



LIBRARY ADVISORY COMMITTEE
WHITE OAK BRANCH

Nov 5, 2019 Meeting Minutes

Chairperson Paulette Wright called the meeting to order at 7:00 PM.

Members present: Jan Bloom, Ellen Melle, Randi Passamaneck, Frances Schueler, Paulette Wright

Other attendees: Kathie Meizner, White Oak Branch Manager, Connie Oprisch, White Oak FOL Member

The minutes from the Sept 10, 2019 meeting were approved.

MCPL Board Liaison Report

Copies of the October 23, 2019 MCPL Director's Report were distributed. Two items in the Report were highlighted:

- Marilyn Praisner Branch re-opens on Sat, Nov 16th.
- Major publishers have introduced severe restrictions to e-book and audiobook lending for public libraries. See ebooksforall.org for details and information on the #eBooksForAll campaign.

The Joint MCPL Board / FOL / LAC meeting is tomorrow, Wed, Nov 6, 2019. Ellen Melle will represent White Oak LAC.

Membership Report

The White Oak LAC has one pending new membership for Natasha Isler.

Paulette Wright consolidated and submitted comments and edits from White Oak LAC members to the LAC Handbook.

Branch Manager Report from Kathie Meizner

Facility: The branch is establishing a *Business Entrepreneur Corner* to bring together various library materials, services, and monthly programs for entrepreneurs and the small business community. This work complements business services and activities provided in the East County Regional Center and County Executive Marc Elrich's 4Business - Benchmarking to Be the Best for Business initiative.

Reference books were relocated are now adjacent to the Circulation Desk as part of a broader effort to make them more "lend-able."

Repairs have been completed to address the long-standing ceiling problems in Meeting Room 2 on the lower level.

Staff: Eileen Fisher, White Oak Children's Services Lead Librarian is on-loan to the Marilyn Praisner Branch through December 31st to help relieve their severe short-staffing situation. Kathleen Yu transferred from Aspen Hill to White Oak as a fulltime Librarian.

MCPL has 80 open staff positions across the system. This impacts all aspects of library operations and staff morale.

Programs: Staff-led baby & toddler, preschool and family programs continue to be extremely popular.

Other: MCPL's Food for Fines program was held on October 16-30. Library patrons earned \$1.00 for each donated food item toward payment of existing library fines. Donated food will go to the Manna Food Center.

Unfinished Business - None

New Business: E-books are the fastest growing segment across MCPL lending. LAC members are strongly encouraged to visit the ebooksforall.org website and consider participating in the #eBooksForAll campaign.

The next White Oak LAC meeting is on Tuesday, Jan 7, 2020 in Meeting Room 2. Following that date, the remaining meetings in the 2019-2020 fiscal year are March 3, 2020 and June 2, 2020.

The meeting adjourned at 7:20 PM.

Respectfully submitted,
Ellen Melle, Secretary
White Oak LAC