



LIBRARY ADVISORY COMMITTEE
WHITE OAK BRANCH

March 3, 2020 Meeting Minutes

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

Members present: Cathy Stewart, Jan Bloom, Natasha Isler, Cristina Dal Molin, Frances Schueler, Paulette Wright

Other attendees: Carrie Villar, White Oak MCPL Board Liaison, Kathie Meizner, White Oak Branch Manager, Connie Oprisch, White Oak FOL Member

The minutes from the January 14, 2020 meeting were approved.

MCPL Board Liaison Report

Carrie Villar discussed the LAC handbook briefly. She said that three LAC applications had been approved: Paulette Wright, Cathy Stewart and Natasha Isler.

She had expressed our concerns about the amount of reporting and contradictions. No resolution, but there will be follow-up. No news about the budget and no news concerning the ramifications of the Long Branch refresh.

Membership Report

Muriel Cooper's application is still pending and Rev. Lamar Bailey has not applied. Paulette will check on the latter.

Branch Manager Report from Kathie Meizner

Staff: There are three vacant circulation positions including one aide. White Oak is lending two staff members (Children's librarians) to Little Falls two days a week. This does make staffing tight for White Oak

There is a strong need for computer volunteers, particularly in the afternoon.

Duplos and wire maze have been removed for cleaning. They are still trying to figure out what will need extra cleaning.

Gilchrist Center, Census, Gandhi Brigade, H.I.R.E. partnerships are still functioning.

She drew attention to the increasing number of tables in front which have materials to engage the community. There is also a new Board Book display.

Judy Ehrenstein has been appointed to the Sydney Taylor Award jury. This is a two year appointment. Judy will choose a book for younger and older readers each year.

Long Branch is closing March 14.

Unfinished Business - None

New Business: Natasha questioned the use of cell phones in the breezeway. Kathy said that the policy is that use of cell phones is discouraged in the library and forbidden in the quiet room. There is no perfect solution. Library patrons can take calls on the lower level or perhaps they can just be reminded about cell phone courtesy. She also said that social workers and others often use the library.

The question emerged as to whether congregating in the entrance posed a fire hazard. One suggestion was to post a sign in the entrance way.

Paulette asked Kathy to share door counts.

Finally, Kathy informed us the accessible door downstairs is broken and needs to be replaced. That is a work in progress.

The next LAC meeting is at 7:00 P.M. on June 2, 2020 in Meeting Room 2.

The meeting adjourned at 7:30 P.M.

Respectfully submitted,
Frances Schueler, Substitute Secretary
White Oak LAC