



NYLA Council Meeting Minutes

Wednesday, November 2, 2022

11:00 AM to 2:00 PM

In person and via Web Conference

NYLA President, Beth Merkle Presiding

In Attendance:

- | | |
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| <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Beth Merkle, <i>President</i> | <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Rosemarie Gatzek, <i>SMART President</i> |
| <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Arlene LaVerde, <i>President-Elect</i> | <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Dawn Pressimone, <i>SSL Representative</i> |
| <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Kelly Harris, <i>Treasurer</i> | <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Amanda Schiavulli, <i>YSS Representative</i> |
| <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Frank McKenna, <i>Treasurer-Elect</i> | <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Rebecca Budinger-Mulhearn, <i>Councilor-at-Large</i> |
| <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Angela Hackstadt, <i>ASLS President</i> | <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Kristina Graves, <i>Councilor-at-Large</i> |
| <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Kerstin Cruger, <i>FLS President</i> | <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Lisa Kropp, <i>Councilor-at-Large</i> |
| <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Alana Mutum, <i>IDEAS President</i> | <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Laura Osterhout, <i>Councilor-at-Large</i> |
| <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Amanda Perrine, <i>LAMS Representative</i> | <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Ginger Tebo, <i>Councilor-at-Large</i> |
| <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Jean Currie, <i>LTAS President</i> | <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Simone Yearwood, <i>Councilor-at-Large</i> |
| <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Meg VanPatten, <i>PLS President</i> | <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> AnnaLee Dragon, <i>Executive Director (ex-officio)</i> |

Absent:

Barbara Stripling, *Immediate Past President*

Guests:

Briana McNamee, *NYLA Director of Government Relations & Advocacy*

Joe Burke

Keturah Cappadonia

Julie Delaney

Taina Evans

Michelle Isopo

Erika Jenns

Caitlin Kenney

Joyce Laiosa

Edwin Maxwell

Council Meeting Agenda

1. Welcome / Review of Agenda
NYLA President Beth Merkle called the meeting to order at 11:03am and welcomed the group.
2. Approval of Minutes from September 15, 2022 NYLA Council Meeting

MOTION I: Motion to approve Minutes from September 15, 2022 NYLA Council Meeting.

Made by: Frank McKenna Seconded by: Rosemarie Gatzek

Approved unanimously.

3. Treasurer's Report
 - a. September Financial Statement

NYLA Treasurer Kelly Harris noted the newly formatted Treasurer's Report. There were a few lines of the budget that are showing as overspent but are actually unit expenses that were put in the

incorrect categories and are being fixed. The facilities line is also well overbudget, due to the basement repairs needed last year because of the foundation leaks.

b. Treasurer's Report 2022

NYLA Treasurer Kelly Harris reviewed the report that will be presented at the Annual Business Meeting on Thursday, November 3 at 8am. Harris noted that we had budgeted in 2021-2022 for a \$162,800 deficit, but the final budget was a deficit of \$105,000.

c. Audit Process

NYLA Executive Director AnnaLee Dragon reported on the upcoming audit process for FY 2021-2022 with our new auditing firm BST. BST is in process collecting information and documentation, where Dragon, Susan Van Tassel (from SVT Bookkeeping who is our new bookkeeping firm), and Gilles Lauzon (from Capital CFO who was our bookkeeping firm during the fiscal year being audited) are all uploading items to the online audit dashboard. BST will be at NYLA Headquarters for both the week of November 14-18 and November 28-December 2. We are aiming for audit results sometime in December. Normally the results would be presented at the Council Meeting at Conference, but due to the late change in auditing firms this year, the process was slightly delayed. Council elected to have a full audit for FY2021-2022, as opposed to the financial review performed for FY2020-2021, due to the disruptions and turnover at the association this year.

4. Unfinished Business

a. Confirmation of electronic vote regarding the by-laws revisions

NYLA Executive Director AnnaLee Dragon reported that an electronic vote had been held.

MOTION II: Motion to confirm the electronic vote to approve the updates to the NYLA by-laws, which have been approved by NYLA's Governance Task Force and NYLA's legal counsel, allowing them to be voted on by general membership at our November 2022 Annual Meeting.

18 Councilors voted electronically, all in the affirmative, motion carried.

b. Report on the Results of the Special Councilor-at-Large Vacancy Election

After a very tight race, Rakisha Kearns-White is our newly elected Councilor-at-Large representing public libraries. She will complete the one year left in the term vacated early by Lisa Kropp, who stepped down from this role to become NYLA's President Elect. Many thanks to Ken Miller and Jennifer Brown for running, and we hope they will join us for work on committees and sections.

