



Meeting of NYLA Council

Wednesday, November 3, 2021

11:30 – 3:30 pm

Marriott / Canandaigua/Keuka and Online via Zoom

NYLA President, Beth Merkle, Presiding

In Attendance: Beth Merkle, President; James Teliha, ASLS President; Frank McKenna, Treasurer-Elect; Todd Schlitt, SCLA Representative; Arlene Laverde, President-Elect; Barbara Stripling, Immediate Past President; Kelly Harris, Treasurer; Cassie Guthrie, ALA Chapter Councilor; Karen Sperrazza, FLS President; Jean Currie, LTAS President; Meg VanPatten, PLS President; Annalee Dragon, LAMS Representative; Dawn Pressimone, SSL President; Amanda Schiavulli, YSS President; Alana Mutum, RASS Representative; Simone Yearwood, Councilor-at-Large; Lisa Kropp, Councilor-at-Large; Tom Vitale, Councilor-at-Large; Ginger Tebo, Councilor-at-Large; Steve Bachman, SMART President.

Absent: Kristina Graves, Councilor-at-Large; Jane Verostek, Councilor-at-Large.

Guests: Colleen Smith, Brianna McNamee, Jeremy Johannesen.

1. Welcome / Review of Agenda

- a. President Beth Merkle called the meeting to order at 11:33 am. Kelly Harris made a motion to approve the agenda with the removal of the approval of minutes. Jean Currie seconded, and the motion passed unanimously.

2. Treasurer's Report

- a. Treasurer Kelly Harris reviewed the July financial statements.

3. Unfinished Business

4. New Business

- a. Staff Resignation: Beth Merkle announced that Colleen Smith, Finance & Administration Manager, has accepted another position. Her last day with NYLA will be November 26, 2021.
- b. Resolution of Thanks: Lisa Kropp made the following motion, which was seconded by Jim Teliha. The motion passed unanimously:

Whereas, Claudia Depkin, who was duly elected as New York Library Association President, and began her term as Incoming President in November 2019 and served as President until August, 2021;

And Whereas, Dr. Jen Cannell, who was duly elected as New York Library Association President and began her term as Incoming President in November 2018, served as President and served as Immediate Past President until August 2021;

And Whereas, Roger Reyes who was duly elected as New York Library Association Treasurer and began his term as Treasurer-elect in November 2017 and served as Treasurer until August 2021;

And Whereas, Grace Riario, who was duly elected as New York Library Association Treasurer and began her term as Treasurer-Elect in November 2019 and served until August 2021;

And Whereas, Jennifer Byrnes was duly elected as the New York Library Association Public Library Section President and served in that position until August 2021;

Therefore be it resolved that the New York Library Association, on behalf of its members,

- 1) Offers its sincere thanks for the service given to the Association by Claudia Depkin, Dr. Jen Cannell, Roger Reyes, Grace Riario and Jen Byrnes;
- 2) Encourages all members of the New York Library Association to consider offering their time to volunteer and stand for election in leadership roles in the Association;

5. President's Report

- a. President Beth Merkle thanked the following out-going Council members for their service and patience with all our many meetings this year: Tom Vitale, Jim Teliha, Karen Sperrazza, Steve Bachman, and Todd Schlitt. Beth also thanked the NYLA staff – Briana McNamee, Colleen Smith, Christina Romeo, and Sarah Sherlock – for all their hard work to get us here to conference. Beth also thanked Jeremy Johannesen for his years of service to our association and noted that his presence is especially missed at conference.

6. Legislative Report

- a. Director of Government Relations & Advocacy Briana McNamee reported on legislative issues and agenda.

