LAMS Board Meeting  
Wed., September 4,2013  
Mid-Hudson Library System, Poughkeepsie, NY


1. Meeting called to order: 10:43am.

2. Approval of Minutes:
Rebekkah moved to accept the minutes from the June 17, 2013 meeting. Pat seconded. Minutes approved.

3. Treasurer’s Report:
Closing balance is $16,385.19.
Tim moved to approve the Treasurer’s Report, Rebecca seconded. Report approved.

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

5. NYLA Liaison Reports

NYLA Council (Claudia)
- Council toured the new NYSHEI facilities in the NYLA building. Council approved of the new arrangement.
- Tim explained the newly created position of Director of Government Relations and Advocacy, and General Council, which will be filled by Michael Neppl, Esq.
- An important vote on organizational membership dues re-structuring is scheduled at the NYLA Conference on Thursday, September 26 at 8:00am. Attendance is very important because a quorum of 100 NYLA members will be required in order to conduct the vote.
- Council reviewed how money should be invested for capital projects at the current NYLA facilities. A capital projects fund has been started using some of the proceeds from the sale of the Hudson Street property.

Legislative Committee (Rebekkah)
Submitted to the LAMS Board by email from Rebekkah prior to the meeting (see below):

“ We met the new NYLA Director of Government Relations & Advocacy, Michael Neppl: http://www.nyla.org/max/4DCGI/cms/review.html?Action=CMS_Document&DocID=843&MenuKey=news

- Final budget restoration = 4.88%
MTA Tax still does not excuse public libraries. This is not expected to be addressed legislatively until after a court case in Nassau County is settled. For now, the Governor has included funds in the budget that will pay back libraries that pay the tax.

Library Card Info Distributed to Students bill passed. NYLA is working on an implementation tip sheet for libraries to use with school districts that may be resistant to helping distribute info.

The legislative committee discussed its plan for 2014:

- Library Advocacy Day will be on Thursday, February 27th, 2014

- The Committee is working on an approach with the Governor and his staff now to help influence the Executive budget that comes out in January. The Governor has held library funding flat, retaining the gains from the previous year but proposing no more. The Committee has decided to try an influence the Governor to add in more for library aid so the Senate and Assembly’s potential restorations are on a higher base amount.

- Legislative priorities were discussed. Bills likely to make the cut:
  - Taxpayer Access to Publicly Funded Research
  - Maintenance of Effort Waivers (needs some work before it is re-introduced)
  - Local Government Efficiency Grants (adding systems in as eligible recipients)
  - Digital Literacy (technical correction)
  - EDC Study (a bill to require the Empire State Development Corporation and the State Education Department to engage in a study to determine the economic impact of public libraries and public library systems in NYS. There was a discussion regarding amending this bill to address the impact of all library types if possible)

- I made the case to the Committee, Jeremy and Mike Neppl that NYLA needs to have a presence legislatively or through diplomacy with the Attorney General’s office on the issue of publishers, eBook availability/pricing and libraries. We discussed the legislation Connecticut has developed. This is still on the table. Mr. Neppl formerly worked for the Attorney General’s office so I believe they will start there. Much thanks to Richard [Naylor] for his vigilance on this issue.”

Membership Committee (Rebecca)
A telephone conference call was held on August 14 and the following was discussed:

- Planning of iSchool visits around the state, and the logistics on reaching all schools for a LAMS membership drive.
- At the NYLA Conference, Thursday, September 26, there will be an important Meet and Greet New Members meeting. It is very important for all board members to attend this event.
The ALA Emerging Leaders Section will draft a petition to start a section for new library professionals. 100 signatures will be needed before the new section can be put on a ballot for a vote by the ALA members.

Continuing Ed (Pat)
Pat said there was “no word, and no activity” from the committee. Richard asked if LAMS would be responsible for providing CE next year at the NYLA Conference? Pat answered, “yes”.

JLAMS (Richard)
Richard is struggling to get articles for the Fall issue. Gillian suggested the idea of reprising older articles in a “best of” issue. Pat recommended publishing Rebekkah’s new director’s manual.

Web and Social Media Committee (Frank, Gillian, and Rob)
We are limited to how and what we can display on the NYLA website. There was discussion on supplementing the NYLA website content with a blog and/or other social media. Rebekkah suggested this should include an editorial schedule and a point person in charge of distributing content. We will pursue this further after the NYLA Conference.

LAMS Scholarship Committee (Lauren C.)
After reviewing 6 applicants, the committee selected Barbara Madonna from the Gloversville Free Library, Gloversville, N.Y. The Board unanimously approved their selection.

Claudia led a discussion on how aware people are of the different awards given by NYLA. The general conclusion was that more needs to be done to promote and advertise these NYLA awards.

6. Old Business
Conference update (Gillian):
Last minute logistics were discussed; room monitors, booth operation, breakfast, LAMS board dinner, power for devices, etc.

7. New Business
On August 23, Lauren Britton sadly tendered her letter of resignation to the LAMS Board. The Board wished her the best, and expressed hope that she will be able to participate in future LAMS activities.

Motion: Tim moved to accept Lauren’s resignation. Mary Trev seconded. The Board regretfully approved.

An opening is now available for a new board member, and Tim recommended the seat should be offered to the LAMS membership. Claudia asked the board for any recommendations.

Claudia reviewed a NYLA registration form where we identified the roles, offices, and committee leaders for each of the LAMS Board members.

Lauren C. asked again if LAMS could provide financial support to the Urban Libraries Unite (ULU) Conference.
**Motion:** Tim moved to provide the ULU Conference with a $2000.00 sponsorship. Rebekkah seconded. The Board unanimously approved.

Richard explained his proposal for organizing librarians to review e-books. Discussion ensued, and it was concluded that a NYLA conference event should be scheduled to answer important questions on how libraries should best deliver this new eBook discovery service. The event will take place at the 2013 NYLA Conference, and it will be called, “E-book Think Tank Meetup During Conference” Slot #4, Friday, 11am-12:15pm.

Pat moved to adjourn the meeting, Tim seconded. Motion passed.

**Meeting adjourned:** 1:20pm.
**Next Meeting:** September 25, 2013 at NYLA Conference, Niagara Falls, N.Y.

Minutes respectfully submitted by,
Robert Carle,
LAMS Secretary