



## **NYLA Council Meeting**

Thursday, March 17, 2016

3:00 AM to 4:30 PM

Via Conference Call

NYLA President, Debby Emerson Presiding

## **Council Meeting Minutes**

**In Attendance:** Debby Emerson, *NYLA President*; Barbara Stripling, *NYLA President-Elect*; Geoff Kirkpatrick, *NYLA Immediate Past President*; Claudia Depkin, *Treasurer*; Cassie Guthrie, *Treasurer-Elect*; Frank Rees, *LAMS President*; Judith Wines, *PLS President*; Julia Schult, *RASS President*; Susan Polos, *SSL President*; Mary Jo Smith, *YSS President*; Sue Kowalski, *Councilor-at-Large*; Rebecca Lubin, *Councilor-at-Large*; Grace Riario, *Councilor-at-Large*; Charlie Kelly, *Councilor-at-Large*; Elaine Lasda, *Councilor-at-Large*; Jeri Cohen, *SCLA Representative*; Rocco Staino, *ALA Chapter Councilor*; Jeremy Johannesen, *NYLA Executive Director (ex-officio)*

**Guest:** Karen Gardner-Athey, substitute representing ASLS; Mike Nepl, *NYLA Director of Government Relations and Advocacy*

**Absent:** Marcy Strong, *ASLS President*; Sarah Sachs, *FLS President*; Ben Lainhart, *SMART President*; Sheryl Knab, *Councilor-at-Large*

### 1. Welcome

Barbara Stripling requested that the question of endorsement of the ALA Advocacy Implementation Plan be added under unfinished business.

### 2. Approval of Minutes from February 4, 2016 NYLA Council Meeting

**MOTION I:** Motion to approve the minutes of the February 4, 2016 Council Meeting as submitted.

Made by: Claudia Depkin, Seconded by: Rebecca Lubin

Approved unanimously.

### 3. Finance Report

#### a. January Financial Statement / Report

NYLA Treasurer Claudia Depkin reviewed the January Financial Statement. Advocacy Support and Advertising Income were noted as being likely to under perform on their budgeted income. Marketing, printing and postage all are over budget on expenses due in part to the production and distribution of the 2014-2015 Annual Report. This new project was not included when the budget was developed. As the 2016-2017 operating budget is developed these lines will be adjusted accordingly.

### 4. President's Update

NYLA President Debby Emerson reported on the progress of the planned regional NYLA focus groups. The intention is to hold one focus group at each of the nine 3Rs Councils, inviting participation from both members and non-members. Additionally, Barbara Stripling, working in conjunction with members of the ASLS Board has developed a survey to gather input from members of the NY Academic Librarian community.

## 5. Executive Director's Report

NYLA Executive Director Jeremy Johannesen reported on the following items:

- Membership has surpassed 4000
- Conference program descriptions are due 3/31
- CGR from Rochester has been awarded the contract to conduct the Economic Impact of Public Libraries study
- Approximately half of the School Library Systems has submitted data for the School Librarian Census
- NYLA has hired a new Communications & Marketing Manager, Kelsey Dorado, who is a recent graduate of the Communications department at SUNY Oneonta.
- The proposal for providing Legislative Representation for the Queens Library was declined by the Board of Directors of the Queens Library, despite support from the administration.

## 6. Legislative Update

NYLA Director of Government Relations and Advocacy, Mike Nepl provided an update on the FY 2016-2017 NYS budget process. Both the NYS Senate and NYS Assembly have released information from their one house budget bills; both versions have the same numbers included for libraries:

State Library Aid: **+\$5M** over Governor's Executive Budget (\$96.6M total)  
State Library Construction Aid: **+\$10M** over Executive Budget (\$24M total)  
MTA Tax Reimbursement: \$1.3M

Having the same number in both one house budget bills puts us in very good position going into negotiations between the Senate, Assembly and Governor Cuomo. These adds are a testament to the hard work and commitment of New York's library advocates.

