

**Meeting of NYLA Council**

Thursday, December 16, 2021

3:00 – 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; Cassie Guthrie, ALA Chapter Councilor; Angela Hackstadt, ASLS President; 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.

**Absent:** Alana Mutum, IDEAS (formerly RASS) Representative; SCLA Representative [VACANT]

**Guests:** Christina Romeo, Brianna McNamee, Victoria Tobes, Mickey Cherry, Tara Morris, Claudia Depkin, Art Friedman.

1. Welcome / Review of Agenda
   1. President Beth Merkle called the meeting to order at 3:03 pm. Laura Osterhout made a motion to approve the agenda. Jean Currie seconded, and the motion passed unanimously.
2. Approval of Minutes from September 16, 2021, Meeting a. Treasurer Kelly Harris made a motion to approve the minutes from the September 16, 2021, Council Meeting. Meg Van Patten seconded, and the motion passed. Laura Osterhout, Rebecca Budinger-Mulhearn, Rosemarie Gatzek, Amanda Perrine, Angela Hackstadt, and Kerstin Cruger abstained.
3. Approval of Minutes from October 7, 2021, Special Meeting
   1. Jean Currie made a motion to approve the minutes from the October 7, 2021, Special Meeting. Treasurer Kelly Harris seconded, and the motion passed. Laura Osterhout, Rebecca Budinger-Mulhearn, Rosemarie Gatzek, Amanda Perrine, Angela Hackstadt, and Kerstin Cruger abstained.
4. Approval of Minutes from October 13, 2021, Special Meeting
   1. Lisa Kropp made a motion to approve the minutes from the October 13, 2021, Special Meeting with the addition of Ginger Tebo’s last name to the motion on Article V of the Bylaws. Treasurer Kelly Harris seconded, and the motion passed. Laura Osterhout, Rebecca Budinger-Mulhearn, Rosemarie Gatzek, Amanda Perrine, Angela Hackstadt, and Kerstin Cruger abstained.
5. Approval of Minutes from November 3,2021, Meeting
   1. Meg Van Patten made a motion to approve the minutes from the November 3, 2021, Council Meeting. Jean Currie seconded, and the motion passed. Laura Osterhout, Rebecca Budinger-Mulhearn, Rosemarie Gatzek, Amanda Perrine, Angela Hackstadt, and Kerstin Cruger abstained.
6. Approval of Minutes of 2021 Annual Membership Meeting, November 4, 2021
   1. Treasurer Kelly Harris made a motion to approve the minutes from the 2021 Annual Meeting with the correction to the spelling of Sheryl Knab’s last name. Treasurer-Elect Frank McKenna seconded, and the motion passed.
7. Approval of Minutes from November 18, 2021, Special Meeting
   1. Lisa Kropp made a motion to approve the minutes from the November 18, 2021, Special Meeting. Treasurer-Elect Frank McKenna seconded, and the motion passed. Rosemarie Gatzek abstained.
8. Treasurer’s Report
   1. Treasurer Kelly Harris reviewed the August financial statements.
9. President’s Report
   1. President Beth Merkle provided an update on the Executive Director Search, interim staffing and operations, the 2022 Annual Conference, and the Developing Leaders/LAMS book discussion. She informed Council that AnnaLee Dragon resigned from her position as LAMS representative to Council as of December 10, 2021. Amanda Perrine has begun her term early to fill the role on Council.
10. Legislative Report
    1. Director of Government Relations & Advocacy Briana McNamee reported that Library Advocacy Day 2022 (LAD22) will be held virtually on March 2, 2022. The 2021 Advocacy page is still active, and the 2022 subpage is being updated constantly. The Media Literacy package of bills has gotten press coverage from various sources.
11. Executive Session
    1. Ginger Tebo made a motion to enter Executive Session to discuss personnel issues. Rebeca BudingerMulhearn seconded, and the motion passed unanimously. Council entered Executive Session at 3:32 pm.
    2. Jean Currie made a motion to exit Executive Session. Treasurer-Elect Frank McKenna seconded, and the motion passed unanimously. Council exited Executive Session at 4:10 pm.
12. Unfinished Business
    1. Arlene Laverde made a motion to approved NYLA extending the contract with Express Employment Services in Albany, NY, for a temporary administrative office worker for 15 hours a week through March 31, 2022, at which time Council will review extending the contract. Kerstin Curger seconded, and the motion passed unanimously.
    2. Ginger Tebo made a motion to provide each NYLA staff member – Briana McNamee and Christina Romeo – with a bonus of $1,000 in acknowledgement and gratitude of the work performed and the dedication shown the New York Library Association during this time of transition. Treasurer-Elect Frank McKenna seconded, and the motion passed unanimously.
    3. Recommendation from Membership Committee: Unit Requirements: i. Ginger Tebo made a motion to approve the Unit Requirements with the language of section 3 updated as follows: “Membership-wide communication a minimum of two (2) times per year through NYLA-supported channels, such as the NYLA website, online communication system, or NYLA email lists. Additional communication through social media, email lists, and other methods is also encouraged.” Amanda Perrine seconded, and the motion passed unanimously.
    4. Update on Intellectual Freedom issues in New York i. Treasurer-Elect Frank McKenna updated Council on the current trend in the state (and nation) for challenging materials in schools and libraries.
13. New Business
    1. Update to Names on SEFCU Bank Account
       1. Rebecca Budinger-Mulhearn made the following motion, that was seconded by Lisa Kropp, and passed unanimously:

