



LIBRARY ADVISORY COMMITTEE  
WHITE OAK BRANCH  
**Minutes of January 2, 2024, Meeting**

Chair Ellen Melle called the meeting to order at 7: 00PM. The meeting was held in-person at the White Oak Library.

Members present: Ellen Melle, Cathy Stewart, Connie Oprisch, and Paulette Wright. Dianne Whitaker, Regional Manager, and Vikram Pant, MCPL Board Liaison, were also in attendance

The Minutes from the November 7, 2023, meeting was unanimously approved.

### **Membership Report**

The White Oak LAC has six members. Four were present at the meeting. All members have terms that will be valid through the current fiscal year.

We are actively trying to expand LAC membership with on-site recruiting at branch events. New applications from the community are welcome!

The application for the fully on-line LAC Application form is available at <https://mcgmd.wufoo.com/forms/q1hx790p0xihc8w/>.

### **Regional Manager's Report**

Dianne Whitaker presented the Regional Manager's Report.

#### **Facility:**

Two Burgeon play/learn panels have been purchased by the Friends of the Library Montgomery County (FOLMC) to enhance the White Oak children's area. One is the Hickory Dickory Clock (\$823), and the other is the Rainbow Spinner (\$840). The installation date was not available at the time of the meeting.

An ongoing issue with the security cameras has been resolved.

#### **Collections:**

The culling of collections is ongoing.

The location of the children's graphic novels collection has been shifted to provide easier access and to accommodate a larger world languages section. The predominant language in the children's world language section is Spanish.

#### **Programs:**

##### **Children's**

- Baby Storytime is now the 1<sup>st</sup> and 3<sup>rd</sup> Tuesday of each month at 11:30AM, following the 10:30AM Toddler Storytime. A half-hour social/playtime will take place after the Toddler Storytime, beginning in January.
- Family Storytimes are now the 1<sup>st</sup> and 3<sup>rd</sup> Saturday of the month at 10:30AM

- A family dance program (everyone dances) will start February 8<sup>th</sup> and will be held on the 2<sup>nd</sup> and 4<sup>th</sup> Thursdays.
- A local art professor will present an art class for children focusing on the style of an African American Artist for Black History Month.
- We held a highly successful New Year's Eve Crafternoon/dance party on Sunday, December 31<sup>st</sup>.
- Toys have been added to the in-branch toy lending collection.
- This month's scavenger hunt features photos of cookies!

### **Teens**

- Superhero Comic Book magnets craft is on January 3<sup>rd</sup> at 5:30PM, a tie-in with MoComCon 2024.
- Investors club, presented by Spark Business Academy, runs from 5PM to 6PM on Wednesdays in January, starting January 10<sup>th</sup>.

### **Adults**

- The English Conversation Club began in December and is held on Mondays from 6PM to 8PM.
- A free, drop-in Tai Chi/Qigong program, held on the 2<sup>nd</sup> and 4<sup>th</sup> Saturdays began in December.
- The monthly Mystery Book Club and Evening Book Club are now back to in-person meetings. The African American Book Club remains virtual.

### **Staffing**

White Oak will lose two part-time staff members in January--one to a full-time position in another branch, and one to a full-time position outside the Montgomery County Government.

## **Montgomery County Board Liaison's Report**

Ahead of our meeting, Vikram Pant provided the LAC members with copies of the MCPL Library Director's Report for November, and a copy of his recap of the MCPL December Board Meeting, and other updates.

The template has been approved for the LAC bookmarks. They will be ordered by the Director's Office once information from Regional Managers is finalized.

Feedback from the White Oak LAC on the draft LAC handbook was submitted to the LAC working group.

The Joint Meeting II of the MCPL Board, the FOLMC, the MCPLs and LACs will be held at White Oak on Wednesday, January 10<sup>th</sup> at 7:00PM.

## **UNFINISHED BUSINESS**

The template for the LAC Recruiting Bookmark has been approved. It is anticipated that the bookmarks will be available soon in the branches. Ellen Melle said that she plans to distribute some at one of the upcoming Storytimes in an effort to attract more parents of young children.

## **NEW BUSINESS**

The Election of Officers for the White Oak LAC will take place at the May 7<sup>th</sup> meeting. This was mentioned so that interested parties can let their interest in serving as Chair and Co-Chair or Secretary be known in time for the nominations and voting in May. The current officers are term limited.

The meeting adjourned at 7:51PM. The next meeting is scheduled for Tuesday, March 5, 2024.

Respectfully submitted,  
Paulette Wright, Secretary