LAMS Board Meeting
Friday, June 15, 2012
Mid-Hudson Library System

Attendees: Tim Burke, President; Claudia Depkin, President-Elect; Pat Kaufman, Secretary;
Mary Trev Thomas, Treasurer; Rebekkah-Smith Aldrich; Rob Carle; Ed Falcone; Rebecca Lubin;
Frank Rees; Gillian Thorpe
Excused: Richard Naylor
Other: Lauren Comito

Meeting called to order 10:40am.

Introductions:
Tim asked us to introduce ourselves.
Lauren Comito, Queens, was invited to be on Board and accepted.
Lauren Britton, Fayetteville Free Library, also was invited to be on the Board, has accepted, but
was unable to attend.

Approval of Minutes: Claudia moved to accept the minutes of the March 23, 2012 Board
meeting as amended. Frank seconded. Passed unanimously.

Treasurer’s Report—Mary Trev Thomas [Copy attached.]
Mary distributed her report online.
For the nine months ending March 31, 2012:
- Revenues total $7,933.10 from dues and conference allocations and miscellaneous.
- Expenses total $7,978.97 for expenses.
- Closing balance $14,392.27.
Rebecca moved to accept the Treasurer’s report. Bekkah seconded. Passed unanimously.
Mary read an e-mail from Galena Tsvaygenbaum RE: moving to new database provider and the
resultant inability to provide membership and financial data until approximately mid-July.

Confirmation of Electronic Votes
Ed Falcone moved to add Lauren Britton and Lauren Comito to the LAMS Board as at-large
members. Frank Rees seconded. Passed unanimously. [YES – 11. NO – 0]

W officially welcomed Lauren Comito.

NYLA Liaison Reports
NYLA Council — Rebekkah Smith-Aldrich
- Interviews were held on Monday with the three final candidates. There were fewer
applicants than expected. The requirement for both advocacy and administrative
functions as well as familiarity with New York State government were believed to be limiting factors.

- Michael Borges’ contract as consultant lobbyist ends the end of June.
- Council voted to dissolve the New Members’ Round Table and create a New Members’ Engagement Subcommittee under the Membership Committee.
- The 2013 conference theme is *Spark the Imagination*.
- Council created a task force to explore regional affiliate status. Suffolk County spearheaded the idea. It would increase NYLA’s financial stability.
- There was a conversation about meeting locations. The choices seem to be Saratoga/Niagara Falls. We must make sure register for conference hotel in order to meet our contractual obligations.
- Bekkah presented the NYLA slate of officers for 2103.

Membership—Rebecca Lubin

- There will be a telephone conference call next week.
- There was a meeting on April 24. Mary Trev spoke about the data. Bekkah spoke about the dissolution of the New Members’ Round Table. Jeremy Johannesen said he was on the road talking about NYLA to various groups.
- The Membership Committee will develop talking points so all are saying the same thing. It will be a combination of hard numbers plus the personal stories – why we joined, etc.
- Committee will rethink tiered membership dues and set membership targets.
- Rebecca spoke about the LAMS name change and its focus on the leadership part as ways to recruit members. LAMS will create a brochure and suggested that perhaps the Committee can help us by sending it to all librarians.
- Brian Hildreth is the new chair and he seems to have revived Committee
- Tim said it is time to rethink how we do things since what we have been doing isn’t working. We need to think outside the box.
- Claudia asked if Jeremy, as part of the organization, will embrace new ideas. Lauren and Tim said he has been very receptive to new/crazy ideas and came back to see how NYLA can help vs. Borges did not. Lauren said in New York City there are hundreds of middle managers and we need to let them know what will they get out of LAMS
- Bekkah said that the Empire Friends did not have a major presence at conference but were going out into the regions.
- Ed said Jeremy making a pitch to WLS but again, what do we get out of it.
- Rebecca said the New Member breakfast will still happen.

Legislative—Rebekkah Smith-Aldrich

- There was a mini advocacy day and a flurry of activity before the end of the Legislative session on June 23rd.
- Bekkah discussed some of the bills that we are interested in but noted that there are thousands of bills waiting to be passed.
The MTA tax legislation is being emphasized.

The BOCES partnership bill - right now we cannot contract with them. This bill will allow us to contract with them for such things as Internet access.

The Central Libraries revolted over a bill allowing systems to have more flexibility in spending money so it was split into three separate bills. The one allowing systems to merge without losing state money seems to be one legislators like best.

- There was a discussion RE: getting information about libraries into the hands of parents - whose responsibility is it, the schools or the libraries. Lauren said that in New York City, it is mandated that each child must have a library card.
- Bekkah observed that redistricting will necessitate an extra focus/effort on advocacy.
- Hiring a lobbyist for NYC - not sure what the status is since Michel Borges left.

Continuing Education—Pat Kaufman
No report. Mostly about the conference.

Public Awareness—Gillian Thorpe
No report.

LAMS Reports
JLAMS—Richard Naylor
- The Spring 2012 edition was published with four articles loaded into EBSCO. Tim said he was very happy with the issue, especially the lead article on leadership. Richard worked with the author, Roger Podell, who is interested in working with Richard on JLAMS and in leadership theory. Could he be an assistant editor? Tim gave informal yes.
- Richard has communicated with NYLA RE: e-books. There will be a meeting on June 19th with the Attorney General about controlling/regulating e-book pricing. Kevin Verbesey and Richard will be at this meeting. ALA has closed NYLA out of its meetings.

