



LIBRARY ADVISORY COMMITTEE
WHITE OAK BRANCH

March 1, 2022 Meeting Minutes

Chair Jan Bloom called the meeting to order at 7:00 PM. The meeting was held virtually on the MCPL's ZOOM platform.

Members present: Jan Bloom, Ellen Melle, Fran Schueler, Cathy Stewart, and Paulette Wright

Other attendees: Vikram Pant, MC Library Board Liaison, and Kathie Meizner, White Oak Branch Manager

The minutes from the January 4, 2022 meeting were approved.

Montgomery County Library Board Liaison Report

Vikram Pant reported on the January 12th and February 9th Library Board meetings. Vikram is the Board Liaison to the Aspen Hill and White Oak branches. The Library Board is at full membership and relaunched three Work Groups: Library Policy and Practices, Legislative and Public Affairs and Library Advisory Committees Activities.

Membership Report

The White Oak LAC has ten members. Jan Bloom's and Ellen Melle's applications for additional 3-year terms were approved by the Library Board. Randi Passamaneck and Fran Schueler retired from the LAC effective March 31, 2022. The LAC extended heartfelt thanks and appreciation for their service. They will be missed!

The ***Application for Nomination*** form is posted at <https://www.montgomerycountymd.gov/Library/resources/files/board/lac-application.pdf>.

Branch Manager Report

Facility:

The White Oak community welcomed the resumption of Sunday branch hours on February 27.

Collection:

Kathie Meizner and Eileen Fisher, White Oak Head of Children's Services, recently met with Book Selectors in MCPL Collections Management Division. Kathie shared an overview of the Book Selectors' process to incorporate input from MCPL Branch staff into the purchase decisions for hundreds of titles and thousands of volumes each year for MCPL patrons' reading enjoyment.

Staffing:

Marilyn Smith, Adult Services Librarian, returned to the Olney branch, creating one fulltime vacancy at White Oak.

Programs:

Library staff delivered multiple Black History virtual programs.

Sunday, March 6 at 2:30 PM: Meet Rosita Stevens-Holsey and Terry Catusus Jennings, co-authors of *Pauli Murray - The Life of a Pioneering Feminist & Civil Rights Activist*. Pauli Murray was a thorn in the side of white America demanding justice and equal treatment for all. Murray conceptualized the arguments that would win *Brown v. Board of Education of Topeka*; and in 1964, the arguments that won women equality in the workplace. This important book is timelier than ever as the process of nominating the first Black woman to the Supreme Court gets underway.

Saturday, Feb 26: There was a big turnout for this successful event with Grammy nominated Progressive Hip-Hop artist Christylez Bacon delivered a Human Beatbox program for children and families.

Sunday, Feb 27: A well-received program by Ralph Buglass discussed the history of school segregation in Montgomery County and the County's 17 Rosenwald schools. Rosenwald schools were public schools for Black students built all over the South in the early 20th century with funding from Julius Rosenwald, sometimes called "the biggest philanthropist you've never heard of."

UNFINISHED BUSINESS

The Election of Officers (Chair, Vice Chair and Secretary) will be held at our next meeting on June 7, 2022. Nominations include Ellen Melle for Chair, Jan Bloom for Vice Chair and Paulette Wright for Secretary.

NEW BUSINESS

Kathie Meizner announced volunteer opportunities for LAC Members to stuff bags with KN95 masks for library distribution to community members. Current branch demand averages 500 masks per day.

The 4rd issue of the MCPL Newsletter was emailed to library cardholders today. Vikram Pant will research where MCPL sources email addresses for the monthly newsletter distribution. Multiple White Oak library patrons are not receiving the newsletter emails and have asked the LAC's assistance in adding their addresses to the distribution list.

Note: Vikram Pant provided this update from the March 9, 2022 Library Board meeting.....MCPL recently switched its email distribution software to OrangeBoy. MCPL Digital Services is working with the vendor to allow newsletter sign-ups via the website. For now, email addresses come from library accounts, specifically, "active" accounts defined as used within the last year (rolling). Patrons are also reminded to check their Spam and Junk email folders in case their email server incorrectly flagged the newsletter as Junk/Spam. Patrons can add the sending email address - mcpl.checkusout@montgomerycountymd.gov – to their email Contacts to avoid the newsletter going to Junk/Spam.

Mark Your Calendar: The next White Oak LAC meeting will be held in-person at the Library on Tuesday, June 7, 2022 at 7:00 PM.

Future CY 2022 meetings are scheduled for Sept 6, 2022 and Nov 1, 2022.

The meeting adjourned at 7:27 PM

Respectfully submitted,
Ellen Melle
Secretary, White Oak LAC