7. Section / Roundtable / Committee / Task Force Reports:

ALA Chapter Councilor Report

November 3, 2021, NYLA Council Meeting

Submitted by Cassie Guthrie, ALA Chapter Councilor

2022 LibLearnX

ALA's Executive Board announced on September 15 that its inaugural LibLearnX (The Library Learning Experience) scheduled for January 21-24 in San Antonio, Texas will take place virtually. LibLearnX is ALA's all-new January event billed as a "member-focused conference designed to motivate, inspire, and engage discussions that will shape the future of libraries and their communities. LibLearnX will feature active and applied learning, networking opportunities for library professionals, and celebrations of the positive impact libraries have on society." More information and register at <https://alaliblearnx.org/>

Friends of Libraries Section

NYLA Council Report August 5, 2021

Karen Sperrazza, President 2020-2021

Report of Activities: July 22, 2021 to October 28, 2021



FLS Executive Board and Administrative Items

An Executive Board Meeting via GoToMeeting was held on Tuesday, September 21, 2021. Our final Executive Board meeting of the 2020-2021 year will be on November 9 at 10:30-noon.

All are welcome to attend. Please let me know if you'd like to attend so I can send you the Zoom link information.

Please visit www.nyla.org/friends and select Publications to read the August/September 2021 issue of “Friends News and Notes” (Volume 7 #4). Content includes:

- FLS Randall Enos Conference Scholarship Recipient page 1, 7
- FLS Annual Membership Meeting Our Second Virtual Meeting! page 1
- A Message from FLS President Karen Sperrazza "New Frontiers for Friends" Friends Councils page 2
- 2021 FLS Executive Board Newly Elected page 2
- **Libraries: We're All In NYLA 2021 Conference & Trade Show**
Virtual - Thursday and Friday, October 28 and 29
In-Person at the OnCenter in Syracuse, NY Wednesday through Saturday, November 3 - 6 page 3, 4, 5
- FLS Sponsored Programs page 3, 4
- FLS Offers CE Workshop -- NYLA In-Person Pre-Conference -- Financial FAQs for Nonprofits page 4, 5
- FLS Co-Sponsored Programs page 4, 5
- FLS Fall 2021 Webinar: Before Friends Become Frenemies page 5
- Bulbs for Books page 5
- National Friends of Libraries Week page 6
- Membership in a Minute! page 6
- FLS Member Spotlight: Jerrie Grantham page 6, 7
- Rambling Down the Road page 7
- FLS Board and Auxiliary Volunteers page 8
- FLS Connections page 8
- A HUGE THANK YOU to Our Members / FLS Membership Benefits page 8

Friends of Rural Libraries Task Force:

Work is ending for this multi-year task force. Best practices for issues identified in the 2020 survey will be placed on letterhead and added to our web page to serve as a reference for Friends groups.

Ad Hoc Committee on Governance:

Chaired by Marie Bindeman, the purpose of this committee is to create an **Emergency Leadership Transition Plan** included in **FLS Long Range Plan 2021-2023 “New Frontiers for Friends”**. This committee has reviewed the structure of the FLS Executive Board, comparing the roles and job descriptions of FLS leadership positions with those in other sections of NYLA and determining the ideal organizational structure and job descriptions for FLS. Our goal is to achieve smooth transitions of officers as well as a plan for unanticipated vacancies in officer positions. Many Board positions’ job descriptions have been updated following Carla Lehn’s format. The Board approved the **FLS Emergency Procedure for Leadership Vacancies** at our September 21 Executive Board meeting.

Friends Councils Task Force:

Information explaining Friends Councils and ways to initiate these gatherings were sent to system Directors and/or appropriate staff members of 8 public library systems. This correspondence outlines the steps to follow to organize a Friends Council and a spreadsheet with names and contact information for each Friends group within the library system. As a result of this effort, Buffalo and Erie County and Southern Adirondack are initiating Friends Councils.



FLS Daniel W. Casey Library Advocacy Award – FLS offers this annual award to honor a volunteer member or group within the library community whose efforts have contributed to the growth of libraries or Friends organizations. Nominees do not need to be FLS members. Two of these Awards were approved by the Board in 2021.

The Friends of Fairport Public Library (Monroe Library System) received their September 14 in recognition for their FROST program (Friends, Readers, Outreach, Team) and for their 40 years of advocating for the Fairport Public Library.



