



NYLA Council Meeting  
Thursday, December 18, 2014  
3:00 PM – 4:30 PM  
Via Conference Call  
NYLA President, Geoff Kirkpatrick, Presiding

**In Attendance:** Geoff Kirkpatrick, *NYLA President*; Debby Emerson, *NYLA President-Elect*; Sara Kelly Johns, *NYLA Immediate Past President*; Tim Burke, *Treasurer*; Claudia Depkin, *Treasurer-Elect*; Karen Gardner-Athey, *ASLS President*; Lisa Wemett, *FLS President*; Lauren Comito, *LAMS President*; Brian Hildreth, *PLS President*; Jennifer Husenitza, *RASS President*; April Steenburgh, *SMART President*; Jill Leinung, *SSL President*; Mary Ferris, *YSS President*; Rebecca Lubin, *Councilor-at-Large*; Sue Kowalski, *Councilor-at-Large*; Marcy Strong, *Councilor-at-Large*; Sheryl Knab, *Councilor-at-Large*; Jeremy Johannesen, *NYLA Executive Director (ex-officio)*

**Guest:** Mike Neppl, *NYLA Director of Government Relations and Advocacy*; Robert Gramuglia, *Bryans & Gramuglia*

**Absent:** Sue Considine, *Councilor-at-Large*; Charlie Kelly, *Councilor-at-Large*; Rocco Staino, *ALA Chapter Councilor*; Todd Schlitt, *SCLA Representative*

### Council Meeting Minutes

1. Welcome and Review of Agenda
2. Approval of Minutes from November 20, 2014 NYLA Council Meeting

**MOTION I:** Motion to approve the minutes of the November 20, 2014 Council Meeting, as submitted.  
Made by: Claudia Depkin, Seconded by: Rebecca Lubin  
Approved unanimously.

3. Finance Report
  - a. October Financial Statement / Report

NYLA Treasurer Tim Burke reviewed his written treasurer's report.

- a. NYLA IRS-990 - Review

The IRS 990 Report for fiscal year 2013-14 was presented by Robert Gramuglia, of Bryans & Gramuglia; NYLA's new auditing firm. The form reports on NYLA's financial position as of 6-30-2014, including income and expenses, as well as assets and liabilities. The assorted schedules and their contents were reviewed. Items of note included:

- Schedule C - \$51K of lobbying expenses
- 990T - \$2367 paid in income tax on \$16K of unrelated business income

**MOTION II:** Motion to approve NYLA's IRS990 with discussed corrections of non-numeric typographical errors.  
Made by: Debby Emerson, Seconded by: Mary Ferris  
Approved unanimously.

#### 4. President's Update

NYLA President Geoff Kirkpatrick reviewed the following items:

- The 'open call' for 2015 Conference Program proposals
- The planned 'crowd sourcing' voting on this year's conference proposals
- The need for promotion and participation in NYLA's Advocacy Campaigns, and the goal to double participation in 2015
- The 2015 call for NYLA Sections to make a contribution in support of Advocacy Day
- The intention to reconvene the NYLA Civil Service Task Force, including a fresh call for participants

#### 5. Executive Director's Update

NYLA Executive Director Jeremy Johannesen reported on the following items:

- The termination of Linda Williams as provider of cleaning services for the NYLA office
- The conclusion of the Digital Literacy program, final report to be submitted 1-31-2015
- Recognizing the contribution of Mary Anne Waltz as Digital Literacy program coordinator

**MOTION III:** Motion to formally recognize the service and contributions of Digital Literacy Program coordinator Mary Anne Waltz via written statement to be issued by Geoff Kirkpatrick and Jeremy Johannesen.

Made by: Tim Burke, Seconded by: Sara Kelly Johns

Approved unanimously.

#### 6. Legislative Update

##### a. 2015 Legislative Agenda

NYLA Director of Government Relations and Advocacy Mike Neppi reviewed the proposed 2015 Legislative Agenda. Included items:

- Full funding of NYS Library Aid to \$102.6M
- Support of the Board of Regents request for a \$2.8M increase in Library Construction Aid
- A permanent exemption for libraries and library systems to the MTA payroll tax
- Expanded access to a certified school librarian in the elementary grades
- Taxpayer access to publicly funded research

It is anticipated that an item will be added to address the Starr Special Library District formation bill.

**MOTION IV:** Motion to approve NYLA's 2015 Legislative Agenda with adjustments for style and grammar, as discussed.

Made by: Tim Burke, Seconded by: Sara Kelly Johns

Approved unanimously.

##### b. Starr Library District Veto

Governor Cuomo's November 21, 2014 veto of a bill, that would have allowed for voters within the proposed service area to vote, on the formation of a special legislative library district was discussed. NYLA staff and delegates from the Starr Library have met with representatives from the Governor's office. The rationale for the veto was tied to negative public perception against the formation of new local governments (taxing districts). With the Governor's opposition being philosophical, rather than specific to Starr, it was agreed that the matter has wide reaching implications for all libraries considering the formation of a special legislative district; and that NYLA should work to ensure that a pathway that would allow for the creation of special districts is created.

#### 7. Unfinished Business – none.

## 8. New Business

### a. ULU Advocacy Plan

NYLA Affiliate, Urban Librarians Unite (ULU) has developed and submitted an advocacy plan to the Revson Foundation for funding to support their operations regarding advocacy for funding from the NYC Council. The written advocacy plan was inadvertently omitted from the meeting materials packet; for that reason the matter was tabled until the next Council meeting.

### b. UAlbany NYLA Student Chapter

An application for the formation of a NYLA Student Chapter was submitted by the iSchool students at the University at Albany. Frank D'Andrea has agreed to serve as the faculty advisor for the chapter.

**MOTION V:** Motion to approve the application for the formation of a NYLA Student Chapter at the University at Albany, with Frank D'Andera serving as faculty advisor.

Made by: Rebecca Lubin, Seconded by: Debby Emerson

Approved unanimously.

### c. Venue for February Council Meeting

The possibility of holding future NYLA Council meetings at alternate venues around New York State, in deference to the geographic make-up of the Council was discussed. The options for either the February meeting or May meeting were explored. Site criteria for hosting the meeting will be developed and distributed.

**MOTION VI:** Motion to adjourn the December 19, 2014 NYLA Council Meeting at 4:17 PM.

Made by: Debby Emerson, Seconded by: Karen Gardner-Athey

Approved unanimously.