

Wheaton Library Advisory Committee Meeting – June 21, 2021 – 8:00 PM

Online via Zoom



Attendees: Jessica French (Co-chair), April Rivers (secretary), Yesvy Gustasp, Carolyn Teich, Thelda McMillian, Andrew Rein, Diana Dubrawsky, Robyn Watts (MLB representative), and Dianne Whitaker (Ex-officio -- Wheaton Library Manager).

- I. Jessica called the meeting to order at 8:06 PM.
- II. May minutes were approved.
- III. Library Manager's Report to the Wheaton LAC – presented by Dianne Whitaker

Facilities

The building contractor is continuing repairs on the Wheaton Library and Recreation building. Heavy equipment is being stored on the plaza while a solution to the stormwater management issue is being addressed. The Department of General Services has advised the library that repairs will not be completed for at least six to eight weeks. Parking is limited to the garage and the playground parking area. (Patrons are complaining about the torn-up plaza.) The children's program room is waiting for repairs to the folding door panels and is serving as a storage area for several pieces of children's furniture.

Collection

Wheaton has received additional new materials. A survey is being conducted to find out which print magazines and newspapers are in highest demand. Print editions will return in mid-fall. The full digital edition of the Washington Post and many magazines are available.

Programs

Summer Reading began June 16, 2021. As in previous years, summer reading will be an online registration and log program. Children will be able to complete 4 missions. Three activities or titles per mission. There will be prizes for each mission completed. The mission will be timed every two weeks, so children will need to pace the game over the summer. There will be a game for 0-5, 6-12 and teens. There will be special weekly

virtual programming throughout the summer. The book club is continuing. A monthly computer basics class on downloading e-books will also be held. Plans for in person or hybrid programming is being developed. There may be several outdoor story times later in the summer. In-person programs will resume in the fall. There may be some outdoor programs in the summer.

Services

The Wheaton Library received notice on Tuesday June 1, 2021, that our reopening date changed from July 6, 2021, to June 14, 2021. As of today, both the Recreation Center and Library are open for regular business. The large social hall and large library meeting rooms will be available for rental in September 2021. All branches including White Oak, Kensington, Twinbrook, and Noyes will be open on July 6, 2021. Currently, fourteen branches are open. Wheaton Library hours are Monday, Wednesday, Friday, and Saturday 10 – 6. Tuesday and Thursday 12- 8. Closed Sundays. The recreation center opened on June 28th.

Kefa Café opened on July 6th.

IV. MCLB Report presented by Robyn Watts:

The board is on hiatus for July-august. All borrowing late fees are eliminated.

V. Meeting was adjourned at 8:30 PM. The next meeting will be on Monday, September 13, 2021, 8:00 PM via Zoom.