



## **Library Board Meeting**

**April 12, 2017**

**BOARD PRESENT:** Brodsky, Brooks, Chiu, Christman, Durcho, Duval, Makar, Negro, Reedy, Rippeon, Wallace, Williams, Wray

**STAFF PRESENT:** B. Parker Hamilton, Director; Regina Holyfield-Jewett, Recording Secretary; Mary Ellen Icaza, Public Services Administrator, Community Engagement, Programming and Learning

**GUESTS:** Carol Leahy, Friends of the Library, Montgomery County; Jim Montgomery, Friends of the Library, Montgomery County, Advocacy Committee

The Library Board meeting was convened by Chair Reedy at 7:05 PM

**INTRODUCTIONS:** New Board members were welcomed. Board members, staff and guest self-introduced

### **APPROVAL OF BOARD MINUTES:**

The minutes from the March 8, 2017 Board meeting were approved with one correction.

### **LAC APPLICATIONS:**

The LAC applications were approved.

### **DIRECTOR'S REPORT:**

- **New Hires**
  - Taman Morris – Budget Specialist – began April 4
  - David Payne – Branch Manager – May 15
  - Patrick Fromm – Branch Manager – May 15
  - Christine Felix – Program Specialist, Early Literacy – April 30
  - Joe-Edouard Edmond – Administrative Specialist for Human Resources – April 30

- **Refresh Projects**
  - The Davis branch reopened on April 8 at 10 AM. County Executive Leggett and Councilmembers Leventhal and Elrich were in attendance.
  - Little Falls and Aspen Hill are scheduled to reopen in May.
  - Quince Orchard and White Oak will be closing on April 15 for refreshes.
- **Go! Kits** are now available in all branches as of April 3. (See Attachment 1- Press Release)
- **Assistive Technology Workstations** are in 19 branches, and the locations currently undergoing and preparing for refreshes will have new workstations installed as their refreshes are completed. (See Attachment 2 - Press Release)
- **Program Series Highlights**
  - **Contemporary Conversations @ MCPL**
    - The 2nd event in the series was held on April 1 at Gaithersburg Library featuring award-winning, bestselling author David Ignatius.
    - The 3<sup>rd</sup> event is being hosted by County Executive Ike Leggett featuring Charles Lane. The topic is the Colfax Massacre of 1873. The event will be at the Silver Spring Library on May 7, 6 PM.
    - In June, award-winning picture book and middle grade author, Hena Khan, will join the conversation. Her most recent picture book, “It’s Ramadan, Curious George” made national headlines.
    - The Friends of the Library, Montgomery County are co-sponsoring the series.
- **Updated and New Technology**
  - New automated telephone renewal system is up and running. MCPL replaced an older telephone service with a new robust system which includes Spanish and French options. Customers can check for hold availability and renew items already charged to their account by calling 240-777-0007 and entering their library account and PIN.
  - Text messaging - We have been testing text messaging for the past couple weeks, and it is now ready for prime-time. Customers can sign up to receive hold information via text. An official announcement will be made soon.
- **Realignment of DLDS/State Library** – A state bill supported by Montgomery County has passed. The purpose of the bill is to establish the Maryland State Library Agency and the Maryland State Library Board; transferring the duties and responsibilities of the Division of Library Development and Services in the State Department of Education to the State Library Agency; transferring the duties and responsibilities of the State Board of Education pertaining to libraries to the State Library Board; making the appointment of the State Librarian subject to the advice and consent of the Senate.
- **Germantown Update**
  - There have been a couple of recent incidents with teens at the Germantown branch that we perceive began in the Germantown community and migrated to the library. Based on this, we have increased the police presence at the branch. We are also working with the Department of Health and Human Services’ Street Outreach Network to provide training for staff on how to approach teens and how to deal culturally with teens.
- **Library Matters Podcast** (<http://mcplmd.libsyn.com/podcast>)
  - [Books that Prompted a Big or Small Lifestyle or Habit Change](#)
    - Guests: Theresa Kolacek and Carol Reddan, both Library Associates who assist customers at MCPL branch information desks.

