Meeting Minutes, June 12, 2017
Children’s Services Division, Maryland Library Association
Laurel Library, Prince George’s County

- Introductions- Conni Strittmatter, Harford Co, CSD VP; Joe Farmarco, BCPL, Christine Freeman, Montgomery; Dwyn Griffin, PGCMLS; Rachel Zukowski, PGCMLS; Pam Hamlin, PGCMLS

- Approval of April minutes- approved w/out corrections

- President’s Report- MLA Exec Board mtg in May: Funds are ok at MLA. CSD’s budget could use a review, to make sure that we have accounted for all programs, and we should try to do a paid webinar this FY to bring in a bit more money. MLA Strategic plan was approved at the annual conference. Advocacy will be a big focus in the near and mid-term future. ALA has increased their dues by $2

- Program Planning
  - Kids Are Customers 2017- Oct 19 @ Owings Mills Library
    - Conni is currently working on paperwork
    - Seeking quotes from several caterers to see if we can save some money
      - Catering costs for KAC exceed the entire budget for food that MLA gives us for the year...
      - ...which begs the question why we accept an unrealistic budget line for food from MLA. We should reconsider this.
    - Conni asked for input on breakout session lengths- either all 90 minutes, or 1 set 60 minutes and 1 set 90 minutes. Preference is for longer sessions in the morning, but this is logistically difficult because of the author speech, keynote, and lunchtime. Conni will work on the schedule and try to create the best arrangement.
    - Author speaker will be Debbie Levy, the author of *I Dissent: Ruth Bader Ginsberg Makes Her Mark*
  - B.E.S.T. 2017
    - Update from Eileen via email: The Program Approval Form has been sent to the Professional Development committee. The speaker for the program is Fred Bowen. He is a feature journalist for the Washington Post and an author of children’s fiction books. The theme of his books is sports.
    - Passed around a form for any members to sign up as facilitators
    - Jill will post the form online for members not present at the meeting.
  - Winter webinar on Evaluating Youth Services
    - Jill will contact Marge Loch-Wouters (potential presenter) about costs and logistics
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- Focused on needs of/tools for branch-level librarians more so than system-level coordinators
- Include qualitative and quantitative methods, concrete tools to use, and methods for communicating results with supervisors who may not be children’s librarians.
- We want to encourage DLDS to develop really useful training on Youth Services evaluation for coordinators and supervisors-
  - Carrie is planning a book study of *Supercharged Storytime*, but we would like something additional that goes up to school-age and teen services, and is more concise, such as a half-day program at MLA annual.
  - Recommendation: CSD & DLDS survey coordinators/supervisors about their current evaluation practices and what they need/want from training on this topic

  - Southern/Western 2018
    - Hope to encourage the presenters who proposed a LEGO 2-hr session for KAC to switch to S/W. If not, we’ll re-open the call for proposals
    - Locations: Keep the locations the same as 2017.

  - MLA Annual 2018
    - Requests for topics next year:
      - Social Justice & Advocacy topics
      - Trauma-informed services (families in crisis, in poverty, w/incarcerated parents, survivors of abuse & traumatic events)
      - More boys’ literacy topics
      - Bring back “new media” topics for programming

- Blue Crab Committee Update- Email from Jean Boone read by Jess
  - Committee currently has 9 members, including Jean. We represent the public libraries of 5 counties plus two educators, one from Towson University and one from Baltimore city.
  - Committee’s first meeting is on Monday, June 18; we’ll review the criteria for the award, discuss review sites, and talk through the process of nominating and discussing books. We’ll also take a group photo that can be posted.
  - We encourage everyone to submit nominations using the nomination form on the CSD page ([https://goo.gl/V9XVvT](https://goo.gl/V9XVvT))
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- Maybe we should think about a way to generate more nominations from staff across the state - an email or social media post at the end of the summer?

- Old Business
  - Debrief MLA annual
    - CSD had 9 sponsored or co-sponsored programs, & the conference evals still said we needed more children’s sessions
    - Lots of positive comments for Guerilla ST & requests to continue having it, and to give CEUs for it.
    - Biggest complaints were related to room sizes and noise bleeding between rooms, not anything negative about the content of the programs
  - Social Media- Keep liking & sharing on our page and group!
  - Newsletter- Jill needs to forward Sophia’s call for submissions to the CSD listserv, and send her passive program submissions.
  - Select/Confirm locations for remaining 2017 meetings
    - Jill will contact proposed branches for Dec & later, confirm availability

- Action item follow-up- anything not covered so far

- New Business
  - DLDS updates from Carrie Sanders’ via email:
    - We are moving our offices in the next two weeks to the lower level of the MLA Offices on Hollins St, Baltimore. Don't have an exact address yet or new phone number, but our emails will not change. I will send out an email to the YSC summer listserv when I know the exact date that we will be in this new location. As of July 1, we officially become the Maryland State Library.
    - MD Information Literacy Summit -- July 27. Please distribute the attached flyer with information about this day. Dorothy Stoltz, Cari Gast, and Bev Izzi are a part of a panel discussion on early literacy at this event. Registration is at: http://infolitsummit.weebly.com/
      Deadline to register is June 23rd
    - Summer Reading -- Maryland Science Center tickets and Orioles Game tickets were sent out via MILO.
    - Family Engagement -- The Family Engagement Toolkits, from the Early Childhood Division, were also sent out to all branches via MILO

- Monthly Sharing Topic- We forgot to pick a topic last meeting, oops!
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Choose next month’s sharing topic!: Bring a suggestion for professional development reading, watching, or listening to share.

Go ‘Round- Share anything of interest from your library’s youth-services department
  Jill- told tale of woe about protests, counter-protests, and controversy related to teen program on sexual health education in St. Mary’s County
  Rachel of PGCML- Dolly Parton Imagination Library partnership. County Executive’s office & County Council provided funds & PGCML did the paperwork & planning for Imagination Library to send a book a month to children ages birth to 5. Launches in July.
  Jess of BCPL- during summer lunches at her branch, they’re “visiting” a different country each week, and doing a different activity each day of the week related to that country.
  Jess of BCPL- Ready Rosie is offering their “Summer Soar” program to any parents of children B-5. Info was sent out to all youth coordinators.
  Joe of BCPL- Owings Mills branch is starting a “reading buddies” program next week for the first time. High school age volunteers come and read with younger kids. Also starting Raspberry Pi clubs with teen volunteer leaders.

Next Meeting is July 10, 2017 at Urbana Library in Frederick County
  Snack-bringer: Jill Hutchison
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Action items to review from April:

- Conni or Jill - re-post submission forms for MLA, KAC, & S/W sessions on MARYLIB, Facebook, & CSD listserv - needs re-doing for S/W later in the year
- Conni - get handouts, slides, etc. from each MLA session presenter and upload them to conference site (check on Ukulele)
- Conni - send Jill details on preliminary list of KAC presenters & sessions - done
- Jill or Conni - post idea-sharing thread on FB group about how to use Kellogg family engagement grants - not done
- Jill - schedule FB posts to highlight Blue Crab winners & honors, 1 per week or so - not done
- Jill - contact Marge Loch-Wouters to discuss possible webinar on program evaluation & costs, scheduling, etc. - in progress
- Jill - talk with Carrie Sanders @ DLDS about database of presenters and how it relates to the one proposed by CSD - in progress
- Bethany/Jean - update information for Blue Crab web page & add more details. Email Jill a document with the content for the updated page, to pass to MLA webmaster - not done