Kris Macdonald of **The Friends of Beekman Library** (Mid-Library System) received her Award on October 5 and was for her service to the library over the past 6 years, including community partnership with the Police Benevolent Society, advocacy and PR through Facebook, and innovative fundraising ideas. She not only thinks of ways for the Friends to benefit Beekman Library, but she also keeps the Beekman Friends front and center in the community.



Award on Service

Hudson recognized her

FLS Randall Enos Conference Scholarship – Available to FLS Members. This scholarship opportunity was awarded to Christopher Lund, President of the Friends of the Cortland Free Library (Finger Lakes Library System). Chris is a first-time attendee at a NYLA Conference. The \$750 scholarship is to cover mileage, registration, and other expenses at the conference.

FLS Connections

Our third and final 2021 “FLS Connections” was held on Monday, September 13, from 4-5:15 p.m. via Zoom. The topic of this gathering was Membership Recruitment, Engagement, and Retention. Friends volunteers and staff met virtually with other Friends groups and FLS members from across the state to share ideas and techniques to build and maintain membership in their Friends groups. The importance of recognition for volunteers’ work and keeping members engaged and visible in the community were among the topics discussed. Over the three Connections gatherings, Friends from libraries in all corners of the state have participated, representing at least 10 Public Library Systems

Fall Webinar

“Before Friends Become Frenemies”, was held on Thursday, September 30 from 2-3:30 p.m. Presenters were Melissa Tacke, Director of the Castleton Public Library and Lisa C. Wemett, retired from Webster Public Library and Immediate Past President of FLS. A Memorandum of Understanding (MOU) between the library administration, library trustees and Friends volunteers is essential to maintain good working relationships among the three parties. This agreement keeps everyone working together to avoid potential conflicts and disputes through careful planning. A well-crafted operating agreement (MOU), together with guidelines for dispersing Friends funds work together to provide consistent, essential monetary support for the library. Webinars are archived on the FLS web page and can be viewed by going to nyla.org/friends and clicking the events button.

Proposed Winter 2022 Webinar

“Fishing for Friends: How to Reel in Midlife Adults with Programs was submitted to the October 20 CE Committee by Amy Discenza. Hoping for Wednesday, February 16 for a 60-minute webinar beginning at 2:00 p.m.

VolunteerMatch Pilot Project with Rural Libraries

This service is free, available for 90 days, and can be renewed at no cost for an additional 90 days. Progress and growth of this project has been slow. Aside from Wadsworth Library in Geneseo, a few libraries in the Southern Adirondack Library System have tried VolunteerMatch with varying degrees of success.

NYLA Annual Conference 2021

Virtual Conference-

- “ABCs of Best Practices for Friends Groups” – Friday 10/29/21 at 11:30 am – 12:30 pm.
- “Fundraising without Book Sales” (On-Demand)

In-Person Conference

- “Financial FAQs for Nonprofits” CE/Preconference – Wednesday 11/3
1:30-4:30
- “Friendly Relationships, Working Together for the Library” – Friday 11/5
2:15-3:30

FLS Celebrating 30th Anniversary in 2022

Empire Friends Round Table began in 1992. During National Friends of Libraries Week, October 18-23, 2021, FLS selected 11 Friends groups to receive free membership in FLS for 1 year. Groups that are currently members will have their membership extended for 1 year. The Friends groups that responded to the Friends of Rural Libraries task force survey were eligible for the drawing.

Association for Rural and Small Libraries (ARSL)

Lisa C. Wemett and Erica Freudenberger (SALS), FLS Member at Large, have recorded their presentation for a virtual one-hour session at the national convention held in Reno, NV, in October. The session highlighted the research efforts of the Friends of Rural Libraries task force survey and made recommendations for actions that Friends groups who support small and rural libraries can consider taking to thrive.

Commitment to Diversity

FLS adopted a "Commitment to Diversity" statement at its March 25, 2019 Executive Board Meeting. This statement can be read and downloaded on our FLS web page nyla.org/friends.