5. New Business

a. Social Media Policy

The policy language was included in the meeting materials sent to Council one week ago.

MOTION III: Motion to approve the NYLA Social Media Policy as recommended by the NYLA Communications Committee and by C, NYLA's Director of Communications & Member Engagement.

Made by: Kelly Harris Seconded by: Meg Van Patten

Approved unanimously.

b. Section Council Representative Terms

NYLA Executive Director AnnaLee Dragon raised the idea of requiring all NYLA Sections to make their appointments to Council for 3-year terms, with no term limits. Currently Sections each make their own decisions regarding the length of the appointments, which leads to frequent turnover and causes loss of momentum on Council and loss of institutional memory in turn negatively

affecting the functioning of the Association. The Sections would retain control over how they choose this representative, be it appointment or election. This change is solely to require a 3-year term of whoever is chosen as Section representative.

MOTION IV: Motion to approve the NYLA Executive Director's recommendation that Sections are required to appoint their Council Representatives for 3-year terms, through Section by-laws changes by the end of NYLA Conference 2023.

Made by: Dawn Pressimone Seconded by: Amanda Schiavulli

Approved unanimously.

c. NYBLC Resolutions – Donna L. Hubbard and Joan E. Cole

Taina Evans of the NYBLC read resolutions in honor of the lives and work of Donna L. Hubbard and Joan E. Cole. The text of the resolutions was included in the meeting materials sent to Council one week ago. The Council requested that once approved, the resolutions be added to the NYLA website. Amanda Perrine requested that the religious language be excluded from the versions posted to the NYLA website.

MOTION V: Motion to approve the resolutions in honor of Donna L. Hubbard and Joan E. Cole.

Made by: Rebecca Budinger-Mulhearn Seconded by: Amanda Perrine

Approved unanimously.

d. United Against Book Bans – NYLA Signing on as a Partner

UABB is a national initiative to empower readers everywhere to stand together in the fight against censorship. This item was raised by member Sara Dallas, the Executive Director of the Southern Adirondack Library System, who is part of NYLA's Intellectual Freedom Committee and is a member of the ALA Intellectual Freedom Round Table and the Freedom to Read Foundation. Emily Drabinski also reached out to NYLA asking us to become partners in her capacity as ALA President Elect. ALA is looking for organizations to sign on as partners, and several other state chapters have already become partners. Partners to this statement agree to uphold the principles of the campaign, provide their name for the campaign website and materials, promote the campaign to their constituencies, share information of importance with the campaign coordinators and to their constituencies, and participate in occasional convenings of campaign partners. There are no financial obligations involved.

MOTION VI: Motion to approve NYLA signing on as a partner with United Against Book Bans.

Made by: Jean Currie Seconded by: Lisa Kropp

Approved unanimously.

e. Possible Sustainable Libraries Initiative/NYLA MOU

NYLA Executive Director AnnaLee Dragon raised a discussion around the idea of NYLA signing an MOU with the Sustainable Libraries Initiative (SLI), which used to be housed in NYLA but now operates out of the Suffolk Cooperative Library System. The SLI was recently approached by the New Jersey Library Association (NJLA) to sign an MOU whereby the NJLA would give the SLI a booth at their conference, monthly advertising through their eblasts, and a webinar once a year to promote/discuss the SLI. In return, the SLI granted all NJLA members SLI membership and access to behind-the-scenes content and tools on their website, as well as a 20% discount for any member wishing to pursue the Sustainable Library Certification program through SLI. The SLI has offered to sign the same MOU with NYLA if the Council so desires. Dragon will send around the

copy of the NJLA/SLI MOU to the Council for review, and the Council can forward questions to Dragon. We will take a vote on this issue at the December Council meeting.

6. President's Report

Beth Merkle reviewed her activities since the September 15 Council meeting, including work on conference planning and speaking on a panel on Banned Books.

7. President-Elect's Report

Arlene LaVerde reviewed her written report.

8. Past President's Report

NYLA President Beth Merkle reviewed Barbara Stripling's written report.

9. Executive Director's Report

AnnaLee Dragon reviewed her written report.

10. Legislative Report

NYLA Director of Government Relations & Advocacy Briana McNamee reviewed recent activities, budget requests for the upcoming legislative session, legislative priorities for the coming session, and addressed questions.

11. Section/ALA/Committee Reports

Section representatives reviewed their written reports.

12. Review / Adjournment

MOTION VII: Beth Merkle made a motion to adjourn.

Approved unanimously. The meeting was adjourned at 1:44pm.

Next Council Meeting: Thursday, December 15 via Zoom at 3:15pm