NYLA/SSL Board Meeting  
Sunday, August 3, 2014  
Cornell University, Ithaca, NY  

Minutes


Meeting called to order at 8:43 am

Administration – Karen Sperrazza, President

MOTION: To approve the agenda as presented.  
Motion made by Anne Paulson, seconded by Rebecca Buerkett.  Motion carried.

● Board Briefs – discussed whether board briefs was a duplication of effort since we do minutes. Decided to keep them this meeting – taken by Susan Polos.

● President’s report – Karen Sperrazza -Congratulations to all newly elected SSL Board members, Susan Polos (pres-elect), Rebecca Buerkett (Secretary), Tina Laramie (Treasurer), Michelle Miller (VP-Communications), Ellen Frank (R-II), Beth Davis (R-IV), Katie ST. Laurent (R-VI), Mary Ann Sheets (R-VIII), Sue K is Councilor-at-large, Debby Emerson (CLRC) is NYLA President-Elect

Approval of Minutes – Rebecca Buerkett, Secretary

MOTION: To approve the minutes from the April 2014 board meeting as presented.  
Motion made by MaryAnn Karre, seconded by Sue Kowalski.  Motion carried.
Online voting review – Rebecca Buerkett, Secretary

MOTION: To approve ENYSLMA’s proposal to host the 2016 SSL Annual Spring Conference.
Motion made by Karen Sperrazza, no second required. Motion carried.

Finances - Patty Martire, Treasurer; Tina Laramie, Treasurer Intern

2013-2014 final Treasurer’s report – Patti will be handing over the reins of Treasurer to Tina Laramie this fall. Conference revenue is down about $6,000 from past years, plus we still haven’t received all the bills from the conference. Newsletter advertising went from $6,000 last year to $0 this year! So we still need to get ads for the newsletter, even if it is online. Overall expenses slightly under-budget ($2,000). SiSSLer costs are much lower now that it’s digital.

MOTION: To approve the financial report as written.
Motion made by Sue Kowalski, seconded by Michelle Miller. Motion carried.

Proposed Budget for 2014-2015 – Jill Leinung & Karen Sperrazza. Proposed revenue is similar to this year. $500 will be moved from the Laura Wedge scholarship to the Knickerbocker Award. Approval of proposed budget tabled pending further clarification and balancing. Approval will be accomplished electronically.

Committee Reports/Actions from Saturday evening work

- Organizational Chart, Job Descriptions, Board Chart – Actions = updating and consolidating job descriptions, etc. Sue will meet with everyone individually but we should all update the document on Google Drive, add revision date for each person.
- NYSCSS (NYS Council for Social Studies), LIL Strand – Convention is March 11-14. A plan is needed. Tentative title is “Uncommon Collaboration and the Inquiry Arc” (to match their language). Included will be a panel group discussion with authors discussing how their books have teachable moments. Possible presentations (clinics or sessions) will highlight teacher-librarian project collaborations, information on differentiation for students with special needs, handouts posted online, showcased in SiSSLer.
- Affiliates, Affiliates Chair- Charlie Kelly – Discussed board briefs, need for updates on website. Trying to follow bylaws and policies to initiate more contact with affiliates, perhaps using the process of re-affiliation to update and reconnect. Need to communicate better and let everyone know what the regional coordinator’s duties are. We need to know the state of our affiliates – gather info so that we can think about value-added assistance (for example Websites, etc). Get a list of ideas sent to Charlie by January 15, including a list of members and dues, so by Feb board meeting we can make decisions. Regional coordinator is supposed to go to one meeting per affiliate per year, but we could revamp so that we can meet via Skype or video. In Google Drive (Organizational Documents),
Anne created an Affiliate Report Form intended for each affiliate in a region to complete (or be completed by the regional coordinator). The information in the Affiliate Report Form will be used by the coordinator to create the Region Report.

- **Elementary Librarian Brief** – A draft of the brief created by Sara, Rebecca, Mindy, and Karen O’D is posted on Drive. Please send any elementary-specific information to Sara with Elementary Library Info in the subject line by the end of the week. This needs to be completed before school starts.

**ACTION ITEMS FROM REPORTS**

- **School Library Summit 2014** – Sara Kelly Johns, NYLA President – about 1/3 of the SSL Board attended. See recommendations in Drive and wiki used for committee work [http://librarysummit.wikispaces.com/](http://librarysummit.wikispaces.com/). Goal: recommendations to present to commissioners and SED and regents. Need to get school boards involved – they are major impediment to getting certified school librarians in elementary schools. 1. Need easier way to find school libraries on SED pgs (EngageNY). 2. Need to work with SLSA to find exemplary school library program. 3. Identify cohort of people to work on this. 4. Update SLMPE rubric. 5. Update Librarian APPR document – need to lower effective expectations so people can use it, keep things that are in our control. 6. Revision of BEDS Survey – get form to say it should be filled out by School Librarian, get info about the form to pre-service librarians. Also need to revise to make sure it reflects reality of understaffed libraries (2016). 7. Improve info to pre-service and in-service librarians (PD) competencies, leadership, and confidence. Get higher ed liaison person on our SSL Board. 8. Other constituencies need to understand importance/benefits of impact of highly skilled LMS. 9. Support for PD for LMS 10. Marketing/Outreach – need an advocacy committee. Information management system like Schoology 11. Funding and Legislation

How do we do all of this? Each member and attendee should sign their name up for something. These will become a working document. For Nov. NYLA meeting, we will have a set of progress reports stating “here’s how we can accomplish this”, not “I did this.”

