



Meeting of NYLA Council

Thursday, February 3, 2022

1:30 – 4:30 pm

Online via Zoom

NYLA President, Beth Merkle, Presiding

In Attendance: Beth Merkle, President; Arlene Laverde, President-Elect; Barbara Stripling, Immediate Past President; Kelly Harris, Treasurer; Frank McKenna, Treasurer-Elect; Kerstin Cruger, FLS President; Jean Currie, LTAS President; Meg VanPatten, PLS President; Amanda Perrine, LAMS Representative; Dawn Pressimone, SSL President; Amanda Schiavulli, YSS President; Simone Yearwood, Councilor-at-Large; Lisa Kropp, Councilor-at-Large; Laura Osterhout, Councilor-at-Large; Rebecca Budinger-Mulhearn, Councilor-at-Large; Ginger Tebo, Councilor-at-Large; Rosemarie Gatzek, SMART President; Alana Mutum, IDEAS President; Alexandra Mercado, SCLA Representative.

Absent: Cassie Guthrie, ALA Chapter Councilor; Angela Hackstadt, ASLS President; Kristina Graves, Councilor-at-Large.

Guests: Christina Romeo, Brianna McNamee.

1. Welcome / Review of Agenda
 - a. President Beth Merkle called the meeting to order at 1:34 pm. Jean Currie made a motion to approve the agenda. Kelly Harris seconded, and the motion passed unanimously.
2. Approval of Minutes from December 16, 2021, Meeting
 - a. Treasurer-Elect Frank McKenna made a motion to approve the minutes from the December 16, 2021, Council Meeting. Rebecca Budinger-Mulhearn seconded, and the motion passed
3. Treasurer's Report
 - a. Treasurer Kelly Harris reviewed the most financial reports and made a motion to transfer \$100,000.00 from NYLA investment accounts to its operating account to cover payroll, reimbursement requests, and other routine expenses and to retrospectively approve a previous transfer of \$70,000 from investment accounts to operating account to cover the same expenses the week of January 24, 2022. Treasurer-Elect Frank McKenna seconded the motion. Approved unanimously.
4. President's Report
 - a. President Beth Merkle reviewed her written report.
5. Past President's Report
 - a. Immediate Past-President Barbara Stripling reported on the plans of the Nominating Committee and Governance Task Force.
6. President Elect's Report
 - a. President-Elect Arlene Laverde had no report.
7. Legislative Report
 - a. Director of Government Relations & Advocacy Briana McNamee updated Council on the upcoming legislative session.
8. Unfinished Business

a. Meg Van Patten made the following motion:

Whereas a change in leadership of NYLA took place, and,

Whereas the financial institutions at which NYLA conducts its banking activities requires that NYLA designate those individuals who are authorized to sign checks and receive financial statements,

Be it hereby resolved that effective immediately, the following individuals are authorized to be signatories on NYLA banking and investment accounts: AnnaLee Dragon Elizabeth Merkle, Kelly Harris, and Frank McKenna.

Laura Osterhout seconded the motion and it passed unanimously.

9. New Business

a. Endorsement of Emily Drabinski, Candidate for President of the American Library Association. Rebecca Budinger-Mulhearn made the motion to endorse Emily's candidacy. Alana Mutum seconded, and the motion passed unanimously.

b. Resolution recognizing the 30th anniversary of the founding of the Friends of Libraries Section of the New York Library Association. Kerstin Cruger brought forth the following resolution, on behalf of the Executive Board of the Friends of the Library Section of NYLA:

RECOGNIZING the 30th anniversary of the founding of the Friends of Libraries Section of the New York Library Association

WHEREAS, Libraries are the cornerstone of the community, essential to democracy and provide opportunities for all to engage in lifelong learning and connect with others, and

WHEREAS, Friends of the Library groups understand the importance of well-funded libraries and advocate to ensure that libraries get the resources they need to provide a comprehensive array of specialized services for all ages, including access to materials in a wide variety of formats, expert guidance in research, and readers' advisory assistance; and

WHEREAS, Friends of the Library groups provide volunteers and direct financial assistance to enhance library resources for extra programming, special events, equipment, furnishings, and other items outside the scope of the library's annual operating budget, and

WHEREAS, the Library Friends Roundtable was established in October 1992 at the New York Library Association's Annual Conference in Lake Placid to provide a forum for an exchange of information, to promote cooperative efforts among individuals, and be active in community Friends groups, to encourage and assist in the establishment of new Friends groups across New York, and

WHEREAS, the extraordinarily dedicated members of the Friends of Libraries are exceptional examples of how volunteerism can lead to positive civic engagement and the betterment of local communities, now, therefore,

BE IT HEREBY RESOLVED that the Council of the New York Library Association recognize the Friends of Libraries Section for 30 years of persistent effort in fulfilling their mission to create a network to connect and inspire Friends groups in all types of libraries to support the New York library community.

FURTHERMORE, we implore our colleagues throughout the State to observe this anniversary year with appropriate activities and recognitions of their local Friends of the Library organizations, in order to raise awareness and appreciation of volunteer support of libraries.

Dawn Pressimone seconded the motion, and it passed unanimously.

10. Section / Roundtable / ALA / Committee Reports

- a. Council reviewed the written reports submitted by unit leadership.

11. Review / Adjournment

- a. Treasurer Kelly Harris made a motion to adjourn that was seconded by Rosemarie Gatzek. The motion passed unanimously, and the meeting adjourned at 2:38 pm.

Respectfully submitted,
Beth Merkle, President
February 25, 2022