SSL Board Meeting
Ithaca, NY
August 5, 2012
Called to order 8:21am

In attendance: April Bliss, Kate Berens-Bucki, Sally Daniels, Pauline Herr, MaryAnn Karre, Charlie Kelly, Sara Kelly Johns, Sue Kowalski, Carole Kupelian, Patty Martire, Michelle Miller, Karen O'Donnell, Anne Paulson, Susan Polos, Fran Roscello, Livia Sabourin, Michaela Schied, Joanne Shawhan, Karen Sperrazza,

Administration – Pauline Herr, President
Approval of Agenda: Pauline Herr, President
MOTION: To approve the agenda as presented.
Motion made by Livia Sabourin, seconded by Fran Roscello. Motion carried.

Approval of Minutes – Michelle Miller, Secretary

MOTION: To approve the minutes.
Motion made by MaryAnn Karre, seconded by Anne Paulson. Motion carried.

Budget and Treasurer Report - Patty Martire, Treasurer
We continue to work out procedures and processes with NYLA, There are a meeting scheduled with the new NYLA administrator to further clarify budget line items for report.
The income and expenses are reported correctly, there are further items that need to be categorized to match the budget line items with NYLA and SSL. The meeting scheduled will help clarify these items. A finance committee was discussed to help further spell out budget issues.
The Laura Wedge scholarship needs to use interest only for scholarships to allow principle to continue collect interest.

MOTION: To table approval of report until Treasurer is satisfied with the report.
Motion made by Carole Kupelian, seconded by Anne Paulson. Motion carried.
Knickerbocker:
The new raffle format has increased our revenue and there was discussion about how to use the increased money.

MOTION: To use $1000 from the Knickerbocker award stipend from SSL funds rather than conference funds.
Motion made by Patty Martire, seconded by Fran Rosecello.

NYLA & Conference Finances
In the past the conference finances have been handled by the conference chairs. This has become a problem because the insurance is not covered under NYLA due to the conference money being separate. Because we are a section of NYLA, we should operate under NYLA, who are bonded and insured rather than each year a new conference chair. Conference chairs would still need a conference treasurer with specific deposits, forms and processes. There are concerns with a memorandum of understanding between NYLA and SSL and the conference funds and SSL funds need to be separate and the forms will be very different to keep funding straight.

MOTION: To create a memorandum of understanding to have NYLA handle conference accounting.
Motion made by Fran Roscello, seconded by Sue Kowalski.

PRESIDENT'S UPDATE
The SSL logo was reviewed again; SSL received a second letter from a member who is upset with the logo change. The member continues to feel the logo is inappropriate. There have only been a 2-3 people who have commented the logo is inappropriate. The Board feels the logo is appropriate and has been discussed at length; there will be no further changes to the logo.
A NYLA focus group is being convened to review the NYLA logo, concerns were discussed that if a change occurs; we may need to revisit logo to ensure the logo’s are compatible. There seems to be a consensus of the NYLA leadership that everyone is pleased with the logo; however they will move ahead with a focus group and discussion. The SSL Board is pleased at this time with the NYLA logo and does not wish to see any changes.
The Slate for the May Conference was discussed. The applications deadlines were determined for October 15, 2012. A member blast email will be sent tomorrow with application for positions.
The 2012-2013 Budget proposal was presented. The budget is meant to be a guideline and transfers can occur as needed according to policy.

ACTION ITEMS FROM REPORTS/MEMBERS
There has been discussion about changing our Spring Conference to a biannual conference due to the challenges in costs, attendance, school budget cuts. The 2014 Conference decisions were tabled at the last meeting as we evaluated the future conferences.

MOTION: To continue the SSL Spring Conference on an annual basis.
Motion made by Fran Roscello, seconded by Sue Kowalski.

The 2014 Conference needs to be organized and due to the delay in approving the
2014 conference, there are many items that need to be attended to quickly. Syracuse, NY will hold the 2014 conference on April 25-27, 2014. The SSL Board and SLSA have worked to help coordinate conferences in the past and are available to assist Syracuse with planning.

Laura Reed, SSL Web Liaison has stepped down from her position and the new Web Liaison is Kate Berens-Bucki. There are new changes coming to the website that include conference links, we continue to coordinate with NYLA with our website and look forward to the new website. The SSL Blog continues to be a topic of discussion. The Knickerbocker Committee has worked hard to increase the promotional exposure of the Knickerbocker Award to publishers. The press releases have increased activity regarding the Knickerbocker Award and plans are ongoing to create a Wikipedia page for the award history and information.

