NYCCLS Council Meeting #1 – October 1, 2014, 12 – 3 p.m.
School of the Blessed Sacrament
152 West 70th Street, Library, 5th floor
New York, NY 10023

Minutes

PRESENT: Margaret Dennehy, Michael Dodes, Arlene Dominguez (Chair), Damaray Gonzalez, Donna Gray, Richard Hasenyager, Melissa Jacobs Israel, Jillian Lazaridis, Alison Lehner-Quam, Melissa Malanuk, Elizabeth Naylor-Gutiérrez, Olga Nesi, Tom Nielsen, Christine Poser, Brenda Shufelt, Lynne Kresta Smith, Kathy Tarbell, Andrea Vaughn Johnson, Sally Young

This is the first meeting of the newly restructured NYCCLS Library Council that includes Lead Librarians from all boroughs and newly formed committees as voted upon during last year’s meetings. The Council still needs a UFT representative to replace Christine who retired.

Nominations/Elections
Call for nominations for vacant officers:
- Co-chair
- Secretary (new member Brenda Shufelt graciously agreed to take minutes for this meeting)

No volunteers.

Budget and Annual Report
Ric reviewed the budget and annual report.

- Holdings didn’t go up much in Destiny considering new automations. That may be from weeding.
- 61 PD sessions offered by SLS. Had attendees but less per session than last year. Looking into why.
- Budget will be sent out to group to be approved for our next meeting.
- NYCCLS received two new grants (Melissa, Leanne and Olga were among the grant writers):
  1. IMLS (Project ECS@ESC: Encouraging Connections through STEM at the Environmental Study Center) – this was the only K-12 institution and the largest recipient in NYS at over $499,000. NYCCLS is partnering with the Environmental Studies Center in Brooklyn to negotiate a citywide price for Ebooks with unlimited simultaneous use (about 20 titles specific to STEM) and
  2. USDOE (Libraries Build Learners - $712,474.85 grant) Awards will be made to 10 schools in Brooklyn & 10 in Bronx. The award for schools is:
     a) Collection Development Funds ($8000 per year/Total $16,000)
     b) Two-year subscription to LibGuides
     c) Book Giveaway funds for families ($500 per year/Total $1000)
     d) Subscription to 20 citywide eBooks
     e) Per session for Librarian and one other staff member for four 2-hour Family Literacy Nights per year
     f) Family Literacy Night Supply Funding ($400 per year/Total $800)
     g) Book Club Book Funds: ($100 Year One/$500 Year Two)
     h) Book Club Promotional Materials (Reading passports, postcards, banners, etc.)
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- Upcoming – Project Mindset – developing professional leaders – received additional 1.1 million (?)
- Will be hiring two people for two grants (1 each) 553 (?) libraries w/ 398(?) sites registered w/ mylibrarynyc, program is good leverage point for keeping a librarian or hiring new one.
- New educator cards going out.

Professional Development
- Registration & LibGuide for NYCSLS’s 25th anniversary Library Fall Conference is live.
- Coordinators completed the first round of the new borough PLC meetings. The meetings are for sharing on a local level.
- Newly Assigned Institute – there were two summer cohorts in which we had almost 40 participants. The fall cohort has 31 people registered. All cohorts will meet January at Scholastic for a Novelny database training. Mentors for the newly-assigned library professionals were assigned.
- It was determined that 20% of people who register do not show up so a new policy is being developed regarding no shows.

MyLibraryNYC
This year we anticipate more collection grants and plan to hire another person as a project manager and a Bronx support person for MyLibraryNYC. Postings will be sent out via Metro’s Job Bank, NYLINE, NYCSLIST and on the Syracuse iSchool listserv.

Committees – Lead Librarians must be on a committee. The committees will determine the goals and scope of the work as well as how and when members will meet. Committees are:
- Advocacy & Communications (NYCSLS lead: Olga Nesi; members present: Kathy Tarbell, Christine Poser, Alison Lehner-Quam)
- Grants (NYCSLS lead: Leanne Ellis; members present: Margaret Dennehy, Arlene Dominguez, Brenda Shufelt, Michael Dodes)
- 5 Year Plan of Service (NYCSLS lead: Ric Hasenyager and Lynne Kresta Smith; members present: Melissa Malanuk, Jillian Lazaridis)
- Recruitment (NYCSLS lead: Elizabeth Naylor-Gutiérrez; members present: Tom Nielsen, Damar Gonzalez, Sally Young)
- Instructional Technology (NYCSLS lead: Melissa Jacobs Israel; members present: Donna Gray)

Discussion ensued:
- KT: adding instruction embedded to advocacy committee
- MD: tech should be morphed into instruction – tech committee should focus on major tech initiatives through the DOE
- MJI: tech committee will have to do with instruction. Need clearer vision for work of tech committee
- ON: heading advocacy – not advocating for particular librarians – further discussion of advocacy needed
- RH: CO State has Advocacy for Librarians document
- RH: There is a problem with not enough school librarian candidates to fill jobs. SLS involved w/ hiring, job security, how librarians were being evaluated on Advance. UFT should press for NYLA rubric citywide. Commissioner King ruled on the waiver by NYC for librarians in middle and high school.

Projects of Council Members
Fund for Public Schools (Arlene) – Library REACH and Family Reading Night grants are going out soon. There is a $50,000 Leon Lowenstein classroom collection grant – Books for Fun: Improving Classroom Literacy – due Nov. 15.

METRO (Tom) – METRO’s Annual Conference will be held on Jan. 15th at the Vertical Campus at Baruch College. All schools in NYCSLS are members. There will be four sessions of 30-minute project briefings. Also, emergency preparedness for libraries webinars are on vimeo.com/MetroNYLC (NE Document Conservation, Oct. 20th Risk Assessment for Emergency Preparedness, Nov. 19 Disaster Planning, Dec. 3 Assessing Risk to Digital Assets, & UN event: climate change for librarians

Brooklyn Public Library (Andrea) – Chancellor’s Middle School Initiative – Teen Thursdays, Ready, Set, Kindergarten takes the place of Storytime and has more attendees. Art Exhibit program: Press Here/Mix It Up.

Summer Reading went well: 30,000+, Teen Virtual Investment Club: workshops with financial professionals.

Carmel Hill Fund (Damary) – working this year with PS 8 & 83 on collection development and weeding.

Queens Library (Melissa M) – there’s a new Universal PreK (UPK) program at branch of QPL, programming, strong Summer Reading numbers, big push for early childhood now and a new person has been hired for this

Lehman College CUNY (Alison) – CUNY got a Memorandum of Understanding (MOU) from NYSED for Race To the Top funds through CUNY and the faculty is to work on Common Core, Tri-State Ed and School Curriculum Centers group, Lehman created support materials for new teacher certification exams and other exams

Public MS (Christine) – working on schoolwide production of Seussical, the Musical

Parochial Schools (Margaret) – St. Aloysius is merging genders at school, taking a more Jesuit centered approach than previously

Homework: Think about the committee’s goals and tasks and determine your approach to communication with committee members outside of meetings. Be ready to work at next meeting.

Motion made and seconded to adjourn meeting.

Next Meeting: Tuesday, December 2, 2014 (8:30 – 3:00 pm) at NYCSLS, 333 Seventh Avenue, 12th Floor /Large Conference Room, New York, NY 10001

Respectfully Submitted by Brenda Shufelt.