Annual Membership Meeting via Zoom

The Annual Membership Meeting of the Friends of Libraries Section (FLS) of the New York Library Association will be held virtually on Thursday, November 18, 2021, beginning at 2:00 p.m. and lasting 90 minutes. Please join us for this important business meeting, which will include recognition of the 2021 recipients of the FLS Randall Enos Conference Scholarship and the FLS Daniel W. Casey Library Advocacy Award. Members of the Executive Board, including our auxiliary volunteers, for this year and next will be introduced.

One item of business will be the approval of the Minutes of the November 17, 2020 FLS Annual Membership Meeting. Please review these minutes in advance of the meeting. See the minutes [here](#). The file will open in a new window. [2019-2020 FLS Annual Report](#) [FLS Long-Range Plan: Frontiers for Friends 2021-2023](#) and the [Executive Summary](#)

All Council members, personal and organizational members of FLS as well as interested NYLA members are invited to participate. There is no charge to attend. Pre-registration is required and runs through Friday, November 12, at 5 p.m.

To register please send an email to FLSregister@yahoo.com with Annual Meeting in the subject line. Include your name and your Friends Group or Library. Registrants will receive a confirmation email with the Zoom link and any other pertinent information prior to the event.

The FLS President's gavel will pass to Kerstin Cruger and the 2021-2022 Executive Board will be installed. Karen Ash of the Friends of Angelica Free Library will present ways to use Facebook to promote your Friends group as well as the library.

FLS Finances

Finances	6/30/2020	6/30/2021
General Fund	\$ 7,1514	\$ 9,099
Enos Scholarship	4,019	4,264

We welcome all donations to the Randall Enos Scholarship Fund. To donate to this Scholarship Fund, click [online](#) (scroll down the page to the FLS fund)

In 2021, the Reference and Adult Services Section took the time to regroup and redirect the section to adapt to our new realities. Over the last 4 years, various efforts have been taken to revitalize the section including focus groups, surveys, and membership promotions but nothing took hold enough to rebuild the section to what it once was. This year, a working group of section members have come together to develop a new concept for illustrating the work completed in the realm of Reference and Adult Services. As we have put forward to section's membership throughout the last 6 months, the Reference and Adult Services Section (RASS) will become the Instruction, Development, Equity and Access Section (IDEAS) of the New York Library Association.

IDEAS came forward after a 2021 RASS Membership Survey showed a section of members experiencing significant change in the realities of the work they do but not in the section representing them. Volunteers pulled from the respondents of the survey came together to redevelop the section, its purpose, and its bylaws to become reflective of the changes in how Reference and Adult Services is provided as well as the realities of those providing the services.

The motion to change the name, purpose, governance and bylaws of the Section was put forth at our Annual Membership Meeting of NYLA's Virtual Conference on October 29th. The motion carried with all members present voting Yes for the changes presented. Additionally, the members present voted in favor for adopting the Diversity, Equity and Inclusion Statement and 2021 Action Plan as presented to membership as distinct from the bylaws of the section as other sections have done. With membership's approval to the aforementioned changes, the changes will be sent to NYLA Council for final approval and formal adoption.

I would like to take this opportunity to thank the working group and executive team of the section for their time, energy, and efforts. In the last 6 months this team has adapted to the variety of challenges faced by the section and the New York Library Association to develop a framework for an agile and responsive section. Members include:

- Vice President 2021-22 (Incoming President), Michelle Isopo, Librarian, Adult Services, Archivist, Local History, Schuylerville Public Library
- Past President, Julia E. Schult, Experiential Learning Librarian, Baldwinsville Public Library
- Treasurer, Megan Mullen, Librarian, Rochester Central Library System
- Secretary, Grace Engelbrecht, Adult Services Librarian. Parma Public Library
- Conference and Professional Development Coordinator Nathaniel Heyer, Marketing and Adult Programs Librarian, William K Sanford Town Library
- Communications Coordinator Kristin Charles-Scaringi, Head of Reference and Technology, Howland Public Library
- Susan Hansen, Reference Librarian, Northern Onandaga Public Library
- Jennifer Stone, Public Services Librarian, Plattsburgh Public Library

I would also like to thank the executive boards of the Coalition of Library Workers of Color and Ethnic Services Round table for providing feedback towards the Diversity, Equity, and Inclusion Statement and Action Plan. It is the goal of the section to partner with various round tables and sections to develop a more equitable profession across library workers and types.

