

ESRT General Membership Meeting
Finkelstein Memorial Library
Spring Valley, N.Y. 10977
Friday, April 11, 2014

Attendance: Tom Brogan, BPL; Grace Riario-RCLS; Selina Sharmin, Queens Library; Manny Figueroa, Queens Library; Tracy Allen, Finkelstein Memorial Library, Adriana Blancarte-Hayward, NYPL; Tejas Desai, QPL; Maria Torres, Finkelstein Memorial Library; Kerri Darcy, Finkelstein Memorial Library; Dipa B. Thakkar, FML.

Prior to the ESRT General Membership meeting, Tracy who was hosting the meeting invited members to a tour of the Holocaust Museum in Spring Valley. The Holocaust Museum is in a building owned by the Finkelstein Library. Lisa, the Educational Director at the Museum, gave a tour highlight the history of the holocaust, showed maps, photos, exhibits, and videos. She talked about the holocaust survivors or liberators who are invited to speak at the museum.

President Adriana Blancarte-Hayward started at 11 AM with introductions and welcomed the new members Maria Torres and Kerri Darcy.

The ESRT members reviewed the minutes from the New Dorp Library meeting held in January, 2014. Grace made a motion to approve the minutes and Adriana seconded. The only amendments were “July” was added on the last page for the months the members agreed to meet. Manny offered to contact someone in Suffolk County for a July meeting.

Conference Programming Chair Tracy Allen announced three conference programs and one membership meeting for the NYLA annual conference in November in Saratoga Springs. The programs are as follows:

1. Title: Bienvenidos : Opening Doors: Building Communities

Program description: Let’s bring the Spanish Population into the library, into your programs and into your advocacy-multimedia collection, policies, and more.

Presenters: Chris Herpers, OverDrive, Grace Riario, Ramapo Catskill Library System & Christy Blanchette, Valley Cottage Library.

Moderator: Manny Figueroa; Room Monitor: Selina Sharmin

2. Clueless about World Language Collections. We Can Help.

Program Description: Learn the knots and bolts of world language acquisition: Do you know what languages your patrons speak? How much should you spend on it? Where to get them?

Presenters: Libby Romero, Brooklyn Public Library, Maria Fung-New York Public Library & Alexandra Gomez, New York Public Library. Moderator: Tracy Allen; Room Monitor: Grace Riario

3. The Road to Citizenship @ Your Library

Program Description: Immigration reform looms. Let’s talk Libraries, Literacy and agency partnerships toward citizenship. New citizens, so helped, become lifelong supporters-and they vote.

Presenters: Patricia Rajala, CEO Westchester/Rockland Literacy Volunteer & Elaine Giardino, Westchester/Rockland Literacy Volunteer. Moderator: Tracy Allen; Grace Riario, Room Monitor.

Adriana announced for Publications and News Committee Chair Irina Kuharets that there will be two bibliographies. Selena is working on one for Hindi DVDs for Adult and Elizabeth Gracia is working on one for Spanish Children Book. Tracy encouraged the two new members, Maria and Kerri to do a bibliography on Multicultural Graphic novels for teens and adults. Tracy said that you two are knowledgeable with graphics novels. The bibliographies are due Sept. 1, and should include 15-20. Consult the NYLA website for more information. For any suggestions for a bibliography, please contact Irina.

Grace showed the membership two different designs for new logo for ESRT. The group voted for choice 1B. The word "ESRT" would be in black font. The dots would be in three colors and alternating. The three colors would be red, green, and blue. Please see samples attached.

Manny will maintain the ESRT Facebook website. The Facebook website will include ESRT publications, recent meetings minutes, and outings.

Selena is the unofficial media person for ESRT.

Tom Brogan volunteered to replace Grace on the ESRT Awards committee.

Grace will update the NYLA website with the conference programs and descriptions.

Adriana reported for Membership/Public Relations Chair Brigid Cahalan that she would like to arrange a visit to the Irish Hunger Museum in New Hampton, Connecticut. June 21 is the preferred date.

Adriana will send an email to ESRT membership about the planned trip to the Irish Hunger Museum visit.

ESRT member and author Tejas Desai shared that he will do a book reading on May 11 at 7PM at the KGB bar in N.Y.C.

The meeting date in July is cancelled. The Board members suggest a Sept. 4th or 5th ESRT meeting. Two suggested meeting places are the Glen Oaks Library in Queens, N.Y. or the Brentwood Public Library on Long Island.

Tracy suggested visiting Museo del Barrio as an event.

Grace showed the group the ESRT Brochure that she will update with Manny. She said that we need to charge ESRT for the new Logo.

Adriana adjourned the meeting at 3:50PM.