- **VP-Conferences** – MaryAnn Karre

  **MOTION:** To spend $350 for a booth at the NYLA Conference.
  Motion made by Anne Paulson, seconded by Beth Davis. *Motion carried.*

  **MOTION:** For MaryAnn to coordinate the payment structure with Bryan Collier to sell his books at our booth at NYLA.
  Motion made by Sue Kowalski, seconded by Michelle Miller. *Motion carried.*

- **VP-Communication** – Michelle Miller
**MOTION:** To accept the revised masthead for our new electronic newsletter.
Motion made by Anne Paulson, seconded by Pauline Herr. *Motion carried.*

Fall newsletter will be in PDF format, will do some test advertising. Biggest challenge is dissemination. Use SLS directors to send to all librarians. Deadline for the newsletter is August 15th. Get your articles in!

Join NYCSS as an organization or as individuals? Too much cost for us as an organization. Individuals are encouraged to join if they choose. SSL won’t pay for presenters at NYCSS conference.

Methods to *improve communication* with Affiliates and all members – Region I affiliates sent letter requesting action from the Board, since they don’t feel they received adequate representation in requiring a mandated elementary school librarian. Background: petition was posted on social media urging action that was already progressing in the legislature. Felt that it would have hurt our cause to take additional action at that time. We need to be certain to back legislation that is achievable and will, hopefully, be signed by the Governor. Once a bill is vetoed, it may be years before it can be re-introduced.

**Literary Landmarks** – two properties: Robert Louis Stevenson cottage in Saranac Lake & Alonzo Wilder farm in Burke. Ceremony will be at NYLA conference in 2015 – donated $250 (approved in February).

**Central Library Resource Council** (CLRC) – at State Fair – asking for donation of $25.00 – NYLA is taking care of this.

- **2015 Conference Report** – Tara Edmonds, Nina Levine
  April 30-May 2, 2015 - Logo finalized, schedule is finalized & ready to be published after meeting on 11th. Technology, literacy, & literature will run throughout strands. Website being updated, flyers & email messages start in Sept. Registration may host through EventBrite. Call for presentations will be in late Aug. Speakers are being negotiated.

- **2016 Conference Report** – May 5-7, 2016. RFPs are out & looking for hotels in Albany. Seeking speakers.

- **Ed Leadership Institute** – Sara Kelly Johns, Lisa Perkowski – Sue P and Jill will run paddles for auction. Need help bundling items for auction on Monday.

- **AASL** – Sue Bartle – see report on Google Drive. Karen S is new regional rep. Fall Forum will be held October 17-18. School Library Month is in our anniversary year.

- **Affiliates** – Charlie Kelly – updating links on Website.
• **Awards** – Dawn Pressimone – will get award forms out soon for Spring conference.

• **NYSED** – Joanne Shawhan – will share info via email. Contact Joanne if you are interested in working on Social Studies framework.

• **Exhibits** – Sue Padjen, Penny Meskos – Need to have the board at NYLA and SSL. Hasn’t been used since SSL, but could be used for other conferences or meetings.

• **Knickerbocker** – Karen O’Donnell – Ask authors to put a link on their website saying they’ve won this award (rarely happens). Need succinct conference objective stating what we are going to gain from the conference. Could make stickers for books that won Knickerbocker award in school libraries.

• **Membership** – Kim Donius - written to librarians with undeclared sections and those whose membership renewal is due.

• **(NYSCEA) NYS Council of Educational Associations** – Pauline Herr, Carole Kupelian – letter from reading association supporting school librarians. Worthwhile to attend meeting.

• **Ways and Means** – Penny Sweeney – Long-sleeved Tshirts & mugs (2 styles) will be available for sale at Institute.

• **Web Liaison/Tech Coordinator** – Heather Turner working on website organization and consistency.

**Closing Remarks**

• **NYLA Annual Fall Conference: November 5-8, 2014**
  o Theme – *Open Libraries, Open Minds*
  o Pre-conference with Dr. Barbara Stripling, Wednesday, 11/5, 2-5
  o Attendance at NYLA Conference by **SSL Members** is always encouraged
  o **Membership Meeting** Saturday, November 8, 11-12:15 with author Bryan Collier

• **Next Board Meeting – Executive Board**
  o Wednesday, November 5, 7-10 pm
  o **Executive Board Members**, please plan to attend
  o All **Committee Chairs, Liaisons, Coordinators, Delegates and SSL Members** are welcome to attend.
  o SSL members are **always** welcome to attend Board meetings

**MOTION: To adjourn.**
Motion made by Sue Kowalski, seconded by Anne Paulson. Motion carried.

Meeting adjourned at 4:39 pm