Meeting Minutes, August 14, 2017
Children’s Services Division, Maryland Library Association
Perryville Library

- In attendance: Christine Freeman, Montgomery Co, CSD VP (by phone); Jill Hutchison, St. Mary’s Co, CSD Secretary; Conni Strittmatter, Harford Co, CSD President; Sophia Van Schaick, Harford Co; Allison Holbrook, Cecil Co; Tyler Koch, Cecil Co; Katelyn McLimans, Cecil Co; Catherine Zang, Cecil Co; Alison Muller, Cecil Co; Laura Venters, Cecil Co; Carrie Sanders, Cecil Co; Bethany Vangrin, Harford Co; Joe Farmarco, BCPL; Kristin Bodvin, Carroll Co

- Approval of minutes

- President’s Report
  - KAC program approval rec’d- everyone make sure you register!
  - Working on MLA/DLA Annual conference planning- form to submit session proposals now online (share on FB already)
  - MLA has a new strategic plan; it’s available on the MLA website
    - One focus of the plan is to increase the diversity of MLA participation
      - One method to increase diversity of participation is hybrid/online meetings, & we are going to test the use of a tabletop microphone borrowed from Harford County. If this works well MLA will purchase one or several microphones.
      - Jill & Conni will work on plans for using this tech for the 1st time at Sept meeting

- Program Planning
  - Kids Are Customers 2017
    - Oct 19 @ Owings Mills Library
    - PAF approved & registration is open (Jill send out via email & FB)
    - Keynote Speaker: Laurie Desetels, professor from Butler University, on neuroscience as it informs library youth services.
    - Reading Buddies program
    - SEFEL program
    - Elementary Homeschool Programming
    - Engaging Middle Schoolers in Info Literacy
    - “All behavior is communication”
    - Baby Storytime
    - Author: Debbie Levy, blue crab honor winner for I Dissent
    - Guerilla Storytime
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- Day’s schedule is in draft form- when it’s finalized, Jill will make schedule/info sheets to send to participants and tickets for breakout sessions
- Rooms for main and breakout sessions are all arranged
- Volunteers needed for: (Jill send out via email & post on FB)
  - Room hosts (6)
    - Babies- Christine
    - Reading Buddies- Joe
    - Behavior- Carrie
    - SEFEL-
    - Elementary Homeschool- Allison Holbrook
    - Middle School Info Lit-
  - Registration table (arrive by 8am) (3)- Christine, Jill
  - Book sales/signing
  - Setup
    - Joe, Conni, Jill
  - Cleanup
    - B.E.S.T.- Few more facilitators needed- email Eileen if willing
    - Winter Webinar- Marge Loch-Wouters is on board for an early Feb 1-hr webinar for a fee of between $200 and $300
      - Conni will talk w/ people at MLA office about what webinar platform they have/recommend
      - Jill will talk w/ Marge about whether she has a preferred platform
      - We’re interested in offering an individual and a group rate- Conni will investigate how these arrangements usually work to make a recommendation
      - Jill/Conni will work with Marge to complete a PAF by September (need objectives, description)
  - Southern/Western-
    - One Program session: Coding with LEGO for Elementary Students, Deb Spurier & Betsy Brannon, a 2-hr workshop
    - Blue Crab announcements
    - Locations: Same as last year:
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- March 12- Waldorf West for Southern
- April 9- Hagerstown for Western

○ MLA Annual Conference-
  - Request for proposals is now open; due date is just prior to Sept CSD meeting so we can make selections at that meeting, because paperwork for MLA sessions is due in the fall. Conni has posted on FB & will send out to MARYLIB & CSD list.
  - Theme of the conference is “Evolve.”
  - Media Mentorship & using new media/ tech in programs
  - Christine met a person at the Family Engagement workshop who is working with incarcerated parents on how to read and engage with their children when they visit. The librarian was from Anne Arundel & Christine has their card. We are interested in this as a session topic.
    - Idea from Conni- expand this into a preconference, with speakers on the effect of parental incarceration on families, and panel on what individual libraries are doing? Invite a speaker from MD Correctional libraries?
  - Carrie & DLDS are talking with Delaware’s state library to develop a joint teen-services preconference for MLA.
    - Group is interested in Teen Neuroscience- can we work it into the preconference, or encourage TIG to pursue? Possible presenter- April Pavis from Loudon, VA?
  - Idea- what’s hot in nearby states/ DC? Invite reps from PA, Del, DC, VA to share their most unique/ successful programs, services, & professional development.
  - Idea from Sophia- “Not Your Usual Storytime…” different incarnations of storytime in special circumstances, locations, or partnerships. A panel- we’ll need to put out a call for participants.
  - Frequent request: Storytime skills training
    - Idea from Kristin- “Purposeful Puppetry.” Her county has an established puppet-show program, and the puppeteers can give training to other librarians on using puppets in storytime.
    - Sophia- Nonfiction in Storytime
    - Guerilla ST- but make sure it’s worth a CEU
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- Blue Crab Committee Update - No update this month
  - Bethany will send Jean reminder to update info for MLA website re: this year’s committee

- Old Business
  - Social Media - Keep liking & sharing on our page and group!
  - Newsletter - Deadline for Fall newsletter - Sept 16. Jill will proofread Draft since Sarah is on vacation in Sept.
  - CSD budget adjustments - Conni will bring up at the start of the budget cycle for next FY, to try to get the next budget to be more realistic.
  - Virtual/Hybrid meetings & needed equipment - see above in president’s report - will test hybrid meetings using tabletop microphone borrowed from Harford County, starting in September. Jill & Conni will plan the tech setup and share info/instructions for virtual participation before Sept mtg.
  - Mock Newberry… any progress?
    - Carrie has left this potential project in the hands of Rachael of ESRL, who ran Mock Newberry in the past. ESRL is planning to bring back their Mock Newberry/Caldecott program for this year & any MD librarians are invited to participate. Carrie will get the info from Rachael to share.
    - We’d love to link this up with training on what makes an excellent picture book or juvenile book - perhaps led by prior award committee members?

