NYLA/SSL Board Meeting
NYLA Conference, Saratoga Springs
Wednesday, November 5, 2014
Minutes
Outreach Leadership Communication Advocacy

Attendees: Sue Bartle, Rebecca Buerkett, Mary Beth Farr, Ellen Frank, Pauline Herr, MaryAnn Karre, Sue Kowalski, Jill Leinung, Patty Martire, Penny Meskos, Michelle Miller, Sue Padjen, Susan Polos, Karen Sperrazza, Lore Surrah, Sheila DiMaggio, Melissa Bergin.

Administration – Karen Sperrazza, President

MOTION: To approve the agenda as presented.
Motion made by Jill Leinung, Second by Michelle Miller. Motion carried.

MOTION: To approve the minutes from the August board meeting as presented.
Motion made by Patty Martire, Second by Susan Polos. Motion carried.

Online Voting: Rebecca Buerkett, Secretary

MOTION: To approve the proposed NYLA-SSL 2014-2015 balanced budget as presented by Karen Sperrazza and Jill Leinung in Karen’s 8/11/2014 email.
Motion made by Karen Sperrazza. No second required. Motion carried.

MOTION: To approve the $25 increase in Registration for the 2015 Conference due to higher costs in Westchester County (registration rate was $200 for early bird, $300 for non-members). Proposed increase is $225 for early bird and $325 for non-members
Motion made by Karen Sperrazza. No second required. Motion carried.

MOTION: To accept the document posted by SSL President Karen Sperrazza on September 24, 2014 as the SSL Position Paper on Elementary Librarians.
Motion made by Karen Sperrazza. No second required. Motion carried.

● Changes will be coming to online voting to reflect a new policy for NY State organizations – everyone will need to sign a written document to give permission
for online voting (a one-time thing – signature will be on file). Everyone should look for a signature page in the mail.

Financial Report: Patty Martire, Treasurer & Tina Laramie, Treasurer Intern

Treasurer’s report, July 1, 2014 to present time – This is Patty’s final meeting, but she will come to Feb board meeting if needed. The 2014 Leadership Retreat remains a difficult event to budget for. Even though it’s not a money-making event, we need to cut expenses and/or increase registration fees in order to at least break even. Income is right on track.

MOTION: To support advocacy day with a donation of $500. Motion made by Michelle Miller. Seconded by Jill Leinung. Motion carried.

President’s report: Karen Sperrazza

- SSL is continuing our outreach via NYSCATE at the one-day conference November 13 in NYC, building our membership with a booth and cake. We have a list of non-library conferences in case we would like to go. We should try to present at non-library conferences so we can have more of a splash since we would be talking to our “clientele,” especially if we present with one of our teachers.
- Someone should go to the NY Association of School Boards meeting to present – no librarians there this year!
- We should put together a canned presentation that any of us could bring to a conference and present, especially with pictures of students.
- Bryan Collier will be sharing our booth at NYLA.
- Everyone on the board should update their info on the Website directory.
- Promoting membership at various regional SLS conferences is a huge focus for SSL (Finger Lakes, NYC, Leatherstocking, etc.).

Communications: Michelle Miller, Vice President

New web format for the newsletter is complete, just waiting for NYLA content team to update it. The first issue will be “lighter” than future issues, but hope it will grow. The biggest obstacle is distribution. We want to get it to every librarian in the state (even those who are not members) via SLSA, but that requires us to rely on SLS directors to distribute. Would it be better to create a mail group from SLS distribution lists so that we can ensure it goes out? Has to include a “what’s in it for me” to boost membership. Looking to include advertising.

Conferences: MaryAnn Karre, Vice President
• 2014 NYLA Conference – thanks to room monitors, board members get reimbursed for ½ hotel room, 1 breakfast, 1 dinner, and mileage.

• 2015 NYLA-SSL Conference - Tarrytown, NY. 2015 Conference Co-chairs are Tara Edmonds and Nina Levine. Not sure where we are with vendors, expenses are an issue, but moving along.

• 2016 Conference Chair – Melissa Bergin. Three viable sites, doing site visits, locked down by early Dec. Need suggestions for Keynote speakers.

**MOTION:** Accept professional development form for conference.
Motion made by Michelle Miller. Seconded by Sue Kowalski. *Motion carried.*

**Action Items**

• **Task force to recruit school librarians** – Academic Rep, Sheila DiMaggio is recruiting new librarians (not just school librarians) at U of Albany. There are finally starting to be job openings, and they can’t find people! Commissioner King is looking to bring NYC schools into compliance so we may need a lot more. It is harder to find people because when positions were being cut, no one wanted to become a librarian, so numbers of library school graduates are down. Looking for ways to recruit, coordinating between library schools and schools of Ed.

