NYLA Council Meeting Minutes
Thursday, August 1, 2024
1:00 PM to 3:00 PM
In-Person at NYLA Headquarters
NYLA President, Lisa Kropp Presiding

In Attendance:
☒ Lisa Kropp, President
☒ Tim Spindler, President-Elect
☒ Frank McKenna, Treasurer
☒ Matt Bollerman, Treasurer-Elect
☒ Keturah Cappadonia, ALA Chapter Councilor
☒ Ryan Perry, ASLS President
☒ Sarah O’Shea, LAMS Representative
☒ Joe Burke, PLS President
☒ Maureen Squier, SSL President
☒ Joyce Laiosa, YSS Representative
☒ Rebecca Budinger-Mulhearn, Councilor-at-Large
☒ Laura Schiefer, Councilor-at-Large
☒ Ginger Tebo, Councilor-at-Large
☒ Kerrie Burch, Councilor-at-Large
☒ AnnaLee Dragon, Executive Director (ex-officio)

Absent:
Arlene Laverde, Immediate Past President
Jerrie Grantham, FLS Representative
Kristin Charles-Scaringi, IDEAS President
Jean Currie, LTAS President
Michael Bartolomeo, SMART Representative
Caitlin Kenney, Councilor-at-Large
Rakisha Kearsns-White, Councilor-at-Large

Guests:
Max Prime, NYLA Director of Government Relations and Advocacy
Anna Maria Varney, NYLA Intern
Tony Iovino
Tom McAlister

Council Meeting Agenda
1. Welcome
   NYLA President Lisa Kropp called the meeting to order at 12:57pm and welcomed the group.
2. Review of Agenda

MOTION I: Motion to approve the agenda as presented.
Made by: Kerrie Burch   Seconded by: Laura Schiefer
Approved unanimously.

3. Approval of Minutes from June 13, 2024 NYLA Council Meeting

MOTION II: Motion to approve Minutes from June 13, 2024 NYLA Council Meeting.
Made by: Matt Bollerman   Seconded by: Rebecca Budinger-Mulhearn
Approved unanimously.
4. **Treasurer’s Report**
   a. **June Financial Statement**
      NYLA Treasurer Frank McKenna reviewed the June Fiscal Year End Financial Statement. We ended FY2023-2024 in a much more positive manner than we began it. While we had approved a budget with a planned deficit of -$136,234, we actually ended the year with net income of $25,661.28! The profit and loss report shows net income of $90,042.64, but $64,381.36 of that is unrealized gains from our investment accounts, not actual cash in hand. When you remove those funds from the profit, you see our very respectable $25,661.28 left as actual profit. This was due to several factors, including:

   1) Changes in spending and processes/procedures that reduced our spending relative to our income. While we brought in $368,252.16 more than we budgeted in income, we only spent $252,192.09 more than we budgeted in expenses. That means we netted an additional $116,060.07 through careful planning and new policies and procedures.
   2) Greater than anticipated revenue from both Annual Conference and Membership Dues. Our annual conference was budgeted to bring in $123,750, but actually earned the association $216,807.90! Membership dues were budgeted to bring in $160,000, but in the end brought in $262,136.35.
   3) Better than anticipated interest and dividend income from our investment accounts. While the budget for interest and dividend income was $30,000, we had a good year and our interest was actually $57,460.88. Some of that extra comes from not needing to pull additional funds out of the Fund for the Future to cover a deficit, allowing that money to remain earning interest and dividends throughout the year.

5. **Unfinished Business**
   a. **Conflict of Interest Policy**
   b. **Sexual Harassment Policy**
   c. **Whistleblower Policy**

   These three existing policies are fairly boiler plate and were reviewed and deemed to be up to date and not in need of alterations at this time.

   **MOTION III:** Motion to approve the reviewed Conflict of Interest, Sexual Harassment, and Whistleblower policies as recommended by the Governance Committee.
   Made by: Maureen Squier          Seconded by: Joyce Laiosa
   Approved unanimously.

   d. **Committee Participation Policy**

   **MOTION IV:** Motion to approve the newly written Committee Participation Policy as recommended by the Governance Committee.
   Made by: Tim Spindler          Seconded by: Joe Burke

   There was discussion that led to the following sentence being added to the draft policy at the end of the 4th paragraph: “All Committee members will annually complete Conflict of Interest forms.”
   Tim Spindler accepted this amendment to his motion, and Joe Burke accepted the amendment to his second. 13 Yes votes, Matt Bollerman voted No. Motion carried.

   e. **Excessive Absences from Council Meetings Policy**

   **MOTION V:** Motion to approve the newly written Excessive Absences from Council Meetings Policy as recommended by the Governance Committee.
   Made by: Matt Bollerman        Seconded by: Ginger Tebo
There was discussion that as the requirement of attendance is already included in the NYLA Bylaws, this should be
given as a reminder and part of procedure, rather than creating a new policy.
Unanimously opposed. Motion lost.

