

Approved at November 2015 board meeting

MOTION: To approve the minutes from the August 2, 2015 meeting.

Motion made by Michelle Miller, seconded by Karen Sperrazza. *Motion carried.*



SSL Board Meeting

August 2, 2015

Cornell University Ithaca, NY

Minutes

Meeting began at 8:19 am.

Attendees - Sue Bartle, Melissa Bergin, Rebecca Buerkett, Jennifer Cannell, Beth Davis, Pauline Herr, Mindy Holland, Sara Kelly Johns, MaryAnn Karre, Charlie Kelly, Sue Kowalski, Jill Leinung, Michelle Miller, Anne Paulson, Lisa Perkowski, Susan Polos, Dawn Pressimone, Joanne Shawhan, Karen Sperrazza, Penny Sweeney.

Administration – Jill Leinung, President

- Approval of Agenda - two changes - Sue Kowalski (Advocacy) needs to be added. Under NYSCEA, it should say Karen Sperrazza instead of Karen O'Donnell.

MOTION: To approve the agenda with two noted changes.

Motion made by Pauline Herr, seconded by Anne Paulson. *Motion carried.*

- Welcome and Introductions
- Approval of Minutes from April 2015 Board Meeting – Rebecca Sofferman Buerkett, Secretary

MOTION: To approve the minutes as presented.

Motion made by Anne Paulson, seconded by Michelle Miller. *Motion carried.*

- Congratulations to all newly elected SSL Board Members and NYLA council Members- Barbara Stripling will be NYLA president-elect!
- President's Report – Jill Leinung –
Donation for NYLA's 125th - each section is being asked to help pay mortgage on NYLA headquarters.

MOTION: To approve a donation in the amount of \$500 for NYLA's 125th.

Motion made by Karen Sperrazza, seconded by Michelle Miller. *Motion carried.*

Received thank you for donation for ad from Empire State Center for the Book.

Received thank you from family for donation for Marcia Egelston.

Being on the AASL board has been eye opening. AASL is working to make sure affiliates also feel connection to the group by the members just as we are working to make sure our members feel connection to SSL. We should all consider joining and supporting.

March 31-April 1 - Dates for this year's Social Studies conference.

The governor and NYSED are creating a list of approved associations for APPR professional development. Sue Kowalski and Sue Polos and others worked on a letter to try and make sure our conferences and events are added to the list.

- Finances – Tina Laramie, Treasurer - The spring conference is not closed out yet so it looks like we have more revenue than we actually do. See report in Drive.
- Proposed Budget for 2015-16 – Karen Sperrazza, Susan Polos, Tina Laramie, Jill Leinung– We have questions about the proposal, so we don't want to present the budget yet. Need to run some things by NYLA. If we don't spend everything we budgeted for, what do we do with it and how do we get it? We may need to do an electronic vote for this.

Committee Reports from Saturday Evening Work

- **Strategic Plan and Initiatives-** Karen Sperrazza, Pauline Herr, Susan Polos
Action: "SSLStrategicPlan2015Draft(A)" - document on drive. Took section from NYLA strategic plan, tweaked for school librarians. We are all asked to read it, email team with changes, approval at next meeting. Board should review and approve draft for membership to review. Should be evaluated annually at the summer meeting, perhaps updated when NYLA updates theirs. Need quantifiable measures to evaluate, perhaps in each board report. We will edit Strategic Vision document as a group. At summer meeting each year we will revisit the document and this will drive our committee work each year.

