SSL Board Meeting
April 25, 2013
SSL Spring Conference
Called to order 1:15

In attendance:  April Bliss, Kim Donius, Carl Goavela, Pauline Herr, Sara Kelly Johns, Mary Anne Karre, Charlie Kelly, Sue Kowalski, Jill Leinung, Patty Martire, Michelle Miller, Anne Paulson, Sue Polos, Dawn Pressimone, Fran Roscello, Livia Sabourin, Karen Sperrazza, Beth Stancl, Katie S. Laurent, Lisa Perkowski

Administration – Sue Kowalski, President
  ● Approval of Agenda: Sue Kowalski, President
  MOTION: To approve the agenda as presented.
  Motion made by Jill Leinung, seconded by Anne Paulson. Motion carried.

  • Approval of Minutes – Michelle Miller, Secretary
  
  MOTION: To approve the minutes.
  Motion made by Karen Sperrazza, seconded by Patty Martire. Motion carried.

  • Budget and Treasurer Report - Patty Martire, Treasurer
    • All credits and expenses are current. The cooperation with NYLA has improved and the processes are now working well.
    • The trial of the conference finances with NYLA was successful and worked nicely, this should be done again and considered as a new process for conference chairs, discussion will continue.
    • The new partnership with NYLA allows our dues to be updated each month, which provides us with current membership information.

  MOTION: To approve the Treasurer’s report as presented.
  Motion made by Beth Stancl, seconded by Livia Sabourin. Motion carried.

PRESIDENT’S UPDATE
Advocacy continues to be a responsibility that requires the most time and is the best use of time. Info graphics and media clips for sharing information are being created regularly and can be used by all to share information and advocate.

The possibility of sharing AASL and NYLA reports to Boards of Education and newspapers could assist in future advocacy opportunities. The opportunity to have SSL and/or NYLA share advocacy efforts if cuts are being considered in regional areas is available.

We have suffered three losses to our SSL family, Eva Efron, Mary Joan Egan, and Lori Bresnahan recently passed away and we continue to discuss ways to honor their membership.

**ACTION ITEMS FROM REPORTS:**

- The Slate of Officers is presented for consideration and will be presented at the Membership Meeting for approval.
  - President Elect: Jill Leinung
  - Vice President Communications: Beth Stancl
  - Vice President Conferences: MaryAnn Karre
  - Treasurer Intern: Tina Laramie
  - Region 1: Jane Herbst
  - Region 3: Susan Polos
  - Region 5: Anne Paulson
  - Region 6: Katie St. Laurent
  - Region 7: Kathy Jarvis
  - Region 8: Mary Ann Sheets
  - Affiliate Chair: Charlie Kelly
  - AASL Delegate, Sue Bartle

  New Officers would begin their term at the Fall NYLA meeting. Region 6 and 8 are partial terms due to resignations, a full term will be on the ballot in 2014 for the full two year term.

The following appointed positions were recommended
- Affiliate Chair, Charlie Kelly
- Awards Chair, Dawn Pressimone
- Continuing Ed Chair, Christina Lupo
- Membership Chair, Kim Donius
- NYSCEA Representatives, Carole Kupelian and Pauline Herr

**MOTION:** To approve the Slate of Officers and appointments as presented.
Motion made by Sue Polos, seconded by Livia Sabourin. *Motion carried.*

**REPORTS**

- The upcoming Fall NYLA Conference continues to be organized, there are six (6)
workshops scheduled that will meet the needs of school librarians. The 2013 NYLA Conference theme is “Libraries Spark Imagination”.

- Our efforts to improve ways to communicate with our membership continue. The cooperation with NYLA to make changes to the SSL Website continue, to increase tabs for information, sharing of links, and making the website user friendly to our membership continue to be the main focus. The identification of what improvements and information are needed continue to be a topic of discussion. We also continue to assess the possibility of changing to a digital newsletter. We will evaluate the need to survey membership to determine interest in receiving a newsletter in digital format rather than paper format. The costs continue to be a strong consideration as well as the best way to serve the needs of membership. A member blast email will be sent to link members to the survey. Timeliness of reports for the newsletters is an important issue for current information to be included in all newsletters, regardless of format, to ensure our membership is up to date on issues and events.

- The changes to the Policy Book continue, with many changes that define roles, responsibilities, as well as correct, delete or update policies. Karen Sperrazza has worked tirelessly on the many details that were necessary to ensure the Policy Book is current and relevant to our daily operations. A special thanks to Karen and her dedication to the process of updating and the details! The review of the corrections, deletions, and updates was completed, with few changes noted.

**MOTION: To approve the Policies: Deletions, Corrections, and New with noted changes.**  
Motion made by Michelle Miller, seconded by Sue Polos.  *Motion carried.*

- *The conference is ready, the donation of raffle baskets was overwhelming, and there are 8 Gold Sponsors. There are currently 285 registered to attend the full conference. The efforts and commitments by all the volunteers have been appreciated and very valuable to the success of the conference.*

- *Plans for the 2014 conference continue to move ahead. A link to the conference will be included in the next copy of The SiSSLer. The Save the Date cards are out for 2014 and the inclusion of “Super Tech Saturday” is being stressed to increase interest and attendance.*

- The legislative report continues to strive to work on priorities that have movement. The Library Cards for Students bill is printed and is heading to the floor. Virtual Library Day was a successful event that was encouraged by the many methods of sharing information and ideas by SSL Leadership. There continues to be encouragement for libraries from the national legislative
committee and Sara Kelly Johns is working with the committee to have all Senators’ sign off on the “Improving Literacy through School Libraries”. The National Library Lobby Day is May 7-8, 2013.

- Deadline extension of the Carole Kearney Awards to May 6, 2013. There are 13 scholarships available. The 2014 Knickerbocker Award Winner has accepted and will be announced at the Membership Meeting. The Committee continues to vet the 2015 nominees and voting will be in May.

- The Registration Forms for the 2013 Educational Leadership Institute are available. The Board meeting for the August Institute will be Saturday and Sunday August 3-4, prior to the Institute, scheduled for August 5-6. A link to the Institute will be on the SSL Web Page.
- A donation request of $250 was made from Region I to honor eva efron; this request was tabled to the Sunshine Fund.
- Dave Arnone, NYSCEA President, and Pauline Herr introduced “The Educational Fiscal Crisis—A Call to Action” a PPT based on a list of SSL concerns for discussion. The concern about fiscal challenges and the impact to libraries and other special areas has prompted the invitation of SSFC Executive Director Dr. Rick Timbs to our May meeting. The SSFC: The Statewide School Finance Consortium focuses on school budget equality.
- The Ways and Means Committee has brought new items to sell at the conference, with free items to give away to members.
- A list of expiring memberships was reviewed, with hopes of identifying people who you can contact directly to renew or initiate membership.

MOTION: To adjourn the meeting at 5:23
Motion made by Anne Paulson, seconded by Mary Anne Karre. Motion passed. Next meeting is scheduled for August 3-4, 2013. Action items requiring voting will be completed via e-voting.

Respectfully submitted,
Michelle Miller, Secretary