For more information on the section, changes adopted by members, and activities of the section, please visit the section's webpage.

Respectfully submitted,
Alana J. Mutum *MLS MPA*
Branch Head Librarian, Lakeville Branch
Great Neck Library System

Leadership & Management Section

Submitted by: AnnaLee Dragon, LAMS Council Liaison

LAMS Board 2020-2021

President: Nicola McDonald

Vice-President/Conference Curator: Lisa Kropp

Treasurer: Amy Peker

Secretary: Vacant

LAMS Council Liaison: AnnaLee Dragon

Officers: Amanda Perrine, Julie Kelsall-Dempsey, Anne de la Chapelle, Jane Bentley, Casey Conlin

LAMS Board 2021-2022

President: Lisa Kropp

Vice-President/Conference Curator: Casey Conlin

Treasurer: Amy Peker

Secretary: Amanda Perrine

LAMS Council Liaison: AnnaLee Dragon

Officers: Julie Kelsall-Dempsey, Anne de la Chapelle, Jane Bentley, Alicia Thompson, Kat Savage, Nicole Waskie-Laura, Nicola McDonald

In the last year, the LAMS Board held elections in conjunction with NYLA elections, and had 7 members running for 4 open seats. This was our second year of contested elections, something we have been working towards in an effort to give our membership more voice when it comes to our section leadership. Two current Board members were re-elected for 3-year terms: Amanda Perrine and Anne de la Chapelle. Two new members were also elected for 3-year terms: Alicia Thompson and Kat Savage. All terms are 3 years and will commence at NYLA Conference in November. We were also excited to welcome Nicole Waskie-Laura who was appointed to join the Board to fill a partial term vacancy.

We defined a new NYLA Council Liaison role on our Board, which will serve for multiple years and is separate from our Board President. This aims to increase continuity and stability on Council.

LAMS awarded two \$800 scholarships to attend NYLA's 2021 Conference in Syracuse for first time attendees, one award to a Director/Branch Manager and the other award to a Library Assistant/support staff member. In addition to our scholarships, our section also provided financial support for NYLA's new Librarian of the Year Award as well as the annual ULU Annual Conference.

LAMS continued work on our goals and objectives for the upcoming year under our President Nicola McDonald, identifying areas we hope to focus on in 2022 and beyond, including: increasing member engagement, offering additional continuing education content, bringing back an online blog/newsletter, implementing a strategic plan, and updating the LAMS page of the NYLA website.

Our incoming President, Lisa Kropp, organized our first ever virtual membership meeting on October 26, which was open to all LAMS members and served as an update on our activities and a way to hear from our broader membership.

Our next meeting is scheduled to be held online in the second week in November.

LAMS is reinvigorated and looking forward to a productive and bright year ahead in 2022!

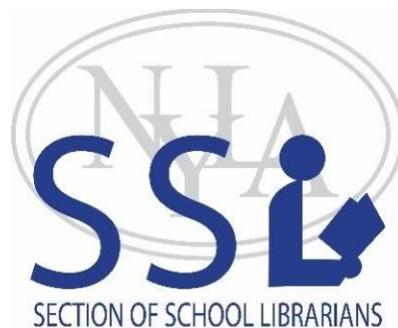
Library Trustees Association Section

Report November 2021

Jean Currie, President

Actions by LTAS:

- The Board meets most months via Zoom.
- We had 2 programs accepted for the 2021 NYLA Conference: both on legal issues for trustees.
- LTAS was pleased to be a co-sponsor for the **Trustee Handbook Book Club**, a monthly online training series which started in October, 2021. The first session covered the Roles and Responsibilities of Trustees and over 300 participated. Thanks to Jerry Nichols, Rebekkah Smith Aldrich, and Ron Kirsop for a great session!
- Our membership is slowly growing as more libraries join NYLA and sign up their trustees to also be members. We are looking to recruit more board members for LTA.
- Our Trustee newsletter is now online and the format continues to be tweaked to make it more useful.
- We are working with Joe Eisner to see if his **Handbook of Laws and Regulations Affecting Public Libraries in New York State** (a loose-leaf publication he has been updating since 1963) can be loaded into the LTAS website at NYLA.