- **Social Studies Conference** – review and attendance for next year – Jill Leuning
Action - March 31-April 1 - Dates for Social Studies conference in Albany. Talked about arts and social studies, lots of authors such as Bryan Collier. We are part of the Information and Media Literacy strand at SS conference. Creating Pathways to Success is the upcoming theme.
- **Infographic for the School Librarian Position Paper** – Jeremy worked on it, needs beefing up -
Action - Ask administrators what they are looking for in an ideal school librarian? Get some sound bytes, add to the infographic. Help administrators know what to look for. Targeted infographic to admins, may need a separate one for legislators. This way it's not a librarian talking about how good we are, it's other admins so more powerful. AASL infographic was very good. Michael Arndt's poster (for sale for \$5!) great for schools.
- **Affiliates/Policies** – affiliates attending board meetings, reimbursement, possible switch to roundtable – Anne Paulson/Charlie Kelly, Dawn Pressimone
Action - Questions on affiliates switch - what happens if we have too many people? Will everything go through NYLA? Concern for local control for events? Do all affiliates have to be a roundtable (no)? What is the timeframe? What is the structure?
- **Policies** - Regional Coordinators need to attend 3 out of 4 meetings and remove “if at all possible”, from job description.
- **Reimbursement** Policy needs to be updated. What is making it hard for people to come to Board meetings? NYLA Conference is sometimes difficult to attend on Wednesday evening, but hard to find times to meet during the conference. RC's are part of executive board so they are supposed to attend. Could we allow RC's to designate another member if they can't go? They won't be able to vote but could be representation. Good way to get others involved too. President could send a letter to everyone's admins at the beginning of the term congratulating them and then stating expectations. Reimbursement policy - create a draft to present at next meeting.
- **SLMPE Rubric Work** – John Brock and Monique have updated and made it interactive (Google Docs), need feedback - Sara Kelly Johns
Action-- Under each of the headings within the rubric, there are subheadings to further detail the standards. Upon review, there are some areas that could be more comprehensive and recommended changes have been suggested. The changes will be reviewed and further research to identify wording and application for school librarians specifically. There will continue to be conversations and suggestions between our leadership and NYSED.
- **Outreach/Communications** – Year at a glance calendar of other conferences besides ours – Sue Kowalski, Michelle Miller, Rebecca Buerkett, Joanne Shawhan

Action- Finding balance between stalking and promoting in terms of getting newsletter out there. Get it out via email, facebook, twitter, website, etc. Need to get more people to contribute. Come up with more purposeful steps to get newsletter out. Need to hit all the ways that people communicate. Encourage others to post on our facebook page. Use twitter hashtag #tlchatny to be more group specific than event specific. Don't want to be only stuck in email.

Items for Board Action/ Discussion

- **Past President's Report** – Karen Sperrazza - Going forward, whoever starts NYSCEA, should start right at the start of the school year so that we match their schedule. Pauline will continue with it too.

MOTION: To amend the bylaws to include the following: When there's a vacancy in an office, officers that are appointed by the board should stand for election at the next election. Composition of the board = AASL delegate is a position elected for 3 years.

Motion made by Anne Paulson, seconded by Michelle Miller. *Motion carried.*

This now will have to be approved by $\frac{2}{3}$ of membership present at a meeting (November). We need to put this info out in fall eNewsletter (at least 3 weeks before membership meeting).

- **VP conferences** –MaryAnn Karre - We will be asking for a booth at NYLA, rates change at 500 members so it will cost us \$350. May need more room monitors. 2018 conference – question from Region 1 (Jane Herbst - Long Island) - requested info for possibly hosting. Want to know what they need. Haven't had one down there since 2005 but it was expensive and they lost money back then. Maybe they can check with YSS to see how their conference went.
- **VP Communication** – Michelle Miller - Most of report discussed in committee section, still have some challenges with dissemination, streamlining process. Still spots in website where it is referred to as *SiSSLer*. We need to start calling the newsletter *School Library Update*. Will see if Katie St. Laurent can help out with newsletter. Consider turning website into a continuously updated newsletter (still sending out notifications). Post on facebook and twitter as well as email blasts. Work in progress, coming along well.
- **Legislative Chair** – Jill Leinung - A number of bills waiting to be signed by Governor Cuomo. Bill to expand access to school librarians is in need of a good sponsor. Assembly bill came out that didn't quite match what we wanted or how the Senate version was written. Didn't get it done before session ended. Mike Neppi working on it. Jeremy wants to do a Census of school librarians via SLSA directors (BEDS forms don't give us a clear picture). Bills that were not on priority list for NYLA but that we follow: eBook

study that directs new commissioner of SED to do a study for lending eBooks in libraries, which passed both houses. SLSA has already been asked to provide info on what's happening in regions. Budget aid - got more from Senate than ever before to individual libraries. Assembly usually gives more. Increases in funding benefits school libraries via the SLS. School librarians have our feet in two areas - library and education - and we need to be cognizant of both areas and not be in opposition. Textbook aid (instructional materials aid) - is there a good way to know how much we get? Library aid \$6.25/student, can add to it using textbook aid but that's up to a district. Jen Cannell will forward link. Library legislative day is March 2, 2016. SchoolLibraryAdvocacy.org = great website.

