

**Friends of Libraries Section – Annual Membership Meeting  
November 15, 2019  
New York Library Association Annual Conference, Saratoga Springs, NY**

**Welcome**

Immediate Past President Rebecca Fuss welcomed everyone to the Annual Membership Meeting of the Friends of Libraries Section. She then introduced President Lisa Wemett and turned the meeting over to her.

**Call to Order**

President Lisa Wemett called the meeting to order at 3:50 pm and introduced the members of the 2018-2019 Executive Board that were present for this meeting: Terry Mulee, Second Vice President; Randall Enos, President Emeritus; Lynne Madden, Secretary; Stephen Hoefler, Treasurer; and Members at Large, Anne Andrianos, Kerstin Cruger, Marie Orlando, Leslie Riley, and Ristiina Wigg. Members at Large, Patricia Loughan and Terry Morris were unable to attend.

**Approval of the Minutes of the November 9, 2018 Annual Membership Meeting**

These minutes were reviewed by the FLS Executive Board on December 17, 2018 and posted on the FLS website for the members. Jean Sheviak made a motion to accept the minutes. Joyce Laiosa seconded the motion. Approved.

**Treasurer's Report**

Treasurer Stephen Hoefler reviewed the Financial Report and reported a beginning balance of \$6,746.00 and an ending balance of \$7,939.00 for the fiscal year 2018-2019. In 2019 the Randall Enos Conference Scholarship was established. FLS received donations totaling \$4,625.00 in honor of Randall's retirement from the Ramapo Catskill Library System to establish this fund. Two \$750.00 scholarships were awarded to attend the 2019 NYLA Annual Conference. Stephen noted that FLS is still accepting donations for this scholarship fund. Information can be found on the FLS website under Awards & Scholarships. The total ending 2018-2019 Fund Balance was \$12,564.00.

**Introduction of 2019 Randall Enos Conference Scholarship Recipients**

Anne Andrianos, Coordinator for the FLS Scholarship Awards, introduced the first two recipients of the Randall Enos Conference Scholarships. She noted that both had a great passion for Friends of Libraries and gave background information on each

of them. Marianne Michaud of the Friends of the Fairport Public Library was the recipient of the scholarship to an FLS member who has attended the NYLA Annual Conference in the past. Meg Sgombick of the Friends of the Florida Public Library was the recipient of the scholarship to an FLS member who had never attended the conference before.

### **Announcement of the 2019 FLS Daniel W. Casey Library Advocacy Award**

Marie Bindeman, Casey Award Coordinator, was unable to attend the conference, so in her place, Casey Award Reader Leslie Riley announced and introduced the 2019 recipient, Helen Rados, President, Friends of the Ethelbert B. Crawford Library, Monticello. Leslie also announced that four Certificates of Merit were presented this year. They were presented to Ann Hayes, Big Flats Library Associates; Friends of the Pleasant Valley Library; Friends of the Maxwell Memorial Library; and Suzanne and Lou Dawes, Friends of the Newburgh Free Library. President Lisa Wemett thanked Marie, Leslie and fellow Reader, Joyce Laiosa for their work on this project.

### **Outgoing President's Remarks and Review of Annual Report of Section Activities**

President Lisa Wemett highlighted a few items from her FLS Year in Review report:

- FLS membership currently stands at 191 members, a 4% increase from last year.
  - 55 Friends of Library group members
  - 147 members (77%) selected FLS as their primary section
  - When FLS was established in November 2014, we started with 108 members. By July 2019, FLS membership had increased by 92%. She thanked the members for their continued support.
- The establishment of the Randall Enos Conference Scholarships to be offered in odd-numbered years to better educate and support FLS members through attendance at the NYLA Annual Conference.
- The 5<sup>th</sup> Annual FLS Meet-Up was held in August at the East Greenbush Community Library. 26 attendees, representing 13 Friends groups in 4 public library systems met to discuss and share ideas on various topics of interest to Friends groups.
- 3 Regional Workshops were held in 2019, with a total of 54 attendees.
- 2 Webinars were presented; with over 90 viewers in attendance. A new benefit was established in 2019, reinforcing FLS's emphasis on professional development. Elected officers of a Friends Group who are registered as part of an FLS Organizational Membership are eligible to participate in FLS sponsored webinars at no charge. All archived FLS webinars may be accessed at the FLS website under Events.

- Quarterly newsletters were sent by mail, electronically and distributed at meetings, trainings, and workshops. There was a 10% increase in total distribution from 2018. These newsletters can be accessed on the FLS website.

Lisa also thanked Rebecca Fuss for her three years of service to FLS and Friends across the state. She also noted that the FLS Executive Board expressed its heartfelt gratitude to Susan Swanton, longtime board member and officer of Empire Friends Roundtable and FLS for her years of service to our organization and the library community of New York State.

### **Passing of the Gavel to Incoming President**

Due to the resignation of the 2018-2019 First Vice President/President Elect Bob Pacer, President Lisa Wemett was elected to fill his vacancy in the 2019 election. Therefore, as outgoing President, she passed the gavel to herself to become President of FLS for a second year.

### **Incoming President's Remarks and Introduction of the 2019-2020 FLS Board**

Lisa then introduced the new Executive Board for the upcoming year: Terry Mulee, Second Vice President; Randall Enos, President Emeritus; Lynne Madden, Secretary; Stephen Hoefler, Treasurer; Members at Large, Anne Andrianos, Kerstin Cruger, Marie Orlando, Leslie Riley, and Ristiina Wigg. First Vice President/President Elect Karen Sperrazza and Members At Large Terry Morris and Patricia Loughan were unable to attend.

### **Adjournment**

With no further matters to discuss, President Lisa Wemett asked for a motion to adjourn the meeting. Joyce Laiosa made the motion, seconded by Stephen Hoefler. Approved.

Respectfully submitted, Lynne Madden, Secretary

Approved by the FLS Executive Board Jan. 8, 2020