Update to Membership Regarding Meetings/Reimbursements

Libraries cover an incredible amount of this roughly 54,000 square mile state. From Suffolk County on Long Island to the North Country and the far western reaches of Chautauqua-Cattaraugus, our members are everywhere. Alongside lessons learned from the pandemic, NYLA must ensure that our meetings are accessible to all – despite distance. With this in mind, NYLA is making the necessary shift to virtual meetings for our NYLA Council and Committees, with the collective goal to increase participation in Association activities and make them accessible to the broadest membership audience possible.

With this shift, we are also prioritizing NYLA’s financial responsibility to membership. Although we understand the benefits of our members coming together in-person for meetings, it comes at a high cost that impacts NYLA’s budget.

Therefore, reimbursement for in-person meetings will no longer be available through NYLA’s general fund until further notice. NYLA has made this decision with the hope that our membership understands the larger goals behind this shift.

The NYLA office is happy to host in-person meetings for Sections or Roundtables. To utilize NYLA’s space, please contact our Membership Services Coordinator and staff will coordinate a room set up for your NYLA Unit. However, mileage or travel reimbursements will be limited to those offered by the Sections or Roundtables sponsoring the meetings.

For NYLA-sponsored events that do occur in-person, NYLA Staff will arrange, to the best of their ability, for virtual participation should schedule or budget constraints prevent anyone from attending in-person.

We appreciate your support and understanding.

Beth Merkle, President
Arlene LaVerde, President-Elect
Barbara Stripling, Immediate Past-President
Kelly Harris, Treasurer
Frank McKenna, Treasurer-Elect
AnnaLee Dragon, Executive Director