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

- New Business
  - On Oct 20, Laurie Desetels will be at Lib for Blind & Physically Handicapped for a professional development day on serving young patrons with disabilities and other special needs. Keynote in the morning, panel in the afternoon. Registration is required (free); Carrie Sanders has sent the information and registration link via email. Jill will forward the email to the CSD members’ email list.
  - Carrie’s MSL update:
    - Orioles Summer Reading games are next week
    - Eclipse is next week also - Carrie sent out resources for activities & safety info for libraries to share
    - Statewide Summer Reading debrief conference call on Sept 8 @ 2 pm
    - Family Engagement toolkits - Carrie’s working on how libraries are using/can use them.
● Harford’s ECAC had a visit from one of the developers of the kit, who talked through the kit and how it was organized and could be used.

● Monthly Sharing Topic- How do different libraries partner with and communicate with their schools? What are your library’s expectations for how you work with schools?
  ○ Christine (Montgomery)- library staff attending school’s professional development day for back to school, sharing info on online services and youth services
  ○ Katelyn (Cecil)- each branch librarian has a relationship with their nearest media specialists. They communicate about programs and visit the schools to promote public library programs. Also have student virtual cards- last year was the launch year. They’re building up the partnership to help the students and teachers to use their virtual cards to best effect. School delivery service picks up and returns students’ and teachers’ hold items to/from public library.
  ○ Kristin (Carroll)- Outreach dept visits public school child development classes to teach puppet skills and storytime skills. They also visit most of the preschools and every PreK & Kindergarten. Every K class visits library for a tour, special puppet show, & storytime.
  ○ Carrie Sanders (MSL)- outreach directly to families and parents. Contact schools to attend back-to-school-night or Title I family nights to share info, programming, or library card signup.
  ○ Joe Farmarco (BCPL)- recruit reading buddies, both teen volunteers and younger buddies to get read to. Use school ID for library checkout. Offering tours to school groups & special school nights. Student art displays.
  ○ Sophia Van Schaick (Harford) Spring book talks &SRC promotion, fall back-to-school/open house nights. Visits by classes or whole grades to library. STEM nights @ elementary schools.
  ○ Choose next month’s sharing topic: How do you praise and encourage kids in the library?

● Go ‘Round- Share anything of interest from your library’s youth-services department
  ○ Joe Farmarco- BCPL just received their first VOX books. Reading Buddies program is almost finished their first summer session.
  ○ Jim Gill will be doing Prof Dev 9-12 on Sept 30 in Cecil County at Elkton Library. Registration for non-Cecil-County librarians opens Sept 1. Kaitlyn or Rachel will share registration link for Jill to disseminate.
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- Sophia- BEAM Tech- Fallson & other branches are getting this new VR tech.

- Next Meeting is Monday, September 11 at Bel Air Library from 10am-12:30pm, followed by a tour of the renovated children’s area.
  - Snack-bringer: Conni
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Action items to review from July:

- Jill - post about Books for the Beast on Facebook - done
- Jill - contact Marge Loch-Wouters to discuss possible webinar on program evaluation & costs, scheduling, etc. - done
- Jill - post request for interested volunteers to be facilitators @ BEST - done
- Jill - contact proposed locations for meetings in December 2017 and early 2018, ask if they can host & book meeting space (see list of ppl interested in hosting from member survey) - done
- Conni - get handouts, slides, etc. from each MLA session presenter and upload them to conference site (check on Ukulele session in particular) - in progress
- Conni - develop a draft schedule for Kids are Customers - yes, will finalize details with presenters
- 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 - in progress

Action Items from this Meeting:

- Conni - talk w/ people at MLA office about what webinar platform they have/recommend for our winter webinar
- Conni - investigate individual/ group rates setup for winter webinar & make recommendation
- Conni - send call for MLA Annual Conference program proposals to CSD email list
- Conni or Jill - put out specific call for participants in “Not Your Usual Storytime…” panel program
- Jill/Conni - work with Marge to complete a PAF for winter webinar by September (need objectives, description)
- Jill & Conni - work on plans for using virtual meeting tech for the 1st time at Sept meeting
- Jill - forward the info on “Making it Special” Oct 20 training to the CSD email list.
- Jill - after Sept 1, get info on Jim Gill training in Cecil Co from Kaitlyn or Rachel; share w/ CSD members
- Jill - send out via email & FB: call for volunteers needed for KAC
- Jill will talk w/ Marge about whether she has a preferred platform for winter webinar
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- Bethany- send Jean reminder to update info for MLA websute re: this year’s Blue Crab committee
- Carrie- get the Mock Newberry 2018 info from Rachael @ ESRL to share.