- [Outside Our Walls](#)
  - Guests: Julie Dina and Febe Huezo, Outreach Associates
- [What Do I Check Out Next?](#)
  - Guests: Susan Moritz, Program Manager for Virtual Services and Lisa Navidi, Librarian at Davis Library
- **Career Online High School (COHS)** – Last month the first student earned a diploma!
  - The student’s response to enrolling in COHS: “In order to take my education to the next level and finally get my diploma. I gained the drive I had in high school to get work done back. I'm still working part time and would like to enroll at MC soon. Get a 4 year degree and make a name for myself musically.”
- **Upcoming Events**
  - **Health and Human Services Committee worksession** on the FY18 Budget for Libraries is scheduled for April 17, 9:30 AM at the Council Office Building, 7<sup>th</sup> Floor.
  - **Awards of Excellence Reception** recognizing outstanding staff achievements is scheduled for April 27 at 9:30 AM, Rockville Memorial Library, 2<sup>nd</sup> Floor Meeting room.
  - The **renaming of the Poolesville branch** is scheduled for April 29, 2 PM. It will be renamed for the late Maggie Nightingale.
  - **National Library Legislative Day** is scheduled for May 2, 2017.

#### **CHAIR’S REPORT:**

- Potluck Dinner with Council on Tuesday, April 4, 2017
  - Six of the Council members attended the dinner.
  - The dinner was followed by the public hearing session.
- Contemporary Conversations
  - On April 1, David Ignatius was at the Gaithersburg Library. The event was well attended.
- Visits to Council Members
  - Kathleen Reedy, Brandon Rippeon and Jensen Chiu have attended the visits.
  - Other members will be asked to attend the upcoming visits.
- Boards, Committees, and Commissions
  - Annual meeting with the County Executive was on March 16.
- Lead for Public Libraries on Council

#### **WORKGROUP REPORTS:**

- Legislative and Public Affairs (Rippeon)
  - Individual meetings with Council members
    - April 12 – Councilmember Navarro
    - April 17 – Councilmember Berliner
    - April 19 – Councilmember Leventhal (Art Brodsky)
    - April 24 – Councilmember Riemer
    - April 27 – Councilmember Rice (Kim Durcho)
    - Councilmember Katz’s Chief of Staff said he has and always will support libraries. There is no need to meet.
    - Councilmember Hucker – date still pending

- Councilmember Elrich meeting – supportive of the requests
  - Very good response from Council members during meetings so far.
  - Councilmember Floreen supported the deep cleaning budget.
- Library Policy and Practices (Duval)
  - Public Library Outcome Statement and Indicators of Success (initiated by Urban Libraries Council).
    - This was compared with MCPL’s mission.
      - Urban Libraries Council is an association of urban libraries in the USA and Canada. MCPL is a member. Our dues are paid by the Friends of the Library, Montgomery County. Most library systems are not a part of County government as is MCPL. This is the organization that initiated the White House ConnectED Library Challenge.
    - The edits made to the statement will be forwarded to the ULC CEO.
    - This is an effort to get libraries in the mindset of collecting data to show their impact on education.
    - Similar effort is going on in academic libraries. Not usually cause and effect, but correlation data.
    - Send any edits to Bill Duval via email by April 21.
- Board and LAC Activities (Brooks)
  - Received the revisions for the LAC Handbook. Will share the revised document with the two Board members who volunteered to assist with the editing process.
  - Elections for the LACs are coming up soon. After elections, LACs should complete the LAC Report form and return to the Board by September.
    - LAC elections that have happened in the last six months do not have to be held again.
    - The Board needs to hold its election prior to September.
  - The testimony of Ana Solis regarding the Flower Branch Apartments was shared with the full Board.
    - Director Hamilton thanked Vice Chair Brooks for working with Ms. Solis in preparation for testifying before Council.

