Maryland Library Association
Support Staff Division
2/4/21 virtual meeting

In Attendance: Robin Soma-Dudley (President), Teonja Jung (Vice-President/President Elect), Lou Sica (Secretary), Moneik Frazier, Gabriel Jones, Amy Moser, Chelsea Shockley

Guests: Joseph Gunther (works Circ at Brooklyn Branch of Pratt), Emily Joseph (student at UMD-ILL specialist UMBC), Sabine Simonson (chair of MLA Outreach Services Interest Group & Outreach Services/Volunteer Coordinator Talbot County Free Library

Presidents Report-Robin

• Since we had guests we all introduced ourselves.
• The February Executive Board and Conference Committee meetings were both cancelled.
• The virtual Statewide Circulation Conference was well attended.
• ALA Annual will be virtual
• Maryland House Bill (MD HB97), The Digital Connectivity Act of 2021, is in committee. Bill Summary: Establishing the Office of Digital Inclusion in the Department of Housing and Community Development to ensure that every resident of the State is supported by high-quality broadband Internet service at an affordable price, and has the tools necessary to use and take advantage of the Internet; requiring the Governor to appoint the Director of the Office; requiring the Office to develop, by July 1, 2022, a statewide plan to ensure all State residents have the ability to connect to reliable broadband Internet by December 31, 2029; etc.
• There appears to be enough votes to override the Governor’s veto of the Maryland Building Lifelong Library Learners Act (MD SB524). Bill Summary: Prohibiting a public library from charging a fine for overdue library materials on a minor's library materials; prohibiting a public library from charging a fee for a minor’s overdue library materials until 21 days after the date the materials were due; requiring a public library to cancel or return a fee if a book is returned; requiring the Governor to include $7,500,000 in fiscal year 2022 and each fiscal year thereafter in the annual operating or capital budget for county library capital projects; etc.

Group Discussion-Robin

• Many in the group shared system updates.
  ➢ Robin reported that Anne Arundel County plans to start appointments again on 3/1 for computer use and browsing. They are also going fine free in March.
  ➢ Monique reported that PGCMLS is offering curbside service and is considering computer appointments.
Teonja reported that BCPL is offering curbside pick-up of holds and up to 20 free pages of printouts per day, as well as computer appointments. Their new Director, Sonia Alcantara-Antoine, started the week of February 1.

Chelsey reported that Pratt is offering curbside pick-up by appointment only at all branches. Some branches had offered computer appointments but that service has stopped temporarily.

Amy reported that Frederick County is offering curbside only for now. They recently reinstituted extended loan fees for adult material in an effort to get materials back.

Sabine reported that Talbot County is offering Books to Go by appt. In lobby. Beginning the week of 2/7 customers may make an appt to use a computer only for the purpose of pre-registration for vaccine. They will also be offering curbside printing

- Robin asked about the status of COVID vaccines for library staff and no one reported being put in the educator phase.

**Conference Report-Teonja**

- The brochure is posted on MLA website and registration is open.
- There is a flat rate for the conference and pre-conference costs vary by program.

**Programs-Robin**

- Robin asked us to be thinking about future conference and stand alone program ideas.

**2020 Open To All conference program-Robin & Teonja**

- Open to All LGBTQ program was well received with 60-70 attendees

**MLA-Conversation in April on division programs-Teonja**

- Teonja will again be a guest on MLA Conversation. On Friday 4/23, along with a rep. from PSD, she will be discussing our program offerings for the May 2021 virtual conference.

**Secretary Report-Lou**

- Our SSD email list is up to date.
- Still waiting to hear back from a few previously active members as to if they still wish to be listed on our roster on the MLA website/

**Standalone Program Update-Teonja**
The program, What Is The Privacy Divide, is on 3/24 from 1-2 on Zoom. Registration closes 3/17.
Only 7 are currently registered which includes the presenter and program assistant.
Lou will create a Facebook event for the program
Some systems are not covering training costs right now so that could prove to be a concern.
Lou will advertise on Marylib
Lou will ask Bob to post on our MLA website page

**Facebook Update-Gabriel**

- Our page currently has 133 followers.
- Our post reach from 1/7-2/3 was 68 (up 3 from previous 28 day period).
- Our post engagements from 1/7-2/3 was 48 (down 15 from previous 28 day period).
- We received one new page like from 1/7-2/3.
- Our most engaged posts were about the passing of both Mike Miller and Eric Jerome Dickey.

Next meeting Thursday 4/1 on Zoom

Respectfully Submitted,

Lou Sic