*Submitted to NYLA Council by Dawn Pressimone, SSL President
November 2021*

*We held our annual Summer Leadership Institute July 29-30, 2021 at Syracuse University with about 100 SSL members. The guest speakers and break-out discussion groups were well received. Each participant read books before the Institute pertaining to diversity at their appropriate school level and we had an evening discussion about them. After this we hosted our annual Auction where all money raised is used to provide scholarships for attendance at the next Summer Leadership Institute. Everyone was thrilled to get together again for professional development.



*SSL has booked Julia E. Torres, TheEdCollab Book Ambassador for 6-12 readers, at our 2022 Summer Leadership Institute for Diversity, Equity, and Inclusion, Part 2. We are looking into possibly having the Ambassador for K-5 readers as well.

*SSL had a Board Meeting on July 30 and July 31, 2021. During this meeting we agreed to sponsor a NYLA Developing Leader for \$600. We also voted on and passed updates to our Board Policy that President-Elect Lisa Perkowski worked on. Lisa is currently working on updating our Board Book and those changes will be voted on at our Board Meeting in Winter 2022.

*Membership was an initiative of mine this past year and I am happy to say that our numbers slowly rose again and we will continue to work on this. I plan on meeting again with graduate school students and talking with them about the importance of joining professional organizations.

*SSL will have virtual Membership Meeting on Saturday, November 13, 2021. A virtual Board Meeting will be held immediately after that. One of the things we'll discuss at this meeting is continuity on NYLA Council from the SSL Board. I will be staying on NYLA Council for the 2021-2022 year since we don't have a plan in place yet.

*We are in the midst of planning for our annual SSL Conference. This will be held May 19-21, 2022 at Turning Stone Conference Center in Verona, NY. Andrea Davis Pinkney is our Knickerbocker Award recipient.

*The SSL Conference for 2023 will be held in Binghamton, NY.

*I would like to thank the entire SSL Board and especially the 2020-2021 Executive Board for all their help and guidance this past year. It's been a pleasure working with them.

Past-President – Tara Thibault-Edmonds

President-Elect – Lisa Perkowski

Vice President of Communications – Heather Turner

Vice President of Conferences – Annarose Foley

Treasurer – Anne Paulson

Secretary – Jessica Regitano

*I look forward to working with the 2021-2022 Executive Board in my role as Past-President.

President – Lisa Perkowski

President-Elect – Madelyn Haussner

Vice President of Communications – Heather Turner

Vice President of Conferences – Annarose Foley

Treasurer – Anne Paulson

Treasurer Intern – Sue Padjen

Secretary – Jessica Regitano

2020.2021 YSS Annual Report:

Submitted by Amanda Schiavulli,

YSS 2019-2021 Pandemic President

Highlights:

- YSS is committed to attendance at NYLA conference and supported hardship scholarships to members.
- Had a fantastic first ever virtual spring conference on Friday, March 26, 2021. The theme was: Futureproof Libraries: Relevance and Resilience in Challenging Times
 - 41 attendees responded to the evaluation. Highlights from the evaluation included:
 - Importance of having conversations around diverse books and programming.
 - To be sure library policies takes diversity into account.
 - Empowering children as leaders.
 - Taking care of yourself needs to be a priority. You can't pour from an empty cup.
 - Spring Conference Past President's Trivia Event
 - To keep everything feeling a bit normal, Past President, Lisa Neuman, hosted a Past President's Bragging Rights Trivia event the night before the Spring Conference. There was plenty of zany to the max (but no bologna in slacks) antics to get everyone laughing!
- After the changes at NYLA HQ, YSS shifted focus to assure YSS was transparent and communicated effectively with our members by.