- **2016 Conference Report** – Melissa Bergin - no logo yet, graphic design firm didn't have it ready so will need to have an electronic vote. John Schu keynote, Holly Black is a speaker, need to update speaker agreement contracts to make them more binding. RFP is up on website. Blast going out next week for request for presentations.
- **Ed Leadership** – Sara Kelly Johns, Lisa Perkowski - going well! Dinners tonight, sign up, all have hosts. Program looks great. Presentations based on SLM article. There will be an Ed leadership double slot program at SSL if you can't attend the Institute. Maybe Leslie Preddy can come to present for AASL (need to request). Logistics: board members are biggest problem for institute registrations. Need to clear up reimbursements policy in order to fix issues. Discussion of why board members need to pay so much to come to this meeting even if they aren't attending Institute. How can we make it more affordable for reps and board members to attend meetings/Institute? Sara, Lisa, Tina, and Patty can put together a proposal to work something out for next year. Will need to be based on what the board can afford to help out with. Cornell is more expensive than the Utica hotel.
- **Affiliates Chair** – Charlie Kelly, Jen Henry - discussed this under Committee work section Regional Coordinators and their duties and discussion of Affiliates - need to get affiliate section on NYLA/SSL webpage. Some people might not participate because they feel like they won't be represented or because of the cost. Want to invite them to conferences and membership meetings. Could create board briefs for public dissemination, send to Regional Coordinators to share with their respective affiliate organizations. Affiliates as roundtables- Can't do anything about defunct affiliates (money disappears when affiliate goes away, no way we can get it). Good reason to convert to Roundtables.
- **AASL** – Sue Bartle - Shared membership issues that were discussed at the AASL Conference, facing some of the same challenges nationwide as we are locally. AASL focusing on developing leadership and partnering for future institute issues.
- **Awards** – Dawn Pressimone - There are seven scholarship winners attending the Institute this year. Follet Representatives will continue to fund scholarships for future SSL Conferences.

- **NYSED** – Joanne Shawhan- Many changes at NYSED, and personnel in transition. New Social Studies Framework and changes within the guidelines, training and questions can be directed to Joanne. Currently reviewing district technology plans and answering questions for districts.
- **NYSCEA** – Pauline Herr, Karen Sperrazza- Draft letter was presented to address the NYSED guidelines for APPR, including the Professional Development hours required each year. SSL Conference and Institute need to be approved for providing these PD hours for teachers and librarians. The next NYSCEA meeting is scheduled for October.
- **Ways and Means** – Penny Sweeney- A NYLA/SSL basket will auctioned this year during our Institute. A consideration for a new shirt to update the blue Common Core was discussed (Common Core now has a negative connotation). New logos and slogans to be considered and solicited.

Closing Remarks

- **NYLA Annual Fall Conference** – 125th Anniversary – Lake Placid NY, October 21-24 2015
Theme - Explore, Learn, Grow
Membership Meeting – Saturday October 24 at 11:00 with Storyteller Karen Glass
- **Next Board Meeting** Wednesday October 21st 7:00 – 10:00. Executive Board – all voting members of the board should plan to attend. All Committee Chairs, Liaisons, Coordinators, Delegates and SSL Members are welcome to attend, as well as all SSL members.

MOTION: To adjourn.

Motion made by Lisa Perkowski, seconded by Anne Paulson. *Motion carried.*

Meeting adjourned at 3:56 pm.

Minutes submitted by Rebecca Sofferman Buerkett.