



Ethnic Services Round Table Membership Meeting

Date: Friday, June 5, 2020

Location: Virtual

Time: 2:00PM

Agenda:

• **Welcome & Introductions**

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| 1. Jay Dela Cruz | jdelacruz@queenslibrary.org (Queens Public Library) |
| 2. Manny Figueroa | mfigueroa@queenslibrary.org (Queens Public Library) |
| 3. David Nochimson | dnochimson@molloy.edu (Molloy College) |
| 4. Fred Gitner | fred.j.gitner@queenslibrary.org (Queens Public Library) |
| 5. Indira Mukherjee | Indira.Mukherjee@queenslibrary.org (Queens Public Library) |
| 6. Jo-Ann Wong | jwong@queenslibrary.org (Queens Public Library) |
| 7. Kacper Jarecki | kacper.jarecki@queenslibrary.org (Queens Public Library) |
| 8. Lindsay Davis
Library) | ldavis@communitylibrary.org (Mastics-Moriches-Shirley Community Library) |
| 9. Madellen Garcia | mgarcia@queenslibrary.org (Queens Public Library) |
| 10. Rio Aucena | raucena@wlsmail.org (New Rochelle Public Library) |
| 11. Raynela Calderon | raynela.calderon@queenslibrary.org (Queens Public Library) |
| 12. Sarah Gluck | sarahgluck@gmail.com (Queens Public Library) |
| 13. Selina Sharmin | selina.sharmin@queenslibrary.org (Queens Public Library) |
| 14. Tracy Allen | allent6@rpi.edu (Rensselaer Polytechnic Institute) |
| 15. Victoria Kowanetz | victoria.kowanetz@queenslibrary.org (Queens Public Library) |
| 16. Aletta Seales | sealesad@aol.com (Cambria Heights Friends Group) |
| 17. Adriana Blancarte-Hayward | adriablancartehayward@nypl.org (New York Public Library) |

• **Approval of ESRT Membership Meeting Minutes**

Date: Friday, January 31, 2020

Location: Queens Public Library at Hunters Point

Time: 10:00am

Motion made by Kacper to approve the minutes and Indira seconded. Minutes approved unanimously.

• **NYLA Conference Program Update**

Jay Dela Cruz

ESRT is sponsoring three programs: “Developing Equity, Diversity, and Inclusion Training for Library Staff” (Manny), “Serving New Immigrants Beyond the Basics” (Indira), and “The Refugee and Immigrant Experience, as told through Comics” (Jo-Ann). Tracy wanted to know if we had speakers for the programs. Jay advised that the names mentioned are the main speakers. Indira’s program was supposed to be a collaboration with Nassau and Suffolk, but the co-speakers had since declined, and she needs a new co-speaker. Manny suggested Adriana Blancarte-Hayward as the co-speaker; he texted her during the meeting and will follow-up with an e-mail. Jay asked if Jo-Ann has a co-speaker; she does not. Jo-Ann wants to add a virtual element to the program description. She is currently running a virtual program that demonstrates how using things like comic books and graphic novels can help with English conversation groups. Jo-Ann is going to send the revision to Jay.

NYLA sent information concerning the conference and stated that it is advisable to move ahead and plan for multiple contingencies. This year’s conference will look different from the other conferences to date. Attendance will be reduced compared to recent years because some individuals will not feel comfortable attending; others will have budget constraints, and operational changes by the hotel will need to be adjusted. NYLA is offering three options for the conference: the standard NYLA conference, a hybrid event with an option to participate in select programs virtually, and move the entire conference to a virtual

format. The first option isn't feasible at this time and the second option is what NYLA thinks is the best option at the moment. NYLA will decide by August 1, 2020 as to which format they will choose.

