



## **NYLA Council Meeting Minutes**

Thursday, August 6, 2020

1:00 PM to 4:30 PM

via Web Conference

NYLA President, Dr. Jennifer Cannell Presiding

**In Attendance:** Dr. Jen Cannell, *President*; Claudia Depkin, *President-Elect*; Michelle Young, *Immediate Past-President*; Ryan Perry, *ASLS President*; Lisa Wemett, *FLS President*; Tim Furgal, *LAMS President*; Jean Currie, *LTA President*; Kelly Yim, *PLS President*; Tara Thibault-Edmonds, *SSL President*; Amanda Schiavulli, *YSS President*; Simone Yearwood, *Councilor-at-Large*; Ana Canino-Fluit, *Councilor-at-Large*; Cassie Guthrie, *ALA Chapter Councilor*; Jeremy Johannesen, *NYLA Executive Director (ex-officio)*

**Absent:** Roger Reyes, *Treasurer*; Grace Riario, *Treasurer-Elect*; Dana Sinclair, *RASS President*; Rosemarie Gatzek, *SMART President*; Stacey Rattner, *Councilor-at-Large*; Stephanie Hartwell-Mandella, *Councilor-at-Large*; Todd Schlitt, *SCLA Representative*; Tom Vitale, *Councilor-at-Large*; Jane Verostek, *Councilor-at-Large*

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

### **Council Meeting Minutes**

1. Welcome / Review of Agenda

NYLA President Jen Cannell welcomed everyone to the call, and the agenda was approved.

2. Approval of Minutes from June 18, 2020 NYLA Council Meeting

**MOTION I:** Motion to approve minutes from the June 18, 2020 Council Meeting with noted corrections.

Made by: Claudia Depkin, Seconded by: Tim Furgal

Approved unanimously.

3. Approval of Minutes from July 23, 2020 NYLA Council Meeting

**MOTION II:** Motion to approve minutes from the July 23, 2020 Council Meeting with noted corrections.

Made by: Jean Currie, Seconded by: Lisa Wemett

Approved unanimously.

4. Finance Report

a. Update on Financial Procedures

NYLA Executive Director Jeremy Johannesen provided an update on the progression of NYLA Financial Procedures. NYLA is transitioning from Sage Accounting to QuickBooks. This transition also includes a completely new chart of accounts to manage NYLA's finances. These changes have resulted in a predicted delay in monthly reporting. Regular reports will resume before the September Council meeting. (No new monthly financial statement was available at the time of the meeting.)

## 5. Unfinished Business

### a. NYLA Anti-Racist Action Plans

Jen Cannell reported on the planning work that has taken place to date, and the intention to develop a framework for task force. Tara Thibault-Edmonds, Kelly Yim, and Claudia Depkin voiced willingness to participate on the task force.

### b. Pathway's to Librarianship Action Plan

Tim Furgal reported on the planning that has taken place to date for the establishment of a Pathway's to Librarianship Task Force. In addition to Tim, Amanda Schiavulli, and Claudia Depkin voiced willingness to participate on the task force.

## 6. New Business

### a. Recommendations from the NYLA Awards Committee for 2020

NYLA Immediate Past President and Chair of the Nominating Committee, Michelle Young, presented on the work of the group.

#### i. Outstanding Service to Libraries

**MOTION III:** Motion to award the 2020 Outstanding Service to Libraries Award to Sandra Michelle Echols.

Made by: Awards Committee, Seconded by: Lisa Wemett

Approved unanimously.

#### ii. Outstanding Advocate for Libraries

**MOTION IV:** Motion to award the 2020 Senator Hugh Farley Outstanding Advocate for Libraries Award to Senator Rachel May.

Made by: Awards Committee, Seconded by: Ryan Perry

Approved unanimously.

#### iii. Bobinski Innovative Public Library Director

Two initial 'short form' nominations for the Bobinski Award were submitted, but neither was completed as a full nomination. A late nomination is being gathered to ensure this award can be made in 2020.

#### iv. Intellectual Freedom Award

A late nomination has been received and will be reviewed concurrently with the Bobinski nomination, with both being brought back to Council at the September 17 meeting.

#### v. Dewey Fellowships (FLS, LAMS, PLS, RASS)

Typically the Dewey Fellowship provides up to \$1000 for registration, travel and lodging expenses for individuals to attend the NYLA Annual Conference. (4 X \$1000 = \$4K) Full registration for the NYLA 2020 Virtual Conference is \$150, or \$600 for four individuals. It was suggested to utilize the \$3400 balance be used to provide up to 23 'hardship scholarships' to the NYLA 2020 Conference.

**MOTION V:** Motion utilize \$3400 for the NYLA Scholarship Fund, previously designated to fund Dewey Fellowships for 2020, to support up to 23 Hardship Scholarship for full virtual conference registration on a first-come first-serve basis.

Made by: Michelle Young, Seconded by: Claudia Depkin

Approved unanimously.

Michelle also pointed out the need for an overhaul of the NYLA Awards process in order to improve participation and cache of the awards.

### b. Executive Director Evaluation Discussion

A non-standard review process was completed, and a conversation between Jen Cannell, Claudia Depkin and Jeremy Johannesen. The 2019 Goals for the Executive Director are being held over for 2020.

## 7. Executive Committee Reports: President; President-Elect; Immediate Past President

The Executive Committee provided updates on their recent activities. Claudia and Jen will be attending as many Section virtual membership meetings as their schedules permit.

8. Executive Director's Report

NYLA Executive Director Jeremy Johannesen reviewed his written report and addressed questions.

9. Legislative Report

NYLA Director of Government Relations & Advocacy Brianna McNamee provided a Legislative update, including:

- The Session continues
- The NYS FY20-21 Budget continues to hang in limbo – systems are anticipating a 20% reduction in funding
- 80% of Basic Aid is being distributed in a primary round, while all other funding lines remain held
- Accommodations to Open Meetings Law for virtual delivery remain in effect through 9/4

10. Section / Roundtable / ALA / Committee Reports

All submitted written report and updates were reviewed.

**MOTION VI:** Motion to adjourn the August 6, 2020 Council meeting at 2:21 PM.

Approved by unanimous consent.