6. New Business
   a. Membership Committee Requests
      i. Joining mybetterbenefits.org
         Committee Chair Tony Iovi discussed the work the Committee had done vetting
         benefits companies NYLA could join to offer more to our membership. The Committee
         recommended that NYLA join mybetterbenefits.org as an association, allowing all NYLA
         members to opt in to the service.

         MOTION VI: Motion to accept Membership Committee recommendation that NYLA join mybetterbenefits.org.
         Made by: Rebecca Budinger-Mulhearn Seconded by: Frank McKenna
         Approved unanimously.

      ii. Short Social Media Video
          Committee Chair Tony Iovi updated the Council on the Committee’s idea to create
          content for NYLA for social media, with Tony’s staff helping to assemble and edit the
          footage.

      iii. Evergreen Social Media Posts
          Committee Chair Tony Iovi updated the Council on the Committee’s idea to create
          evergreen posts for NYLA’s social media.

          The Council appreciated the Committee suggestions and suggested a joint meeting of
          the Membership Committee and the Communications Committee be held to allow the
          two groups to collaborate on these efforts.

   b. Certification of NYLA Award Winners
      i. Librarian of the Year – Academic/Special: Ryan Perry

         MOTION VII: Motion to accept Awards and Recognition Committee recommendation honoring Ryan Perry as
         Librarian of the Year – Academic/Special.
         Made by: Laura Schiefer Seconded by: Kerrie Burch
         Ryan Perry Abstained. Motion carried.

      ii. Librarian of the Year – Public: Brian Hildreth

         MOTION VIII: Motion to accept Awards and Recognition Committee recommendation honoring Brian Hildreth as
         Librarian of the Year – Public.
         Made by: Matt Bollerman Seconded by: Tim Spindler
         Approved unanimously.

      iii. Librarian of the Year – School: Lauren Ginsberg DeVilbiss

         MOTION IX: Motion to accept Awards and Recognition Committee recommendation honoring Lauren Ginsberg
         DeVilbiss as Librarian of the Year – School.
         Made by: Maureen Squier Seconded by: Kerrie Burch
         Approved unanimously.
iv. Mary Bobinski Innovative Public Library Director: John Spears

**MOTION X:** Motion to accept Awards and Recognition Committee recommendation honoring John Spears as Mary Bobinski Innovative Public Library Director.
Made by: Joe Burke Seconded by: Rebecca Budinger-Mulhearn
Matt Bollerman Abstained. Motion carried.

v. Distinguished Service: Emily Drabinski

**MOTION XI:** Motion to accept Awards and Recognition Committee recommendation honoring Emily Drabinski for her Distinguished Service.
Made by: Rebecca Budinger-Mulhearn Seconded by: Keturah Cappadonia
Approved unanimously.

c. September 12 Council Meeting Date
NYLA Executive Director AnnaLee Dragon noted that she is unable to attend the regularly scheduled meeting on Thursday, September 12, as she will be presenting at the Association of Rural and Small Libraries Conference in Springfield, Massachusetts at that time. Several other Council members also noted that they could not make that date. Consequently, the Council discussed moving the meeting one week earlier to Thursday, September 5. NYLA President Lisa Kropp is unable to attend on September 5, but President-Elect Tim Spindler noted that he could run that meeting if it is a better date for the majority of Council members. Executive Director AnnaLee Dragon will send out a poll to decide which of the two dates we move forward with.

7. President’s Report
   Lisa Kropp submitted a written report.

8. Past President’s Report
   No report submitted.

9. President-Elect’s Report
   Tim Spindler submitted a written report.

10. Executive Director’s Report
    AnnaLee Dragon submitted a written report. Also included was a membership report.

11. Legislative Report
    Max Prime submitted a written report.

12. Section/ALA/Committee Reports
    Written reports were submitted.

13. Review/Adjournment

**MOTION VII:** Motion to adjourn the meeting.
Made by: Laura Schiefer Seconded by: Joe Burke
Approved unanimously. The meeting was adjourned at 2:43pm.

Next Council Meeting: TBD (AnnaLee will send a poll)