NYLA needs us to secure the commitment of the program speakers and make sure they are going to attend the conference in person. Program presenters will have to contact the speakers to see if they will be attending in person, if they want to do a program broadcast, or if they are participating at all. Indira wanted to know what the program broadcast entailed. Jay does not have that information at this time, but he will try to get more information. Indira feels both options should be open because we don't know how things will be in November. Jay will make a note and let NYLA know. Tracy stated travel budgets may be an issue for some people as well.

NYLA will not be mailing a traditional conference brochure. They will be sending out a conference promotional postcard and shifting the promotion to online. All the content that would have traditionally appeared in the conference brochure will appear on the website.

- **Bylaws Task Force Presentation**

Fred Gitner, Kacper Jarecki and Indira Mukherjee

Kacper did a first run through of the bylaws. The first section that needs to be revised was regarding elections. We want to have it conform to NYLA's new format for elections. May 31, 2020 was the deadline for names to be put on the slate, but that was extended because of the pandemic by about two weeks. Normally the election runs from June 15-July 15, but NYLA is probably extending that too. Moving forward we should try to put in the bylaws that we are going to stick to NYLA's guidelines for elections.

The other change would be how people are notified about the annual meeting. The bylaws currently state that notifications will be sent via regular mail; however, we all use e-mail, so that portion of the bylaws needs to be changed. Fred will send out a draft within the next couple of weeks to the committee members and we can go over the revisions at the next membership meeting. The final vote will be at the annual conference meeting. Fred can send something before to everyone. Fred will finalize the bylaws at our next meeting and once the committee agrees, he will send everything to the Board. At the membership meeting, we can submit a draft and any changes can be voted on in November. Jay suggested we all start reading the bylaws, which can be found on the ESRT website; this way we can see what changes need to be made. Fred will e-mail Kacper's revisions to Indira so she can look them over.

- **Membership/Public Relations Committee Status Update**

Kacper Jarecki and Indira Mukherjee

Kacper sent some e-mails out and Ms. Seales from the Cambria Heights Friends group did attend today's meeting. Other than the e-mails, there is nothing new to report. Fred suggested we have an ESRT member happy hour. We tentatively agreed on July 9 at 5pm for the ESRT Happy Hour.

- **Nominating Committee Status Update**

Manny Figueroa

Manny will send an e-mail out after the meeting. He asked if we think we should have elections during the Summer, or Fall? Fred suggested the Summer because people aren't traveling. Manny will send a notice out today and then there is about two or three weeks for nominations to be submitted. After nominations there is about a week in between for bios and statements from the candidates, which we will then submit to NYLA. Manny suggested we open elections on July 1 and keep them open for the whole month of July. Fred suggested we hold the elections from July 15-July 30. We can have the nominations go for three weeks and close the nominations by Monday, June 29. We can take the last week in June/beginning of July to get all the statements/pictures and then work with NYLA to make sure they are ready to open the elections to our members on July 15. Members of the nominating committee are Manny, Rio and Fred. Manny is going to send everything to Rio and Fred on Monday. The positions that are open are Vice President/President Elect and two Members-at-Large.

- **Publications Committee/Bibliography Committee Status Update**

Manny Figueroa, Selina Sharmin and Indira Mukherjee

Manny advised there is nothing new to report, but an e-mail does need to be sent to solicit people to commit to creating a list. Lindsay had proposed the idea for an online resource list for English language learners. A list for Spanish speakers had been previously submitted, but it wasn't annotated. We had asked the submitter to annotate it, but it was never done. We can contact the submitter to see if she would be able to annotate the list. Manny suggested that if anyone is interested in a particular area that would make sense for ESRT, they don't necessarily have to limit themselves to a bibliography; anything can serve as a resource. Lindsay suggested an "applied bibliography" of resources for online language learners. Resources can be posted on our website, or a PDF can be created. Manny suggested we could put a "Resources" tab on the ESRT website. Rio has to check and see if the page is setup that way. Adriana suggested we could create bookless bibliographies that can be made into graphics, which can be easily shared on social media. Lindsay asked if there is a certain format for the bibliographies. Manny said it would be best to get the ideas on paper first and worry about formatting later.