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 accounts: Elizabeth Merkle, Kelly Harris, and Frank McKenna.

* 1. NYLA Committee Reauthorizations
     1. Dawn Pressimone made a motion to reaffirm the charge and accept the appointments to the Awards & Recognition Committee. Meg Van Patten seconded, and the motion passed unanimously. President Beth Merkle abstained.
     2. Rebecca Budinger-Mulhearn made a motion to reaffirm the charge and accept the appointments to the Civil Service Committee. Laura Osterhout seconded, and the motion passed unanimously.
     3. Treasurer-Elect Frank McKenna made a motion to reaffirm the charge and accept the appointments to the Communications Committee. Meg Van Patten seconded, and the motion passed unanimously. Kerstin Cruger abstained.
     4. Jean Currie made a motion to reaffirm the charge and accept the appointments to Conference Curators Committee. Lisa Kropp seconded, and the motion passed unanimously.
     5. Treasurer-Elect Frank McKenna made a motion to reaffirm the charge and accept the appointments to the Continuing Education Committee. Meg Van Patten seconded, and the motion passed unanimously.
     6. Treasurer-Elect Frank McKenna made a motion to reaffirm the charge and accept the appointments to the Intellectual Freedom Committee. Ginger Tebo seconded, and the motion passed unanimously.
     7. Meg Van Patten made a motion to approve the change to the charge and accept the appointments to the Legislative Committee. Jean Currie seconded, and the motion passed unanimously. Cassie Guthrie abstained.
     8. Dawn Pressimone made a motion to reaffirm the charge and accept the appointments to the Membership Committee. Rosemarie Gatzek seconded, and the motion passed unanimously.
     9. Rebecca Budinger-Mulhearn made a motion to reaffirm the charge and accept the appointments to the Nominating Committee. Lisa Kropp seconded, and the motion passed unanimously. Past-President Barbara Stripling, Dawn Pressimone, Amanda Perrine, and Meg Van Patten abstained.
     10. Cassie Guthrie made a motion to approve the change to the charge and accept the appointments to the Sustainability Committee. Kerstin Cruger seconded, and the motion passed unanimously. Lisa Kropp abstained.

1. Review / Adjournment
   1. President Beth Merkle reminded Section representatives to get their committee appointments to her soon.
   2. Jean Currie made a motion to adjourn that was seconded by Treasurer-Elect Frank McKenna. The motion passed unanimously, and the meeting adjourned at 4:50 pm.

Respectfully submitted,

Beth Merkle, President

December 17, 2021