



NYLA Council Meeting  
Wednesday, November 5, 2014  
11:00 AM – 4:00 PM  
Saratoga Hilton, Saratoga Springs, NY  
NYLA President, Sara Kelly Johns, Presiding

**In Attendance:** Sara Kelly Johns, *NYLA President*; Geoff Kirkpatrick, *NYLA President-Elect*; Carol Anne Germain, *NYLA Immediate Past President*; Tim Burke, *Treasurer*; Karen Gardner-Athey, *ASLS President*; Gillian Thorpe, *LAMS President*; Sara Dallas, *PLS President*; Monica Kuryla, *RASS President*; Ann Penwarden, *SMART President*; Karen Sperrazza, *SSL President*; Chrissie Morrison, *YSS President*; Marcy Strong, *Councilor-at-Large*; Rebekkah Smith-Aldrich, *Councilor-at-Large*; Sue Considine, *Councilor-at-Large*; Sheryl Knab, *Councilor-at-Large*; Charlie Kelly, *Councilor-at-Large*; Rocco Staino, *ALA Chapter Councilor*; Jeremy Johannesen, *NYLA Executive Director (ex-officio)*

**Guests:** Debby Emerson, *incoming President-elect*; Mary Ferris, *incoming YSS President*; Jill Leinung, *incoming SSL President*; Lisa Wemett, *incoming FLS President*; Sue Kowalski, *incoming Councilor-at-Large*; Claudia Depkin, *incoming Treasurer-Elect*; Todd Schlitt, *incoming SCLA Representative*; Mike Neppl, *NYLA Director of Government Relations and Advocacy*; Galina Tsvaygenbaum, *NYLA Director of Finance*; John Bryans, *Bryans & Gramuglia*; Stefanie Gouvis, *Bryans & Gramuglia*

**Absent:** Paige Jaeger, *Councilor-at-Large*; Joanne Albano, *SCLA representative*

### Council Meeting Minutes

1. Welcome and Review of Agenda
2. Approval of Minutes from September 18, 2014 NYLA Council Meeting

**MOTION I:** Motion to approve the minutes of the September 18, 2014 Council Meeting, as submitted.

Made by: Tim Burke, Seconded by: Chrissie Morrison

Approved unanimously.

3. Finance Report
  - a. Presentation of FY2013-14 Audit Report

John Bryans and Stefanie Gouvis of Bryans & Gramuglia presented the findings of the FY 2013-14 financial audit. The document reported a 'clean audit' with no transactions conducted without appropriate authority. Adjustments were attributable to capitalization of the expenses from the stair repair project, as well as deferred payroll expenses. The report expressed NYLA's overall financial health, with a .2 to 1 investment to reserves ratio and an assets to liabilities ratio of 3.02 to 1. NYLA completed FY 2013-14 with an increase in net assets of \$153K, of which \$65K is attributable to operations, with the balance coming from investments.

**MOTION II:** Motion to accept the FY 2013-14 Auditors Report as presented.

Made by: Ann Penwarden, Seconded by: Chrissie Morrison

Approved unanimously.

b. September Financial Statement / Report

NYLA Treasurer, Tim Burke, reviewed the written report as for the September Financial Statement. This report reflects the 25% for the 2014-15 Fiscal Year. Income was actualized at 39.73% of budget. Expenses were actualized at 19.23% of budget.

It is anticipated that the 2014 NYLA Annual Conference will outperform projections for revenue.

4. Unfinished Business

a. NYLA Strategic Plan

The minor edits to the draft NYLA Strategic Plan were discussed. It was determined that approval of a change in the NYLA Mission Statement would be requested at the November 6 NYLA Membership Meeting, and that the rest of the plan would be tabled for further refinement at the November 20 Council Meeting.

**MOTION III:** Motion to advance a new mission statement for NYLA; “NYLA leads, educates, and advocates for the advancement of the New York library community.” amending Article II of NYLA’s bylaws, for consideration by the NYLA membership, at the 2014 NYLA Annual Membership Meeting.

Made by: Chrissie Morrison, Seconded by: Geoff Kirkpatrick

Approved unanimously.

5. New Business

a. NYLA Awards

i. NYLA Above & Beyond Award

A nomination for the newly created NYLA “Above & Beyond” Award was submitted for consideration by Joyce Laiosa, naming the extensive contributions of Lisa Wemett. The nomination was considered and advanced by the Awards Committee.

**MOTION IV:** Motion to approve the nomination of Lisa Wemett as recipient of the 2014 NYLA “Above & Beyond” award as submitted by the Awards Committee.

Made by: Carol Anne Germain, Seconded by: Chrissie Morrison

Approved unanimously.

b. NYLA Capitalization Policy

Under the recommendation and guidance of the auditing firm Bryans & Garmuglia, a Capitalization Policy was drafted to govern how expenditures for durable goods and capital improvements are recognized on NYLA books. The draft policy was reviewed and discussed.

**MOTION V:** Motion to approve the NYLA Capitalization Policy with the edits as discussed. (Edits to include overtly expressing that it is the unit price of an item that must exceed \$5000, not the aggregate cost.)

Made by: Tim Burke, Seconded by: Karen Sperrazza

Approved unanimously.

The historic precedent of assigning Councilor-at-Large members to serve as liaisons to NYLA Roundtable was discussed, and support for the continuation of that practice was voiced.

Support for the formation of a Pop Culture Roundtable was expressed.

6. President’s Report

NYLA President Sara Kelly Johns reviewed her written report and expressed her commitment to continue the efforts of the Joint School Library Advocacy Taskforce during her term as Immediate Past President.

7. President-Elect’s and Past President’s Report

NYLA President-Elect Geoff Kirkpatrick reviewed his written report, and pointed out a revision that association libraries are NOT subject to Office of the State Comptroller (OSC) Audits.

NYLA Immediate Past President Carol Anne Germain conveyed her gratitude to those who served on the Awards Committee for their work, and reported an increase in nominations in 2014. Those who were not selected as award winners are encouraged to apply again, as there were many strong applications.

#### 8. Executive Director's Update

NYLA Executive Director Jeremy Johannesen, reviewed his written report and addressed questions from the Council.

#### 9. Legislative Update

NYLA Director of Government Relations and Advocacy Mike Nepl, reported that the Starr Library bill and the School District Public Library Property Tax Rebate bill are both still waiting to be sent to the Governor. There is a 50/50 chance of a special legislative session taking place before the end of 2014. The NYS Senate Republicans were successful in securing a 32 seat majority, and the future of the Independent Democratic Caucus (IDC) remains to be seen. With assistance for our outside lobbying firm, NYLA was able to secure a meeting with the director of the Division of the Budget, Robert Megna. During November, NYLA will be leading an off-line letter writing advocacy campaign, calling on Governor Cuomo to increase library aid funding proportionate to school aid funding in the FY15-16 NYS Budget.

#### 10. Section / Roundtable / Committee Reports

Each of the NYLA Section reviewed their written report and all expressed excitement regarding their conference programs and booth displays.

#### 11. ALA Councilor Report

ALA Chapter Councilor Rocco Staino's written report was reviewed.

#### 12. Empire State Center for the Book Report

ESCFTB Chair Rocco Staino's written report was reviewed.

**MOTION VIII:** Motion to adjourn the November 5, 2014 NYLA Council Meeting at 2:44 PM.

Made by: Ann Penwarden, Seconded by: Chrissie Morrison

Approved unanimously.