early Literacy and Child Education

- Workplace Development

The Library Board and the Library Advisory Committees goal is to make policy makers and county government aware of what MCPL does to meet these needs.

-MCPL goal (3) in their position statement to meet community needs.

- Increase staff - increase the number of children's librarians

- Increase hours in all branches with expanded hours and Sunday hours.

- Standardize library hours across all branches for consistent access for the public.

The position paper is on the Friends of the Library website and can be found in TOOLKIT.

-MCPL has eliminated overdue fines on children's books. A loss of \$1 million in revenue.

-The county has a (approximately \$7 million) undesignated fund that rolls over annually that could be tapped to assist with the initiatives. The FOL have not been able to find out how that has been spent historically or how it might affect the FY21 budget.

-Councilman at Large Jawando is continuing his Community Conversations at the local library branches. To date they have been well attended. The remaining schedule of locations has been set. Quince Orchard is scheduled for Thursday, July 9th from 7:00pm to 8:30pm.

-In the past the MCPL has been grouped in the Health and Education Budget. Now it has moved to the Education Budget.

-Planned refreshes for branches are going forward. No budget cuts have occurred.

Programming-

-The Suggestion Box is missing from its location. It may have been moved. We will check with Mr. Stewart.

-The Games Club is still very active. The participants have requested that it go from 2 Tuesdays a month to 4 Tuesdays a month. We will confirm this with Mr. Stewart as to dates.

Ken and Jane attended the joint meeting and shared info with us. The most important information is to communicate with local officials such as councilmen and executive by email as outlined in the TOOLKIT on matters of importance to the community.

Meeting adjourned at 8:22pm.

Kathryn Torg - Secretary