LAMS Board Meeting
Mon., April 15, 2013
Mid-Hudson Library System, Poughkeepsie, NY

Excused: Frank Rees, Lauren Britton.

1. Meeting called to order: 10:34am.

2. Approval of Minutes: Richard moved to accept the minutes from the December 14, 2012 meeting. Mary Trev seconded. Minutes approved.

3. Treasurer’s Report:
The $2000.00 check to support the Urban Librarians Unite Conference (ULU) is still outstanding. Subtracting that amount, the closing balance would be $14,702.26. The amount is close to last year’s amount on this same day ($14,376.00). Tim said he will follow up on why money was not sent to ULU. Gillian moved to approve the Treasurer’s Report; Pat seconded. Report approved.

4. Confirmation of Electronic Votes
There were no electronic votes.

NYLA Liaison Reports
NyLA Council (Claudia)

- NYLA sold its former office building property in downtown Albany.
- The Suffolk County Library Association is now a regional chapter of NYLA.
- NYLA will be hosting a full day professional development event in conjunction with Book Expo America.
- NYLA / NYSHEI merger discussions: Tim explained that a task force was formed to seek out common interests between NYLA and NYSHEI for a possible merger. Discussions were held and a proposal was presented to NYSHEI, but it was rejected by the NYSHEI Board. Tim said that the process was useful because it helped NYLA to reimagine its membership structure.
- Discussion on the time-line for section elections to ensure they fit into the NYLA election calendar.
- NYLA sponsoring an ALA Emerging Leader Scholarship. The question was whether NYLA personal membership should be required for eligibility.
Legislative Committee (Rebekkah)
Submitted to the LAMS Board by previous email;

- By now you are all aware that the Legislature included a $4 million restoration to Library Aid, $14 million for public library construction and another $1.3 million to offset MTA payments for those libraries impacted. This was a hard won $4 million and I think the Legislative Committee did a really good job, starting last June, to make the case for the restoration. There’s still a long way to go – we need another $16 million just to hit full formula funding, say nothing of what we really need, so our efforts continue.

- There is currently a message on the NYLA Online Advocacy Center to send a thank you message to legislators for the partial restoration as well as a letter designed to promote National Library Week (April 14-20):

- Thank you for approving the funds to help underwrite Advocacy Day, there were over 1,000 people in attendance on March 5th which was wonderful.

- Jeremy is now pursuing the legislative priorities – viewable here:

- More help is needed to make the case for the importance of school librarians. Talking points can be found here:
  We are all encouraged to speak up for school librarians in our communities, they need our support.

Membership Committee (Tim, Rebecca)
Tim led a discussion on the proposal for restructuring the organizational dues for NYLA. The proposal will be presented to Council at their 5/9 meeting, but the NYLA Membership Committee has already reviewed it and supports it. He made clear that restructuring does not include individual membership dues, but for library membership only. Currently, the range in dues is not very wide; large libraries do not pay much more than small libraries. For example; [NYC borough] Queens Library pays $250.00 for annual membership while [small town in upstate New York] Rensselaerville Community Library pays $100.00. A proposed new scale would have the larger libraries paying more, but with this larger fee, these libraries would also be given a number of NYLA memberships to give to their staff as professional benefits. The revised dues structure would also allow smaller libraries to pay less based on their budget size.

Rebecca mentioned a slight decrease in LAMS membership.
Continuing Education (Pat)
Pat reported there was some discussion on Conference programs, but that the committee is not very active. She said there is very little face-to-face contact among its members.

LAMS Reports
Nominating Committee (Tim)
Two offices are up for election, and the nominees are Mary Trev for Treasurer and Lauren C. for Vice President/President Elect. The candidate slate for NYLA is due to NYLA on May 15th.
Motion: Ed moved to have the nominations, Mary Trev for Treasurer, and Lauren C. for Vice President/President Elect be put forth. Gillian seconded. Motion approved.

