November 2, 2016

NYLA Conference Saratoga

Minutes

Wednesday, 7:00 – 9:00 p.m.

Jacob and Anthony’s American Grille

Meeting called to order: 7:12 pm

Attending: Susan Polos, Michelle Miller, Anne Paulson, Jill Leinung, Sue Kowalski, Stacey Rattner, Penny Sweeney, Jen Cannell, Jane Herbst, Tara Edmonds, Gail Brisson, Joanne Shawan, Sara Kelly Johns, Mary Charters, Karen Sperrazza, Beth Davis, Cici Fuoco

Administration – Susan Polos, President

● Approval of Agenda--Motion: Sue Kowalski; Second: Stacey Rattner. Approved.

● Welcome and Introductions - and Thank you!
● Approval of Minutes from July’s Board Meeting – Gail Brisson
  o Minutes are available on the Google Drive, though they could not be accessed during the meeting due to lack of internet access. They were amended from the floor (affiliates were added; minutes were signed).
    o Motion: Michelle Miller; Second: Jill Leinung. Approved.
● Treasurer’s Report & passage of 2016-17 budget – Anne Paulson, Treasurer
Treasurer’s Report is on Google Drive but could not be accessed during the meeting due to lack of internet access.

We are in transition to a new treasurer & the budget is not currently balanced. Anne will balance and present a new budget.

- Discussion: we currently have $169,000 in the budget. $65,000 is designated for scholarships. Should we consider spending on membership events to further recruitment?
- Clarification needed:
  - Amount of funds encumbered;
  - What amount is a healthy balance?

Discussion about role of BOCES SLSAs in paying for memberships of constituents. It varies by region. Sue Kowalski suggested that an article or report could illuminate what each system does to empower members.

- Past President’s Report/Legislation Report – Jill Leinung
  - SLSA Census had 96% participation. Showed 54% compliance with schools employing certified librarians at the secondary level.
  - Push to introduce legislation to ensure certified librarians in all schools.
    - Concern: there is currently a shortage of school librarians graduating from NY State programs. There is a definite need for recruitment.
    - Discussion: Mandates without funding limits ability to comply.

President’s Update --Susan Polos

**Action Items**

- NY Center for The Book:
  - Susan Polos will draft an email asking that their Hall of Fame honor juvenile/YA authors.

- Request to donate $500 to Letters for Literature
  - Motion: Jill--amended to make it a yearly contribution of $300/year for 5 years, with documentation & evaluation. Suggestion was made to have Ellen ask publishers and others for sponsorship as well. Motion seconded: Jane. PASSED

- Leadership Institute Report/Survey Results
  - Sara: People were happy about the change in days.

- SED
  - Joanne Shahawn: Comment period on revised standards closes on 11/14.
Tara reported that content and grade strands met separately. The big change will be reintegrating F & NF texts and providing more guidance on text complexity.

Joanne noted that a committee is working on K-2 standards to assure developmental appropriateness.

CTLE: 465 sponsored organizations, but NYLA/SSL not on the list.

ACTION NEEDED: Check with Jeremy to see if our application has been submitted.

NYSEA - Letter re: NYSED?

Susan Polos reported that NYSED is currently woefully understaffed and NYSEA has drafted a letter to Governor Cuomo requesting that positions be filled.

Question: should SSL send a letter as well?

ACTION: Jill will speak to Jeremy/Mike to seek their approval for a letter & will do so if they approve. Motion: Susan Polos. Second: Jill Leinung. Approved.

AASL/Advocacy

Sue Kowalski discussed the need for organizational advocacy to promote educational leadership. How can we promote a shift out of our comfort area of library-related trainings/PD into other content area trainings/PD/conferences?

There was extensive discussion about the evolving role of school librarians & the need to reach out to subject areas/colleagues that may not know about our focus on inquiry.

ACTION NEEDED: Jill will check into our membership in the Social Studies group.

Sue urges librarians to present at the Social Studies conference. Penny suggested that those who attend/present at non-library conferences present at the Leadership Institute.

Could we time our conference to coincide with/combine with another organization’s conference, perhaps starting in 2019?

ESSA

Penny Sweeney reported that there are many ideas on the table. The school library piece has specific & supportive language. We will be in good shape if the school library piece is accepted. New York will submit ESSA materials in July. Then we will need to turn ideas into action.

2018 Conference/Long Island - Request to increase keynote speakers’ fees (Task force report?) - Mary Charters, Stacey Rattner

Mary reported that the keynote speaker charges $3000 and asked for approval of fee.
Karen asked if there we can change wording of conference guidelines so that conference organizers can line up a speaker and then ask the board to approve the fee.

Motion by Michelle Miller to approve the fee and change the wording at the meeting in Utica. Second: Jill Leinung. Approved.

Discussion of timing of board meeting at SSL. Motion by Sue Kowalski to consider a Friday morning meeting to discuss action items. Second: Stacey Rattner. Approved.

Stacey Rattner: no host for 2019 conference yet. Substantial discussion about whether it is feasible to combine the SSL conference with NYLA, skip a year, change timing of conference. Stacey will talk to Jeremy and we will take up the issue via online conference before the February meeting.

- **Endorsement for ALA President?**
  - NYLA Council voted to endorse Loida Garcia-Febo.
  - Susan Polos urges members to read up on candidates and communicate with peers.

- **Membership Meeting will be held Saturday, November 5, at 11:00**

- **Next Board Meeting - Utica, February 11 & 12 at Holiday Inn.**

Jill Leinung thanked Susan Polos for her service as SSL president.

Adjourned, 9:42 pm

Respectfully submitted,

Gail Brisson
NYLA/SSL Secretary