

RESOLUTION FOR AUDIT OF FAIRFAX COUNTY PUBLIC LIBRARY

DRAFT

August 14, 2014

Background

A comprehensive materials inventory of FCPL collection has not been done since 1988.

Total collection numbers in internal Collection Overview documents cannot be reconciled since 2006 or even yearly. There is a 66,000 volume discrepancy in the FY14 document alone. Additionally, there are discrepancies in the budget numbers in official library documents. The 2011 library budget is listed in IMLS as \$32.9M, FCPL in the Star rating (published in the Washington Post in 2014) is listed as \$35M, and in county budget documents as \$25M.

Techniques for the massive book dumping that occurred October 2012 to September 2013 has resulted in gaps in the recording of collection data. Books are on the shelves that are not in the catalog.

There is no way to verify the status of books currently held at Technical Operations. Prior to discard, books are held at Technical Operations. All of the increase of holdings for FY14 are in Technical Operations. The branches showed an overall decrease in holdings, per Terry Maynard's August 2014 Cumulative Collection Overview.

The Library Board has convened a committee to begin a national search for a new Library Director. In order to go forward, the new Library Director will need accurate data to assess what is needed to stabilize and rehabilitate the collection and to actualize a workable plan for the future of the library.

Deputy Library Director Melanie Quinn has stated that about \$100,000 per year from Friends of Library groups' ongoing book sales goes into the system gift fund and is used by the Library Director at his discretion. The system gift fund has never been audited. Melanie Quinn declined to provide information as to how the money was spent by the Library Director.

Resolution

WHEREAS the Fairfax County Public Library has not had a complete audit with a materials inventory since 1988;

WHEREAS there are discrepancies in county documents between 2006 and 2014 regarding collection holdings;

WHEREAS a new Library Director needs a full understanding of the finances and holdings of the library;

WHEREAS the system gift fund has never been audited;

WHEREAS President Jennifer McCullough of FCPLA called for more transparency in library operations in her July 9, 2014 statement to the Library Board;

THEREFORE

BE IT RESOLVED, that the Fairfax County Federation of Citizens Associations requests that the Office of the County Attorney conduct a comprehensive audit of the library system, its finances and holdings, including a comprehensive materials inventory, and an audit of the system gift fund.