

Notes from Program Advisory Committee Meeting
December 7, 2016

Committee and staff members present: Harriett Karuhije, Rita Miller, Helen Vamvas, Melanie Rose White, Elaine El-Khawas, Stephanie Olshan, Bob Loftus, Anne O'Neil and Jennie Fogarty.

Anne and Jennie reviewed upcoming programs and trips. They reported they still had had no luck obtaining group tickets to the new Smithsonian museum. Bob suggested contacting Van Hollen's office (or Jamie Raskin after January) for assistance. Anne mentioned two programs left off the agenda: a concert on Feb. 3 and an origami workshop on Feb. 4.

Jan

Was unable to attend but emailed these ideas:

The only other suggestions are, as always, Strathmore, look for special prices even at holiday time, especially for the National Philharmonic, and Union Station with lunch there. Food at the Strathmore Allegro Cafe' is much improved since Ridgewells became the caterer. The group could gather 1 1/2 hr. ahead of a performance to eat on the Grand Tier and not feel rushed or spread out.

Bob

Suggested a talk on conspiracy theories. Pearl Harbor is an example and could be a program next year.

Stephanie

Suggested an intergenerational book club, a trip to Longwood Gardens next December, a cooking series for teenagers, attending the Sheep and Wool Festival next May, and inviting Candace Ridington to return for another one-woman show. She commented that she liked having a speaker from the Sackler come to speak before going to visit the Gallery.

Elaine

Recommended "The Martian" for movie night and offering CPR classes.

Helen

She proposed trips to nearby small towns and included lodging and touring ideas: Chincoteague (Miss Molly's Inn and a boat tour); Boonesboro (outlets and Dan's Restaurant); St. Michaels (Inn at Perry Cabin); New Castle, DE (house tours in May and Jessup's Tavern); and Onancock, VA (the North Street Playhouse and the Inn at Onancock). She also recommended "Manchester By the Sea" for movie night and inviting the Wechsler Brothers back for a "Roadshow" Program.

Rita

She proposed a trip to New England during the fall with visits to the RI School of Design and a maple syrup farm, and a day trip to the American Visionary Art Museum in Baltimore. She also suggested showing the movie "The Huntress", inviting speakers on the weather, gardening in condos, how to clean anything, and consumer affairs.

Melanie

Would like a representative from the Chevy Chase Center Giant or the Giant Consumer Relations office to come for a discussion with the residents about supporting the grocery store.

The committee's next meeting will be Wednesday, March 8, at 5:30 p.m.