JLAMS Report (Richard)
Three articles have been submitted for the Spring edition and are undergoing review.

Website Report (Frank)
Frank was not in attendance, but there was discussion on possible website ideas. It was proposed an independent website could be created and linked to the main NYLA website. Claudia said she would discuss this with NYLA to find out whether this is an acceptable alternative.
Motion: Tim moved to have LAMS form an expanded website/social media communication team. The team will include Frank, Gillian, and Rob. Mary Trev seconded. Motion approved.

Rebecca introduced her guest, Heather Gayton, to the board. Heather is a recent graduate from library school and was a former intern for Rebecca. She currently works with teens who have learning disabilities.

Social Media (Gillian)
Very little Facebook activity since the conference. Rebecca made a suggestion for a booth slogan at the next conference, “You already love us [our programs], now please ‘like us’”. Gillian said she will make the board members Facebook administrators which will allow us to post in real time.

Old business (Gillian)
Gillian, and others, gave an update on conference programs:
- The participants for the programs are now all set. There was discussion on luncheon logistics.
- Claudia asked if speakers/participants had conflicts with other programs.
- ‘Fear is the New F Word’ will take place during the luncheon. Lauren C. recommended using a text chat tool, Library Box, as a visual aid for the luncheon speaker.
- Gillian marked up the participant changes for the programs in her most recent conference document handed out at the meeting (attached).
• Programs will be moved around to keep fewer programs scheduled on Saturday. ‘Political Animal’ program will be moved to Saturday, and eBook program moves to an earlier slot.
• The membership meeting will be held Friday, 8:00am, right before the ‘21st Century Librarian’ program.

Lauren C. was asked about the ULU Conference. Lauren said it went well, and Rebecca [a conference participant] said the conference was well received by many who attended, and that it was a very good conference.

Leadership and Management Academy (Tim)
In response to LAMS interest in revitalizing the Leadership Academy, a program survey was offered to 50 graduates of the program and 26 responses came back and were reviewed by NYLA and some LAMS Board members (Tim, Claudia, and Rebecca). In general, the responses were good, but some program changes were recommended. As a result of these responses, changes were made to the program structure: The Academy will now have 8 classes, 2 electives, and the certificate will be awarded when the program is completed within 3 years.

Pat leaves the meeting, and Rebekkah arrives at 1:05pm.

(Tim and Rebecca continue discussion on Leadership and Management Academy)
There will be a push for more of the content to be taught by professionals in the [library] field rather than library consultants. LAMS members could be drafted as teachers, and library leaders should be classroom speakers instead of vendors. (Rebecca)
Adjustments will be made to compress some classes into single classes, and electives will help serve the needs of academic librarians. (Tim)

NYLA LAMS Leadership Scholarship

LAMS plans to award one scholarship to the NYLA Leadership Academy annually. The group decided that a committee made up of Lauren C. and Lauren B., and perhaps a LAMS member outside the board, could put together a plan to award the first scholarship at the 2013 Conference.

New Business
E-book Project (Richard)
Board discussion on E-book Project based on Richard’s hand-out at the meeting (attached).
Motion: Tim moved to have Board endorse the idea to move ahead with the e-book project with help from NYLA. Rebekkah seconded. Unanimous approval.

Other new business:
Tim led a discussion on LAMS Board term limits and succession plans, which resulted in these questions raised by the board:
• Should we dispose with a group dynamic that currently works very well?
• Should we rotate new people from the LAMS membership into board positions in order to introduce new ideas and a fresh perspective?
• Should we offer more tasks for our members to do?
• How do we bring new members to the board?

Rebecca said she will create a list of subcommittee titles so members can volunteer and get involved with LAMS.

Tim moved to adjourn the meeting. Richard seconded.

**Meeting adjourned:** 2:00pm

**Next meeting:** June 17, 2013

Minutes respectfully submitted by,

Robert Carle,
LAMS Secretary