

Sullivan Ulster Public Library Alliance
February 9, 2018 Minutes
Approved March 23, 2018

Attendance:

Mary Paige Lang-Clouse – Monticello
Patty Kennedy – Eldred
Audra Everett – Western Sullivan

Lisa Palmer – Walkill
Kelly Wells - Fallsburg
Grace Riario – RCLS

M. Lang-Clouse called the meeting to order at 9:33am at the E.B. Crawford Public Library.

Speakers:

N/A

Business Meeting:

Approval of Minutes

L. Palmer made a motion to approve the minutes from 1/19/18, with the addition of Fred Stabbart III's name under speakers. A. Everett seconded. All in favor.

Treasurer's Report

K. Wells made a motion to approve the Treasurer's Report prepared 2/8/18. L. Palmer seconded. All in favor.

Consultant's Report:

Grace discussed the importance of Advocating for libraries, especially this year, next year, and the year after with the increasing deficits that NYS will be facing. (\$4 billion deficit this year, \$6 billion deficit next year, and \$8 billion deficit the year after).

Old Business:

NYLA Library Advocacy Day

Wednesday February 28th in Albany. There will be a construction workshop the day before in Albany.

This year Governor Cuomo proposed a cut of \$10 million in library construction aid (about \$422,000 loss for RCLS) and a cut of \$4 million in general library aid (about \$75,000 loss for RCLS).

Grace will be emailing customizable letters to every director with specific legislators names in the letters (look for email sent 2/9/18).

NYLA has online Advocacy tool – taking to Twitter is a way to advocate as well. Orange County just loss their Literacy Volunteers – just further evidence that non-profits are feeling the pinch. There's about \$1.5 million to fight over for the budget.

Project ideas for 2018 Legislative funding/grant

Homebound Delivery

Money for bags/postage/staff to manage. First step – need procedure and policy – detail who is eligible to receive deliveries.

Grace stated she is willing to give SUPLA \$1,000 to get this project moving – needs something written about our intentions for the money as well as receipts for the bags and postage to send (the \$1,000 would be a reimbursement). Could buy ad in newspaper (Democrat) to advertise. Set up policy/procedure to mail library card applications out and receive photo copy of ID with the returned application?

Look into getting list from Board of Elections for disabled in our respective districts.

Focus on mailings first – find out what homebound patron would do if package is too big to go in mailbox.

County Battle of the Books

A. Everett reported that there might be a possibility of a date change. She thought her staff person who attended the latest Battle of the Books meeting said there might be some other conflict with the chosen date.

Sullivan County Democrat ‘Library Corner’ Column

They changed the name of the column to ‘Library Corner’!

M. Lang-Clouse reported that she signed up on the schedule in Google Drive for the April 6th submission date.

Assemblywoman Gunther SRP Grant

\$1,363 per library building. Right now it stands that the money has to be spent by end of June 2018, but Randy can apply in April 2018 for an extension on that deadline. Do NOT spend the money just yet – but start brainstorming ideas for how the money will be spent.

RCLS Legislative Breakfast

Will be September 14th at The Sullivan Event Center in Rock Hill.

Check to make sure County Legislators are given an invitation. Discussion about including Town Supervisors on invitation list – maybe councilmen/women as well?

Grace stressed the importance of making RCLS aware of any supervisors, legislators, etc. that are in attendance so they can be recognized.

Hurleyville Makers Lab

M. Lang Clouse reported that the offerings for RCLS paying were mainly tech offerings. Grace reported this is because they had just received the surveys back. More offerings will be added based on survey results – keep checking the website for updates.

New Business:

Dan Hust – Monthly Newsletter of the Sullivan County Manager’s Office

5 copies per library will be sent each month – for free.

La Voz

Grace mentioned that she has not been receiving the right number of magazines for our subscription – we also have not seen a renewal notice yet. Discussion about having them sent to someplace other than RCLS. M. Lang Clouse will look into this more and let Grace know where our subscription stands.

Voter Registration Opportunities

Next Step, Run! – Downloadable documentary about women running for office. Program was done at Cornwall Library featuring Aileen Gunther as a guest. Monticello interested in doing something similar – discussion about getting two other libraries in our county to commit to doing a program - one weekend, one during day, one in evening. SUPLA put together an outreach proposal for Board of Elections. Cora Edwards and Laurie Benjamin are Board of Election representatives.

Fine Free

Trial will start in May with all children and teen materials. Done through I-types – if interested in participating a separate I-type for children and teen materials will need to be used. Speak to Jerry if interested – he can create the I-type and do batch changes based on Item Location.

Speakers

Discussion about possibilities for future speakers. Karyn Matthews from RSVP, Hudson River Health Care were a couple of suggestions. Think of other ideas and send info to M. Lang Clouse.

Next Meeting:

March 9, 2018 @ 9:30am – EBCPL in Monticello

Note that meetings will now be the 2nd Friday of the month

K. Wells motioned to adjourn the meeting at 11:26pm. L. Palmer seconded. All in favor.