- Assuring all our announcements, minutes and reports were on our website in a timely manner.
- Advocating for YSS to have representation on committees created during these times.
- Updated the Leadership Manual, which included a job description for a new board position.
- Updated our Reimbursement Policy to reflect the changes to Conference Directors and Curators from 2019.
- When we look for our new slate in 2022, I will be looking to fill the following positions. Please fill out our JotForm if you are interested in being active with YSS: <https://form.jotform.com/625778080159>
 - Treasurer
 - 2024 Spring Conference Director
 - President Elect
 - YSS Representative to Council

Bylaw Change

On October 28, 2021, we hosted a virtual Membership Meeting. This meeting was recorded and will be shared with NYLA staff to be uploaded to the virtual conference platform. The main highlight of this meeting was the approval of our Bylaw change. We will now have 9 voting members of our Executive Board where one will be elected to sit for a 3 year term on NYLA Council. During the transition year of 2021-2022, I will remain on Council as Past President and our incoming President, Jenny Burke, will serve as the liaison to the Section of School Librarians (SSL) board.

Spring 2022 Conference – Save the Date!

- April 8, 2022 at the Rivers Casino and Resort in Schenectady, NY
- Conference theme is “May the Odds be Ever in Your Favor!”
- Author Keynote will be Chris Crutcher.

YSS '22 SPRING CONFERENCE



Outgoing YSS Board Photo: From left to right: Amanda Schiavulli, President; Jenny Burke, 1st VP, President Elect; Lisa Neuman; Past President; Chinasa Seyse, 2nd VP – Membership; Ashley Bressingham, Secretary; Elissa Valente, Treasurer; Chrissie Morrison, 2021 Spring Conference Director; Angela Newman, 2020 Spring Conference Director.



Incoming YSS Board Photo: From left to right: Jenny Burke President; Kim Hazen, 1st VP, President Elect; Amanda Schiavulli; Past President; Mary Jo Smith, 2nd VP – Membership; Ashley Bressingham, Secretary; Elissa Valente, Treasurer; Chrissie Morrison, 2022 Spring Conference Director; Julia Farrar, 2023 Spring Conference Director.

Sustainable Thinking and Action Roundtable

- 2021
 - Elected new officers
 - curated program for in-person conference ultimately dropped due to COVID
 - set plan for 2022
- 2022
 - webinar through NYLA to highlight how libraries can create seed libraries
 - send newsletter to promote resources for sustainability in libraries

Library Accessibility Roundtable

- 2021
 - Cadre of members in place to work on supporting libraries in being more accessible
 -
 - 2 programs at virtual conference to help libraries in engaging and support hard-to-reach populations
- 2022
 - Planning for elections in 2022 and more internal organization
 - Plans for spring webinar through NYLA to highlight the importance of accessibility in libraries and practical info on how to achieve it
 - Build membership

Rural Libraries Round Table

RLRT restarted a newsletter that had been defunct for several years. We appointed a newsletter editor, Vince Sperrazza (who is a member and a trustee of a rural library). Whereas the former newsletter was weekly, we decided to make it quarterly, so as not to overwhelm content contributors and to prevent it from becoming a time burden on members

who read it. We are still looking for a name for the newsletter and are hoping to get member input into a new name soon.

Vince also responded to a call for volunteers I put out at the 2020 annual business meeting for a website editor. He took the NYLA training for website editors and has begun adding menus and content to the site, and providing regular RLRT news content on the site.

We're also excited to have a full slate of candidates for this year's election. We are holding the election at the annual business meeting on November 2nd. Our VP position has been vacant for the past year, so we're thrilled to have recruited an excellent candidate for the position, Keturah Cappadonia, who serves as Outreach Consultant for the Southern Tier Library System.

For the Secretary position, we've recruited Karen Ash, who is the President of the Friends of the Angelica Free Library in Angelica, NY.

Vince Sperrazza will run for one of 3 vacant Member-at-Large positions.

