

The Fairfax County Federation of Citizens Associations  
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***Resolution***

***Approved by Federation Board August 14, 2014***

***Approved by Federation Membership September 18, 2014***

**LIBRARY AUDITS**

**Background**

A comprehensive collection inventory of Fairfax County Public Library (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 IMLS (United States Institute of Museum and Library Services) report lists the FCPL budget as \$32.9M. The Library Journal Star Library rating (published in the Washington Post in 2014) for 2011 records a FCPL budget of \$35M. Fairfax County budget documents record the 2011 library budget 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 collection 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 Fairfax County Public Library Employee Association 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 an independent comprehensive fiscal audit of the Fairfax County Public Library.

**BE IT RESOLVED** that the Fairfax County Federation of Citizens Associations requests a complete collection inventory of the Fairfax County Public Library.

**BE IT RESOLVED** that the Fairfax County Federation of Citizens Associations requests an audit of the system gift fund.