- **Treasurer's Report**

Fred Gitner

The last financial report received is for February 29, 2020. The only income was from dues. There is miscellaneous income from three people who gave money for ESRT Membership, however it turned out that they were not NYLA members. We are unsure of who these people are, so we can't contact them concerning this, so the funds were counted as a donation to ESRT. Rio asked if there will be a raffle this year. Fred said if we have the actual conference at Saratoga Springs, then yes. If the conference is moved online, we can't easily hold a raffle. Kacper asked if the conference is on, will we give out copies of ESRT's book to members. Fred said we will.

ESRT Financial Statement for the Eight Months Ending February 29, 2020 (FY July '19-June '20)

		Current Month	Year To Date
	BEGINNING BALANCE	4,198.28	4,354.28
		Current Month	Year To Date
REVENUE			
	Dues Allocation	20.00	210.00
	Conference (Current Yr)	0.00	126.00
	Publications	0.00	0.00
	Miscellaneous	<u>0.00</u>	<u>30.00</u>
	TOTAL REVENUE	<u>20.00</u>	<u>366.00</u>
EXPENSES			
	Reimbursement Exp	0.00	0.00
	Conference(Current Yr)	0.00	502.00
	Publications ESRT	0.00	0.00
	TOTAL EXPENSES	<u>0.00</u>	<u>502.00</u>
		Current Month	Year To Date
	CLOSING BALANCE	<u>4,218.28</u>	<u>4,218.28</u>

- **Schedule of Next Membership Meeting**

Tentative date: Friday, September 25, 2020 at 10:00am

- **New Business/Old Business**

REFORMA

The Northeast chapter of REFORMA, which covers six states in the Northeast, including New York, is having their Annual Joint Mini Conference on Friday, June 19, 2020 from 9am-1:30pm. The theme of the mini conference is "Facing New Challenges: Working in Community, Responding to Crisis." The conference will include REFORMA, AILA (American Indian Library Association), APALA (Asian/Pacific American Librarians Association), Black Caucus of ALA (BCALA) and CALA (Chinese American Librarians Association). There is no cost to register for the conference. Information can be found at www.reformanortheast.org.

Brian G. Martin Professional Development Award

This is awarded to an ESRT member for professional development to attend the NYLA conference. Normally we send out the information for people who might want to nominate themselves, or nominate others in June or July. The Awards Committee reviews the applications and then we announce the winner at the ESRT membership meeting at NYLA. NYLA needs to know the name by the middle of September so they can put it in the awards listing. Rio believes the announcement from last year is probably still on the website, so she can just use that format. The amount of the award is \$350.

Race Relations Task Force

Tracy suggested we put together a task force to discuss immigrant perceptions of race relations in the United States. We can use various virtual platforms to post short video conversations with a few people, or a platform concerning New Americans and race relations in the United States. Sarah suggested we have someone who can speak in other languages. Fred suggested the programs should be geared towards librarians. Tracy said the programs can give librarians the tools on how to delve deeper in conversations with customers when it comes to race relations. Jo-Ann suggested a panel of librarians of color, or authors. Tracy responded that it shouldn't be a panel, but we should confer with experts and come up with talking points that can be given to librarians to provide the community with information for immigrants. Jay added they could be talking points for librarians to use. Tracy is going to send out a Doodle Poll to set up a meeting for members of the task force. The members are: Tracy Allen, Kacper Jarecki, Sarah Gluck, David Nochimson, Jo-Ann Wong, Manny Figueroa and Victoria Kowanetz.

- Virtual tour of New Rochelle Public Library with Rio Aucena and Director, Thomas Geoffino
- Motion to adjourn the meeting by Jay. Seconded by Tracy. Meeting Adjourned: 4:49 pm

Prepared by **Victoria Kowanetz, Secretary**

Edited by **Fred Gitner, Treasurer**