Debby Emerson, who has served as Secretary for the past 2 years, will step into the soon-to-be-vacated Treasurer position, to help keep some continuity on the board. Annie Miller, who was treasurer for 2 years is stepping down. I have agreed to stay on for a 3rd years as President, also to provide for some continuity on the board.

Immediate Past President Rebecca Budinger-Mulhearn and I attended a NYLA meeting of Round Table presidents held this past month. We brainstormed on things that were important for RLRT's future. It was a productive meeting and helped reinspire us to think about what we want to do this coming year to strengthen and reinvigorate the Round Table.

Our Annual Business Meeting is this Tuesday, November 2nd, where will discuss the past and future year, and elect our new Executive Team. We hope to plan a spring conference for 2022, and we also want to get back to work on updating the Round Table's Long Range Plan.

RLRT co-sponsored two programs at the virtual NYLA conference this year, and one at the in-person conference.

The **Continuing Education Committee** faced some chaos this year with the turnover of NYLA staff. The committee was able to help organize three pre-conference workshops for this week, including PLS's Confronting Burnout in Libraries: Fostering Mental Wellness, Boundaries, and Advocacy in the Library Profession, SMART's Podcasting at your Library Nuts & Bolts, and FLS's Financial FAQs for Nonprofits. The committee reviewed and approved webinar proposals, and reached out to conference program proposals that had been marked by conference curators to consider for non-conference webinars.

The **Membership Committee** met 4 times and was able to agree on and make two recommendations to Council. The first was a modest increase in membership fees (something not undertaken in 15 years). The second was to establish requirements for all NYLA Units (Sections and Round Tables) that requires regular meetings, annual reports, and regular communication with section members. We hope to begin meeting again after the Conference with an eye toward future planning for increasing NYLA Membership.

- T. Furgal and R. Clarke wrote and submitted an IMLS Laura Bush 21st Century Librarian Program Applied Research Grant on September 24th, in the amount of \$286,598. As the lead organization for the project, Syracuse University will receive \$207,618 and NYLA will receive \$78,980.
- Per the discussion at the September 16th NYLA Council Meeting, the Pathways Task Force and its deliverables have been postponed indefinitely while T. Furgal and R. Clarke await the results of the grant application. The initial round of applicants will be notified near the beginning of 2022 on their application status; second round applicants will be notified of their acceptance in the summer of 2022 (June/July).
- Should the research grant be rejected, T. Furgal and R. Clarke will resume work on the Pathways Task Force, provided that the project will not cause undue stress or labor on NYLA while the organization works to fill the vacant Executive Director position.
- Should the research grant be accepted, T. Furgal and R. Clarke will begin work starting September 2022 for a 3-year term. The details of the project plan can be found in the IMLS Grant Proposal submitted to NYLA Council for the September 16th meeting. An updated copy of the grant has been provided to NYLA President Beth Merkle for this report.

NYLA GOVERNANCE TASK FORCE
Plan of Action

TASK	RESPONSIBILITY	RESOURCES	DEADLINE
Bylaws			
Do final cleanup of Bylaws after approval by membership, including addition of definitions to Appendix A	Stripling		11/10/21
NYLA attorney conducts in-depth review of organization, clarity, compliance with law and state regulations	Stripling Robert Schofield		3/1/22
Governance TF reviews changes and sends recommended Bylaws to Council for approval at 3/17/22 meeting	TF members		3/10/22
Council approves Bylaws changes and NYLA includes Bylaws as part of the election process	Council NYLA Staff		6/15/22
Policies			
<p>In collaboration with new ED, whole group reviews current policies and identifies gaps/additional policies that should be developed</p> <p>In collaboration with new ED, whole group makes recommendations for the committee or individual to lead the revision process for each policy or handbook</p>	TF members	Code of Conduct Code of Ethics Policies: <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Whistleblower <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Sexual Harassment • Social Media <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • External Communications Handbooks: <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Financial Policies Handbook • Personnel Policies • NYLA Leadership Manual 	2/28/22

8. Adjournment: the meeting was adjourned by unanimous consent at 12:20 pm.