Web Liaison—Frank Rees
- Gillian’s graphic was added. JLAMS is right on the front. On the NYLA site, it takes three clicks to get to the section. Frank will add a facebook icon and the minutes will be up-to-date soon.
- Frank said there are a limited number of pages we can have and we cannot control our web presence on the NYLA site.
- Claudia asked if we obligated to have our page there. Frank says NYLA doesn’t get many hits and sections get even less. We have the best graphic. We are trapped by the NYLA box.
- A discussion about exploring the option to have a more user friendly site of our own. Tim and Frank will talk to NYLA about actually doing this.

Nominations Committee—Tim Burke
- The Chair is Past President but Julie is gone. Claudia and Tim have discussed the issue. We need a Secretary and a Vice President. Rob said he will run for Secretary.
- Tim said that he will send an email to LAMS members RE: a Vice President candidate. Gillian said she will think about it. Claudia, Tim, and Rebecca said that they would help with the paperwork. We share the load.
Communications—Gillian Thorpe

- Rob, Mary, and Frank will serve and Gillian is Chair. Lauren already is doing this kind of thing for another group and will join this committee.
- We need to build up the facebook page and get us to get our friends to like. We also will need pictures. Richard has an archive of them.
- Gillian set up a mailchimp account.
- Other ideas: A Q&A, a place to submit I Still Don’t Want to Talk About It suggestions, and a brochure.
- Gillian will strive for consistency. We need to stop being boring.

Old Business

2012 Conference Planning

All contracts sent out.

- The two half day CEs
  - Policy Handbook Boot Camp: People want to walk away with policies but the purpose of the CE is to provide a framework for developing policies.
  - Board Leadership Begins With You.
- The programs
  - Leadership on the Digital Frontier: Bekkah is the moderator. Rebecca is the room monitor.
  - I Still Don’t Want to Talk About It: Claudia is the moderator. Mary Trev is the room monitor. Food and coffee will be served.
  - Design on a Dime: Frank is the moderator. Lauren C. is the room monitor.
  - Carson offered to do some face time with a consultant. We need to think of the best way to offer this to a conference attendee. Do panel before luncheon?
  - Community Leaders: Rebecca is the moderator. Rob is the room monitor.
  - Luncheon: Claudia has not seen a menu. One set of choices for all the luncheons scheduled at that time. We will not increase the ticket prices. Richard will do the brochure. Ed will contact Evanced RE: tickets, contacts, and find out who will represent Kim and Rob Bolan, because they will not be able to attend the conference.

- Other
  - Claudia will follow up with head shot photo needs.

- Booth
  - Tim has every confidence that Gillian and Lauren C. will do a great job. All the section booths will be on the main floor. Tim will try to get us a good spot.
    - Gillian presented some thoughts at the last meeting—a big book—“The Story Begins With You”.
    - She wants to incorporate social media but hasn’t fleshed it out yet.
    - Lauren C. will help Gillian build the book at conference.
    - Raffle off an electronic device.
    - Do we want to give something out to members? Sale price for socks for everyone and buttons for LAMS members. We will order buttons with a variety of sayings.
      - A gift pack for new members including socks, ribbon, tattoo, button.
- Board meeting after dinner on Wednesday evening. Claudia will reserve a room. Tim will look into restaurants.
Leadership Academy – Tim Burke/Rebecca Lubin
- Tim spoke with Jeremy about involving LAMS and Jeremy was responsive to the idea. Tim attended some sessions and sees possibilities for reinvigoration. He believes it should create opportunities for attendees to see library leaders at the front of room, not just consultants. Some sessions should be taught by consultants but most need to be taught by library people leading by example and mentoring. NYLA doesn’t have to pay a hotel to hold sessions.
- Rebecca said Tom Lawrence really does a great job.
- Tim reiterated that LAMS should have a role. Rebecca said it gives us an opportunity to plug NYLA.
- Tim said Michael Borges established it as a money-making venture. By doing it at libraries and using fewer consultants, it would save NYLA money.
- The structure is good – 10 sessions. People can finish it up in 18 months. Cost is $130/course or $800 for the whole series.
- Tim and Rebecca will work with NYLA to establish a niche for the Academy for non MLS directors in small libraries and for middle managers. It would give them the necessary information and provide the networking connections.
- Frank suggested that LAMS offer a scholarship to people to attend Leadership Academy. This adds to our available scholarship offerings. We would announce it at our conference/booth this year for next year. It would mark 10 years of LAMS and our entry into our next decade.

New Business
Scholarship
Pat moved to appoint Rebecca Lubin NYLA Membership Liaison. Claudia seconded. Passed unanimously.

NYLA Executive Director Discussion
See above under NYLA Council.

Other Issues

Next Meeting
Tim will do a doodle survey to come up with a meeting date in September.

Claudia moved to adjourn. Mary Trev seconded. Meeting adjourned at 2:01pm.

Respectfully submitted,

Patricia Kaufman

Patricia Kaufman
Secretary