• **NYLA Strategic plan** - Includes goal to pass a bill requiring a certified school librarian in all schools (expanded for elementary). The NYLA mission statement will be presented to membership tomorrow morning. What this means to SSL is an umbrella under which our strategic plan should be falling. No action is needed until membership meeting. If you have any questions about the document, let Jill know. Council is meeting again on November 20.

• **Position Statement on Elementary Librarians**
  - All Affiliates should be asked to endorse
  - Create a timetable for Position Paper advocacy by Affiliates— NYLA will do this
  - Create PDF documents for advocacy purposes to be shared with Affiliates first on their websites, then with SLSA and all NYS school librarians
    - ✔ Position Statement
    - ✔ Talking Points
    - ✔ Infographic

• **Task Force - School Library Advocacy Pilot Project** - Sara Kelly Johns -Public library System, School Library System, SSL, and 3 R’s. Coalition of leaders from academic, school, and public libraries within NYLA to save positions, increase budgets, etc. Grassroots efforts with backing from NYLA will become Sara’s Past President initiative. Will be creating portal with all of the excellent advocacy materials curated and available. Need to show how we have a strong program that coexists and incorporates a unified voice with other branches of NYLA.
- **School Libraries Summit 14** - Recommendations, Actions, Timeline- the recommendations will be presented Saturday morning right before membership meeting. This will be an interactive session to discuss the strands that we discussed at the summer Leadership Institute. Looking for input for implementation, possibly for regional affiliates to become a roundtable instead of a section (may help with insurance, finances, etc). Need to discuss this as a board, hear from Jeremy about benefits. ALL affiliates would have to agree with it.

- **T-Shirt** - Penny Sweeney - looking to approve T-shirt design – “Ask me about the core” – group was worried about staying away from the word CORE politically.

**Reports – Committees**

- **AASL** – Sue Bartle – Contest to recruit for AASL - give away membership. eCollab still in use. Lots of AASL members in NY that are not NYLA members.
- **Advocacy** – Sue Kowalski
- **SED DLD** – Mary Beth Farr – updating 2020 vision, two programs here at NYLA, Q&A with Commissioner King on Friday.
- **Legislative** – Jill Leinung – Concentrating on funding – if we got as much funding as education does, we would reach our full funding. We are the first priority on the list to expand the recommendation to require elementary librarians. This wouldn’t be full time in each building, but would go by number of students. Mike Neppl is working on it now. Library Advocacy Day is Feb 25th.
- **SED** – Joanne Shawhan, John Brock
- **SLSA Delegate** – Jen Cannell – wondering if brochure could come out earlier for planning purposes?
- **Affiliates** – Charlie Kelly
- **Archivist** – Mindy Holland
- **Awards** – Dawn Pressimone – We must do anything we can to encourage people to apply for awards. If there aren’t a lot of applicants, people who fund awards might stop funding them!
- **Ed Leadership** – Sara Kelly Johns, Lisa Perkowski
- **Knickerbocker** – Karen O’Donnell – 2015 Knickerbocker winner Stephen Kellogg wrote a nice letter, has never received an award. He’s working on a retelling of the Rip Van Winkle story, which he will present in Tarrytown, so a nice tie-in.
- **L4L AASL Standards Coordinator** – Sara Kelly Johns
- **Membership** – Need a new chair! Need a brochure. Do we have online enrollment option (QR code)? Sue Bartle will create something, will post on Drive so everyone could access.
• **NYSCEA** – Pauline Herr, Carole Kupelian – need to get voting members of the board to sign a form saying we will participate in online voting. Social Studies Teacher group – mentioned school librarians as an excellent example of groups to participate.

• **3 Apples** – has been in a state of turmoil – supposed to be YSS and SSL, three members each. YSS has people, hoping to condense program so we can still do it this year.

• **Ways and Means** – Penny Meskos, Sue Padjen – We now have two boards to use at conferences. Email them if we need a board at an event.

• **Web Liaison/Tech Coordinator** – Heather Turner

• **YSS Liaison** – Chrissie Morrison – YSS wants to send their immediate past president to our meeting, maybe we should send our immediate past president to their meeting?

• **Past President** – Sue Kowalski – Sunshine reports - Ellen Frank got $5,000 award for her library from Lowe’s, which is the most money earned in a week! Babies, weddings, etc. – cards to sign!

• **Patti Martire** – Wants to thank us for everything, she’s lucky to have met all of us!

Next Board Meeting – Radisson, Utica, NY

• **Saturday, February 7, 2015, 1:00 – 5:00 pm**

• **Sunday, February 8, 2015, 8:30 – 11:30 am**

**MOTION: To adjourn.**
Motion made by Sue Kowalski, seconded by Jill Leinung. *Motion carried.*

Meeting adjourned at 9:42 pm