LAMS Board Meeting  
Thursday, December 17, 2009  
Delaware Branch Library, Albany Public Library

Attendees: Rebekkah Smith-Aldrich, President; Julie Hamrah Johnson, Vice-President, President-Elect; Pat Kaufman, Secretary; Mary DeBellis, Treasurer; Tim Burke; Rob Carle, Claudia Depkin; Ed Falcone; Richard Naylor; Frank Rees; Gillian Thorpe.

Bekkah called the meeting to order at 10:45am.

**Welcome / Introductions**
Bekkah welcomed everyone to the meeting. Attendees introduced themselves.

**Acceptance of Minutes**
Julie moved and Mary seconded to accept the minutes of the October 14, 2009 Board and October 16, 2009 Annual Meetings. The motion passed as amended. The minutes of the Board meeting were amended to read “four candidates for the member-at-large positions”.

Julie made a motion that when the LAMS Board conducts Board business electronically, there shall be both a formal motion and a formal second to the motion made and that the motion and the results of the vote shall be recorded by the secretary to be included in the minutes of the next Board meeting. Frank seconded. The motion passed unanimously.

The following at-large members were appointed: Tim Burke, Rob Carle, Claudia Depkin, and Gillian Thorpe.

**Reports**
**Treasurer’s**
Mary reported an opening balance of $11,541.28 balance and a closing balance of $ A copy of the full report is attached.

**Sock Sales**
Rebecca updated the Board. We are turning over the money to Galena as it comes in. Rebecca will drop off the rest of the money collected to date as well as the reimbursement forms.

**Membership**
Julie reported a drop in membership from 434 (July) to 429 (September) to 423 (October). Does the October number reflect the new members we got at conference? Claudia will follow up.

There are 199 basic members. How do we add to this number?
- Rebecca—people in public libraries join PLS. How do we capture some of them?
- Julie said we had developed a letter to system directors and library directors; we should mail them out this year. Mary suggested mailing a letter to department heads. We also should send a letter to Jerry Nichols.
- Non librarian people—how many actually join? Pat said at one time LI people did.

**Web**
Frank said that the socks and the order form were on the website. The Board roster is there also. He will take a look at the site. He said that the content management system for the site is a bit
Committee updates / appointments
Claudia—Membership.
Pat—Continuing Education.
Gillian—Public Awareness / concerns that the committee is not functioning.
Bekkah—Legislative / hasn’t met but there have been conversations on NYLINE.

Rebecca moved that the above named individuals be appointed to represent LAMS on the designated NYLA committees. Julie seconded. The motion passed unanimously

State budget
Tim mentioned that Bernie Margolis has suggested that we do not close libraries but, instead, unplug the computers. Richard said we need media publicity.

NYSUIT
Rebecca—it was controversial from the get go and there is the feeling that they let the ball drop. NYSUIT had tremendous access and we were buying their access. Did they do their due diligence for NYLA?
Richard—did we expect NYSUIT to change our lobbying techniques or was it to get a foot in the door?
Bekkah, Tim—is the time frame long enough, especially given the times? Did NYSUIT really have a chance to do anything?
Richard—ask Council how are NYLA / Michael perceived?
Bekkah—PAC campaign money speaks louder. It got us greater access to elected representatives.
Tim—was it really access or the weight that NYSUIT brings?

Lobby Day
Tim reported that Lobby Day is March 2, 2010. The Leg Committee will meet earlier to come up with a budget. NYLA will work with Libby Post to create a statewide campaign to build PR for libraries.

Socks
Rebecca reported that there are approximately 400 packs left. We sold about 800 packs. We have hit the breakeven point.
Ellen Rubin will let us sell them at the Empire State Book Festival.
Should we sell at the NYLA table on Lobby Day? Probably not.
We should see if we can sell them at the Hudson Valley Book Festival.
Pros and cons of one pack vs. two packs.
Discussed selling them at Conference in Saratoga. Give them away to new basic members. Do a countdown. Board members can take socks back with them to sell locally.
The socks will be Rebecca’s legacy.

Handbook for New Public Library Directors
Bekkah developed this as part of her PLAC classes. It will be released in January as a pdf. Please give her feedback.
The PLS Board voted to endorse it. Frank moved and Gillian seconded the motion to endorse the Handbook. Motion passed unanimously.
Discussion of 2009 Conference Programs

I Still Don’t Want to Talk About It—Julie said that most of the concerns were about the room. Some wanted it to be longer, especially the Q & A portion. Josh suggested having a relationship with some HR people across the state.

21 Ideas for the 21st Century and Ideas for Teen Spaces—Ed reported that they were well attended and excellent.

Webinars—Pat said the program was as fine as far as it went, an average “score”, but most attendees wanted hands on opportunities.

Personnel Policies—Bekkah said attendees loved both the content and Jerry.

Managing Up—Rebecca and Frank thought it went very well. People asked great questions. Bekkah said it spoke to a segment of the population that LAMS is trying to reach.

Creating We—Richard said evaluations were all 4s. Complaints were no handouts.

Discussion of Saturday slots. The feeling was that NYLA did a better job of scheduling programs for Saturday this year. It not a dumping ground.

We need to have a section on ideas for future programs on the evaluation forms. Rebecca and Julie should bring this to the Programmers’ Meeting, i.e., change this on form and also let us add to the form.

Program Ideas for 2010 Conference Programs

Booth ideas
Creating a webinar (booth)
How to choose adequate building insurance (booth)
Careers for retired librarians (booth)

Programs

Encouraging Staff to Grow When Constrained by Civil Service, Unions, etc. (booth) /
Managing Up and Down – Rebecca and Julie (Jennifer Ogrodowski is the scholarship winner).

I Still Don’t Want to Talk About It – Presenters: Jerry Nichols + library HR person with a civil service and/or school HR person – Facilitators: Julie and Tim

21 Ideas – Presenter: Kim Bolan – Facilitator: Ed

Team Building: Your Story Begins Here – buy in – story/message – “getting your story straight” – Rebecca and Richard

Technology / web 2.0 – Frank, Rob, Bekkah

Construction Support Group – DASNY / Moving a Library – Tim and Bekkah

Dealing With the Crazies – Facilitators: Pat and Richard

Mock controversial debate ideas

ebooks v books
Dewey v no Dewey
Fines v no fines
CE ideas
Insurance and Law 101 for Libraries
Financial and Internal Controls for Libraries

Lunch
Lawler Kang – Passion at Work. See www.ingage.inc

Booth and Restaurant Arrangements
Claudia, Gillian, Mary