## LAC LIAISON REPORTS:

- **Davis** – The reopening was a very nice event. Will hold more regular LAC meetings now that it has reopened.
- **Accessibility (AAC)** - Touring Long Branch in April and Marilyn Praisner in May; already toured Poolesville in December. These are the refresh branches for FY18. The AAC members walk through the branches and make recommendations regarding accessibility.
- **Silver Spring** – Kim Durcho is the new liaison. The next meeting is Monday, April 17, 7:30 PM. Director Hamilton will be attending this meeting. The SS LAC is a very enthusiastic group. Debbie Brooks will attend the next meeting with Kim Durcho. They will look at a possible placement for the lion statue.
- **Aspen Hill** – In honor of her years of volunteer leadership in support of the Aspen Hill Library and the Strathmore/Bel Pre community, Chris Swan will be receiving the Mid-County CAB Citizen of the Year Award at the 33rd annual Wheaton and Kensington Chamber of Commerce awards dinner on Wednesday, April 26, 6-9 pm. Chris Swan is the wife of the Aspen Hill LAC Chair Elliott Chabot.

- **Bethesda** - Art Brodsky is the new liaison.
- **Praisner** – Art Brodsky is the new liaison. He will attend the tour with the AAC at Praisner.
- **Olney** – Jensen Chiu is the new liaison. Olney is a very active, supportive group.
- **Gaithersburg** – Jensen Chiu is the new liaison. He has received the information for the Gaithersburg LAC Chair and will be in touch.
- **Kensington Park** – Kim Durcho is the new liaison.
- **Rockville Memorial** – Status quo. Looking for new members.
- **Twinbrook** – Recently elected a new chair; need a new secretary. Mike Wallace, former chair, is now on the Library Board.
- **Damascus** – Nabil Makar is the new liaison.
- **Potomac** – Nabil Makar is the new liaison.
- **Noyes** – The next meeting is May 2.
- **Quince Orchard** – Spoke with branch manager Jim Stewart. The branch is closing soon for its refresh. Chair of the LAC tried to have a meeting on April 11 which conflicted with a religious observance. Chair will be away until May 30. Some members want to have a meeting prior to the building closing for the refresh. The Board needs to address the LACs having a meeting in the absence of the Chair since the Handbook is silent on this issue.
- **Poolesville** – Had a meeting on April 5 which focused on upcoming renaming.
- **Germantown** – Has not met since last Board meeting. Scheduled to meet on April 20.
- **Little Falls** - Michael Wallace is the new liaison. Closed for refresh.
- **Long Branch** – Michael Wallace is the new liaison. Big community meeting this coming Saturday in the Long Branch area. Would like to have orientation prior to attending the meetings.
- **Wheaton** – Jane Williams is the new liaison. Has not been in touch yet. Ms. Williams and Director Hamilton will talk regarding plans for the new library.
- **White Oak** – Jane Williams is the new liaison. Has not been in touch yet.
- **Montgomery College (MC)** - MC has three campuses with four libraries. MC owns some properties and leases others. Has recently purchased a property that will house information technology, MC president, and board of trustees. Focusing on smart growth.

## OLD BUSINESS

- This is national Library Week. Board members were asked to please take time to send an email of appreciation to managers for the branches for which they liaise.
- Send LAC meeting dates and changes to Regina Holyfield-Jewett. They will be added to the webpage calendar.
- A liaison is needed for the Correctional Facility.
- There is still one vacancy on the Board.

## NEW BUSINESS

- Orientation for new members will be one hour with Director Hamilton and one hour with Board members.

## **PUBLIC COMMENT**

- Second the testimony given by Ana Solis. Her testimony took a tremendous community tragedy and showed how the library community was tied into it. [Jim Montgomery]
- Very impressed with everyone's dedication. [Carol Leahy]

## **ADJOURNMENT**

The meeting was adjourned at 8:40 PM

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B. Parker Hamilton, MCPL Director