



Baltimore County Public Library

News Release

May 27, 2009

FOR RELEASE UPON RECEIPT

**BALTIMORE COUNTY PUBLIC LIBRARY DIRECTOR JAMES H. FISH
NAMED CHAIR OF MARYLAND ADVISORY COUNCIL ON LIBRARIES**

Baltimore County Public Library (BCPL) Director James H. Fish has been appointed by Maryland Gov. Martin O'Malley to become a member and chair of the Maryland Advisory Council on Libraries for the remainder of a five-year term ending June 30, 2010.

The Maryland Advisory Council on Libraries consists of 12 members, seven of them appointed by the governor. The council gathers information on the needs of Maryland libraries; advises the Division of Library Development and Services, the state superintendent, the State Board and the governor on library matters; and promotes the improvement of library services in the state.

Fish has been the director of BCPL, a 17-branch library system, since 1996, following six years spent as city librarian of the San Jose, CA, public library system. Previously he worked as library director at several public libraries in Massachusetts. A graduate of the University of Massachusetts, Fish obtained an M.B.A. from Anna Maria College in 1980. He received a master's degree in library science from the Indiana University Bloomington School of Library and Information Science (SLIS) in 1971 and was selected as that school's 2006 Distinguished Alumnus. Currently he is serving a three-year term as vice president/president elect of the Maryland Library Association.

Fish resides in Cockeysville, MD.