NYC Library Council Meeting #2
Wednesday, December 16, 2015
8:30 to 3:00 p.m.
Brooklyn Public Library Information Commons Lab
10 Grand Army Plaza, Brooklyn

Present: Jennifer Abounader-Ciesla, Caitlyn Colman-McGraw, Margaret Dennehy, Michael Dodes, Leanne Ellis, Damary Gonzalez, Richard Hasenyager, Melissa Jacobs, Jillian Lazaridis, Alison Lehner-Quam, Bernardine Lowery-Crute, Melissa Malanuk, Amy Mikel, Elizabeth Naylor-Gutierrez, Emily Nicholas, Christine Poser, Lynne Kresta Smith, Anna Taylor, Sally Young.

The committees met in the morning and the full Council met in the afternoon.

The Chair, Christine Poser, called the meeting to order and welcomed members.

Minutes of Last Meeting: After a brief discussion and minor corrections to the minutes of the last meeting on October 7, 2015 the document was revised. The motion to accept the amended minutes was made by Bernardine Lowery-Crute and seconded by Margaret Dennehy. It passed unanimously.

Election of Vice Chair: The first item was the unanimous election of Michael Dodes for Vice Chair.

System Supports:
Plan of Service (POS): Ric Hasenyager reported on the Plan of Service, which must be submitted every five (5) years, otherwise NYCSLS would lose all funding. The committee examined the document to make sure that it was relevant and realistic for New York City schools. It will be sent to committee members, and they have until January 15th to make recommendations. Lynne Kresta Smith will coordinate responses and the Council will vote on the document at the February meeting. Ric pointed out that only sections 3 & 4 were relevant, though the Mission Statement needed revision. Furthermore, most goals are for five years, thus it is difficult to analyze and evaluate the statistical data.

Cooperative Collection Development (CCD) Program: Melissa Jacobs reported that because of library staff changes, the CCD program would be reduced from 19 to 15 active schools. Schools that were responsible for a collection were given a subscription to LibGuides and were responsible for maintaining their collection. Of special note were the American Presidency, Christine Poser, curator, (IS 24 Myra S. Barnes) and the Picture Book collection, Margaret Dennehy, curator (St. Aloysius).
**City Wide E-book Collection:** The Office of Library Services has been working on developing an E-book collection. Richard Hasenyager advised that he already has an agreement with 5 publishers, (Gale, Rosen, InfoBase, Capstone-Pebblego and Norwood) to purchase 52 E-books. All publishers offered pricing that was advantageous to Library Services. Marc records are available for download and books were purchased in perpetuity with unlimited usage.

**MyLibraryNYC:** Because of prohibitive shipping charges ($15 per book), MyLibraryNYC will no longer be delivering single books. Instead the book will be sent to the public library nearest to the school for pick up by school staff. Leanne Ellis reported that there was an increase in ordering book sets. This year they were able to work out the glitches in the program and made it more user friendly. Consequently, there was a 200% increase in usage. Amy Mikel reported that the MyLibraryNYC program was very effective. This year there was were 6,000+ Teacher Sets.

**Library Survey:** After reading the survey Richard commented that it was not the job of individual schools but that of superintendents to advise the board how their schools are using the library. This resulted in a discussion on what constitutes a District both for public and parochial schools. Richard advised the committee that he was going to work on it and contact the State Library to determine what information was required. Melissa added that we may need to amend the survey for NYC public schools, so that the directory could be completed in a timely manner. State regulated SLJ have members charter school/NP schools may choose to be a member. Draft of the Directory to be compiled during the period January to March. It needs to be validated by principals and will be available late January and school will be given 4 weeks to complete it. This survey is only for DOE Schools.

**Committee Reports**

**Advocacy:** Committee updated the LibGuide and presented it to all members of the Council.

**Legislative:** See Plan of Service above.

**Recruitment:** Elizabeth Naylor-Gutierrez spoke about the college and career forum she attended, where there was no mention of a career in Librarianship. Sally mentioned a sophisticated online career survey with 50 questions popular with HS students. A career in librarianship was never an option. A question uppermost in everyone’s mind was what is the profile of a librarian? It was suggested that we plant seeds at the beginning. What does a librarian do? How does the UFT consider librarians? It was recommend that we promote librarianship at colleges such as Pratt, Queens College and St. Johns. The committee advised that there will be two information sessions, one in Manhattan on March 16th from 5-7p.m. at 333 Seventh Avenue, the other in Brooklyn, date to be determined.

Richard recommended that other library associated organizations such as NYLA and ALA be included in all discussions to promote all types librarianship and not just elementary and HS schools. We should encourage students to shadow a librarian to see how complex and interesting the job is i.e. data analysis, programming, web creation, collection development, lesson preparation, researching story telling – the list is endless.
Online Supports: Melissa advised that there was a wealth of information on the NYC School Librarian Guidebook web site. Currently the page was cluttered, but over the holidays she hoped to clean it up to make it more accessible. Leanne also mentioned the CUNY Partnership grant that will go through to spring. One of the suggestions was intervisitation between high schools and college campuses. During these visits HS students will see the facilities available e.g. the curriculum, lecture schedule, the library and other resources offered by a college.

Melissa reported on a new grant to attend the 2016 NYLA-SSL Conference at The Desmond Hotel and Conference Center in Albany, NY from May 5-7, 2015. In the past there were very few NY City librarians attending the conference. It was hoped that this grant would increase attendance substantially. It seems that librarians do not take advantage of the professional development opportunities offered by Library Services. There were two remaining sessions: 1) Early Literacy and 2) Professional Learning Opportunities.

Spring Institute: Both the Elementary and Secondary Session will be held at NYPL in May.

- Primary: This year the focus will be on Literacy and the Keynote speaker will be one of the authors featured in the NYC Reads 365 lists. Workshops will be lead by librarians in the field as well as central office staff. It will also feature the NYPL Summer Reading program and an early literacy outreach program aimed at closing the “word gap”.

- Secondary: The highlight of this session will be Keynote speaker Steve Sheinkin, author of The Port Chicago 50 and Most Dangerous which will be distributed at the meeting. There will be a book discussion of Dr. Alfred W. Tatum’s title, Reading for Their Life: (Re) Building the Textual Lineages of African American Males, published in 2009. This book was distributed at the 2015 Annual Fall Conference and resonated with high school librarians.

Members updated the Council on new initiatives and programs.

Of Special Note: The NYPL annual list of 100 notable books for reading and sharing is online and will be available in print form at the end of December. The word is out - NYC Reads 365 is all over social media, and the Summer reading list is in draft form. Every effort will be taken to make sure that books do not appear on both reading lists.

Upcoming events:
January 21, 2016 – METRO's 2016 Conference, Baruch College's Vertical Campus, 14th Floor
May 11 (Elementary), 12 (Secondary) – NYCSLS Spring Institutes, NYPL Celeste Bartos Forum
ALA Annual Conference – June 23-28, 2016 (Orlando, FL)

A motion to end the meeting was made by Bernardine Lowery-Crute. It was seconded by Michael Dodes.