Over 800 advocates from every corner of New York State traveled to Albany on Wednesday, March 2 for Library Advocacy Day 2016! Collectively we held meetings with over 54% of the members of the New York State Legislature! Our special thanks go out to those members who spoke to the assembled Library Advocates Rally in The Well of the Legislative Office Building:

- Senator Hugh Farley
- Assemblyman Joe Saladino
- Assemblyman Edward Ra
- Assemblywoman Michele Solages
- Assemblywoman Ellen Jaffee
- Assemblywoman Alicia Hyndman
- Senator John Bonacic
- Assemblyman Phil Palmesano
- Assemblywoman Pat Fahy
- Assemblyman Tom Abinanti

Several members of Council voiced their support for what was deemed a very successful Library Advocacy Day.

## 7. Unfinished Business

### a. ALA Resolution Against Islamophobia

ALA Chapter Councilor Rocco Staino updated the group on his follow up conversation with the drafter of the ALA Resolution, Lauren Comito. At the request of the Council, the Executive Director had researched existing statements condemning discrimination of any kind. The closest standing statement is article five of the Library Bill of rights which reads: "A person's right to use a library should not be denied or abridged because of origin, age, background, or views." Lauren Comito has agreed to draft a broader resolution condemning all forms of discrimination for consideration by the Council at the May 10, 2016 meeting.

b. ALA Advocacy Implementation Plan

NYLA President-Elect Barbara Stripling requested that the Council take action on taking a position on the Implementation Plan. Discussion centered on whether the ALA's Libraries Transform campaign was compatible with NYLA's standing Libraries are Education campaign.

**MOTION II:** Motion for the NYLA Council to endorse the ALA Advocacy Implementation Plan.

Made by: Rocco Staino, Seconded by: Charlie Kelly

<b>Aye Votes</b>	<b>Nay Votes</b>	<b>Abstention</b>
Barbara Stripling	Debby Emerson	Julia Schult
Rocco Staino	Geoff Kirkpatrick	
Karen Gardner Athey	Claudia Depkin	
Judith Wines (X4)	Cassie Guthrie	
Jeri Cohen	Frank Rees	
Susan Polos (X2)	Mary Jo Smith (X2)	
Charlie Kelly	Rebecca Lubin	
Sue Kowalski	Elaine Lasda Bergman	
	Grace Riario	

Note: Weighting voting was recognized as per the NYLA bylaws, one vote per 300 members of any given Section. Motion carried 12 votes aye, 10 votes nay.

A letter will be drafted regarding the passage of this motion, with the purpose of informing ALA of the decision, as well as reinforcing NYLA's primary commitment to the Libraries are Education messaging.

8. New Business

a. Social Media Policy

Many Sections and Round Tables have established FaceBook and Twitter accounts. Currently NYLA has no formal policy in place to govern these accounts. A draft policy will be put forward for consideration at the May Council meeting.

b. Section & Round Table Communication Policy

Recently the Rural Libraries Round Table has begun distributing a weekly electronic newsletter using a communications platform outside of the NYLA infrastructure. This has exposed the lack of a formal policy governing the how Sections and Round Tables distribute communications. A draft policy will be put forward for consideration at the May Council meeting.

c. Section & Round Tables Dues Rates

NYLA Section and Round Table dues have not been increased in well over a decade. The Membership Committee will provide input for the discussion of this matter for the May Council meeting.

d. MSRT Petition for Section Status

The Making and STEAM Round Table has submitted the pre-requisite 300 petition signatures to request that the Council consider the elevation of the Round Table to Section status. Should the Council approve, the matter would be put before the general NYLA membership as a ballot item on the 2016 Council Election Ballot.

**MOTION III:** Motion to adjourn the March 17, 2016 NYLA Council meeting at 4:38 PM.

Made by: Claudia Depkin, Seconded by: Mary Jo Smith

Approved unanimously.