**Intellectual Freedom Panel Meeting**
Anne Arundel County Public Library Headquarters
5 Harry S. Truman Parkway
Annapolis, MD 21401

Wednesday, February 6 at 2:00 p.m.

**MINUTES**

**Introductions**
Julie Ranelli (Queen Anne’s County), Sara Brown (Baltimore County), Kat Jolie (Charles County), Mou Chakraborty (Salisbury University), Monica McAbee (Prince George’s County), Katelyn McLimans (Cecil County), Gaylord Robb (Salisbury University), Kelly Topita (Anne Arundel County), Hannah Wilkes (Baltimore County)

**Minutes**
December 2018 minutes were approved.

**Reports**
- Executive Board (Julie/Sara)
  - Visitors came to speak about the annual investment report. They reported that funds remain stable – Membership fees went down last year, while program fees rose. The budget is stable overall, and we can expect lower fees in the future.
  - There is a new Equity & Inclusion Task Force beginning in February with the goal of increasing equity and inclusion within the MLA organization.
  - The Technical Services Division is transitioning to become an interest group.
  - Discussed the ALA Annual Conference- June 20-25, 2019 in Washington, D.C.
    - MLA, DLA, the DC Library Association, and VLA will partner on a booth.
    - There will be a reception at the Line Hotel for anyone interested in attending.
    - ALA is offering a $50 discount to MLA members.
  - MLA needs a chair for the New Members Interest Group
- Legislative Panel (Julie/Sara)
  - Discussed preparation for Legislative Day, including using the United for Libraries’ “E’s of librarianship”: Education, Employment, Entrepreneurship, Empowerment, and Engagement for Everyone
- Conference 2019 (Hannah)
  - IFP hosting a program at MLA Conference- “What If…Privacy Is for Everyone?” presented by Sara Brown (IFP Co-Chair) and Josh Stone (Director of Digital Services, Southeast Florida Library Information Network)
    - Thursday, May 2, 2019, 9:00-10:00
    - IFP is in need of room host
  - Send Hannah any library system swag for the annual pub quiz
  - We still need silent auction donations. Nay is working on putting together an IFP basket with items donated from Out of Print.
If interested in doing a poster, proposals need to be in by the middle of February. Email megan.jones@pgcmls.info for more information.

Conference volunteers are needed. To register to volunteer, visit the MLA/DLA Conference website- https://www.mladlacon.com/

- Social media activity (Nay)
  - Nothing to report

- Legislative Day (Julie/Sara)
  - There was no new major legislation, so library systems expressed their appreciation for ongoing support and emphasized libraries’ roles in their communities.
  - The message focused on the United for Libraries’ E’s of libraries- Education, Employment, Entrepreneurship, Empowerment, and Engagement for Everyone
    - The Library Advocacy Interest Group put together an E’s of Libraries packet highlighting library stories from across the state. There is potential to use this in ongoing advocacy conversations.
  - The Speaker of the House recognized Joe Thompson (MLA President), Irene Padilla (State Librarian), Carol Allen (President, Congress of Academic Library Directors of Maryland), and Brittany Tignor (President, Maryland Association of School Librarians) in an opening ceremony.
  - Due to projected deficits in coming years, there may be a need to advocate for funding in the future.

**Old Business**

- Teen privacy resource draft (Suzanne Terry and Kat Jolie)
  - Kat shared a draft of the Teen Privacy bookmark/infographic
    - If anyone has feedback, please send it to Suzanne or Kat
    - For systems who would like to use/adapt the design, they can share the template via Canva
    - Suzanne and Kat are sharing the resource with TIG
    - Julie proposed handing out copies at the MD Teen Connect Conference in April.

- LibGuide – content and formatting
  - Sara emailed the Executive Board to get feedback on formatting for the Net Neutrality, Meeting Rooms, and Banned and Challenged Materials pages.
  - Agreed on a uniform style
  - Would like to have a work day to finalize project-
    - Proposed to meet via Zoom in March
    - Julie will send out a Doodle poll to see who is interested in participating and their availability.

- Next CRAB article – update (Suzanne Terry)
  - Due March 5- Asked for panel members to send stories about favorite banned books/pictures

- June lunch meeting location
  - Trying new location- Kent Island or Delmar crab house, final location TBD
New Business

- Social Media Co-Coordinator Position- Nay would like someone to help with social media, creating Facebook events and graphics for our meetings and programs.
  - If interested, contact Nay
  - Additional details, rationale, and a link to the document can be found on ALA’s website- http://www.ala.org/advocacy/hatefulconduct
- SIFnet meets Feb. 20
- ALA controversy around racism complaint and response
  - There was an issue at ALA Midwinter in which racially-charged speech during a council meeting was not handled correctly by ALA.
  - ALA’s code of conduct dictates that they do not accept harassment, bullying, or discrimination of any kind, however no ALA members stepped in to support the targeted individual. There were also accusations that ALA’s legal counsel attempted to silence the individual.
  - ALA posted a response on their website (http://www.ala.org/news/member-news/2019/01/ala-executive-board-releases-statement-regarding-incident-council-forum) and sent out a petition for librarians to sign dedicating themselves to work against racial discrimination
- No updates currently on ALA creating a new meeting room policy
- Sarah Jane would like an IFP member to help present at LATI trainings on Intellectual Freedom
  - If interested, please contact Sara, Julie, and Sarah Jane

Next meeting
Wednesday, April 3, 2:00-3:30, AACPL Headquarters, 5 Harry S. Truman Parkway, Annapolis, MD 21401