The Knickerbocker Chairperson has requested the NYLA Section of School Librarians provide funding to share materials about the Knickerbocker Award for Juvenile Literature to distribute at the 12th Annual National Book Festival this year. This will add to our focus on literary awards from New York State.

**MOTION:** To approve up to $500 to create and produce a Knickerbocker bookmark to share at the 12th Annual National Book Festival.
Motion made by Anne Paulson, seconded by Charlie Kelly.

2012 SSL Conference Report was presented, the vendor hall was full, 263 conference attendees, with very few downstate attendees. The conference faced some challenges, the pricing of booths and tables was different, the local bookstore struggled to handle the large volume, and implementing shortened sessions to make more sessions available was not as successful as planned. We continue to look to improve the President/Newbie Reception, with a better way to meet and greet. The idea of extending Saturday afternoon with encore presentations, poster sessions and increased engagement was discussion.

2013 Conference presented their handout for distribution at the Leadership Retreat. The Newbie sessions will be combined with a wine tasting with raffles and prizes for those in attendance to generate interest. The conference chairs will consider poster sessions and vendor marketing sessions. The SLS Director will be informing all SLS Directors, Save the Date cards available, the conference website is up, the conference chairs will be working to get the SSL and NYLA website conference information updated.

A conference re-affiliation form needs to be created and updated to allow for good information to be available in each region to assist with membership. A letter to the region president will be completed outlining the need for the re-affiliation form and links for all affiliate websites will be created. An Affiliate Assembly should be at our conference, this has not been happening; however the policy encourages affiliate cooperation with SSL. The Board agreed to have our first goal established as completing updates of all affiliates and then look to plan an Affiliate Assembly at the 2014 conference.

**REPORTS/DISCUSSIONS**

John Brock reported State Librarian and Assistant Commissioner for Libraries Bernard A. Margolis and Chair of the Regents Advisory Council on Libraries Gerald Nichols the launching of a new webpage focused on the implementation of Creating the Future: A 2020 Vision and Plan for Library Services in New York State. Librarians are encouraged to talk to the Regent in your area to support and advocate expanded
regulation of librarians at the elementary level. The Dignity Act for All Students was discussed; main focus is to reduce online, cyber bullying and is effective July 1, 2012. The SLMPE rubric is being used by other states.

The Policy Book has been updated to reflect new name and logo. All irrelevant information has been removed and a recommendation to create a list of is removed, there was discussion about removing policy numbers and use strike out rather than color code for deleted items. Karen will continue to revise and edit.

The YSS report was discussed; there has not been a YSS meeting since March. The YSS membership is decreasing along with SSL membership will discuss trends at the next meeting scheduled for May 17th at the YSS Conference.

The Educational Leadership wiki was discussed with the goal of the wiki being to create a bridge to sharing ideas, success, questions, and solutions to Common Core issues. The Educational Leadership Institute next year may continue the same topic of Common Core and the librarian’s role in common core. We continue to explore possible new venues, although Cornell has been successful and positive so far.

The AASL report included upcoming events, AASL Fall Forum, AASL National Conference and 2013 NYLA Conference. AASL is asking each state to be a promotional partner for Banned Book Week. The promotional partner would be asked to provide links to websites.

MOTION: For SSL to be a promotional partner with AASL for Banned Book Week.

Motion made by Sue Kowalski, seconded by Charlie Kelly.

A letter from Chris Harris was reviewed that shared some concerns about the New York State Reading Association awarding a prize of a “classroom library” rather than a school library. This was discussed and it was reported that the New York State Reading Association has changed the flyer to be a prize that is provided to a classroom or library.

NYSCEA Delegate reported that music teachers have created an evaluation but not approved yet, art teachers have been vocal about their role in Common Core. And Professional development is changing to reflect Professional Learning.

ISSUE

Membership continues to be a concern, there were many suggestions discussed. The discussion included ways to reach librarians who are not SSL, contact NYLA to obtain a list of members who have lapsed or dropped, a questionnaire to determine why, a poll through SLSA directors for district wide distribution,, new librarians through college outreach, a tiered fee structure for membership dues, use of membership with APPR requirements, examples of how membership has helped. A Plan of Action group was assembled to review this ongoing issue, with Anne Paulson to write a report detailing recommendations.

ANNOUNCEMENTS

MOTION: To adjourn the meeting at 4:25

Motion made by Anne Paulson seconded by Charlie Kelly. Motion passed.

Next meeting is scheduled for November NYLA Conference, date and time to be determined.

Action items requiring voting will be completed via e-voting.

Respectfully submitted,
Michelle Miller, Secretary