NYCSLS Library Council Meeting #2
Brooklyn Public Library – Pacific Branch
25 4th Avenue, 2nd Floor
Brooklyn, NY 11217
December 14, 2017 – 10:00-2:00

Meeting was called to order by Chairperson Christine Poser.

Present: Keturah Brathwaite, Shauntee Burns, Carolyn Dellinger, Margaret Dennehy, Michael Dodes, Marta Dospiva Legan, Leanne Ellis, Nickelos Grant, Nate Hill, Melissa Jacobs, Jillian Lazaridis, Alison Lehner-Quam, Deborah Lotito, Bernardine Lowery Crute, Vicki Madden, Karen McAuliffe, Amy Mikel, Daniel Nkansah, Christine Poser, Juan Rivera, Patricia Sarles, Lynne Kresta Smith, Sally Young.

The minutes of the last meeting were approved after a few minor changes were made.

News and Updates

NYCSLS hiring and transitions: A top priority is to fill the coordinator position previously held by Melissa Jacobs. A candidate has been identified and negotiations for transfer have begun. Keturah Brathwaite has been hired as an Associate Educational Analyst and will sit at Tweed. She is sure to bring a wealth of experience and expertise to the position.

Fall Conference: Melissa reported that though NYCSLS had three less staff members, the Fall Conference was a huge success. In addition to over 400 attendees, there were 65 exhibitors and numerous presenters.

Highlights of the Conference were:

- Keynote speaker was Sandra Hughes-Hassell, Ph.D., School of Information and Library Science at the University of North Carolina at Chapel Hill. Dr. Hughes-Hassell spoke on DISRUPTING the Dominant Narrative with Diverse Literature.

- The closing speaker was National Book Award Nominee Rita Williams-Garcia. Her talk was entitled Show Me the Way - Yes, Google Peter Frampton. Ms. Williams-Garcia gave away 500 copies of her most recently published book Clayton Byrd Goes Underground and remained after the Conference to sign copies of the book.

- There were presentations/book signings by nationally renowned authors such as Christina Baker Kline, Kenneth C. Davis, David Barclay Moore, Cory Silverberg, and Andrew Aydin.
• Another noteworthy event was *LGBTQ and You* panel, moderated by Patricia Sarles. This panel included Jared Fox, LGBT Community Liaison, NYC DOE; NYC school librarian Andrea Swenson LGBTQ Studies CCD collection, and authors David Barclay Moore and Cory Silverberg.

**Spring Institutes:** The Spring Institutes will be held at Masonic Hall NYC, located on West 23rd Street on May 23 (Secondary Schools); and May 24 (Elementary Schools). As always, the day will focus on reading. There was a brief discussion on possible authors/story tellers i.e. Judy Freeman, who could inspire our students to read and thus become lifelong learners.

**Members Terms/Elections:** Melissa announced nominations for Vice Chair and Secretary, will take place at our next meeting.

**Other Business:**

**CCD:** There are plans to add two new collections. Committee members were asked to spread the word to any interested applicant. There will be Open House sessions, so Librarians can see the resources available in the various CCD collections.

**METRO:** Melissa advised that NYCSLS continues to be a member of the Metropolitan New York Library Council (METRO). Consequently, under the NYCSLS Organizational METRO Membership, all NYC school librarians are members of METRO. Currently OLS is working with METRO to develop more programming for school librarians.

**2017-2018 Innovation Grant:** Melisa announced that there was a low response to the Innovation Grant for a Mobile Makerspace Kit for elementary and middle school libraries. She asked Council members to encourage School Librarians to complete the short application form. The grant deadline is December 31 and grant winners will be announced in early January. Grant winners are required to attend the training session, which will be held on January 19, at Martin Luther King Jr. Campus.

**NYC Reads 365:** The NYC Reads 2017/18 initiative has been officially launched. However, OLS was not able to distribute the promotional material at the Fall Conference because of shipping delays. Promotional materials will be sent to the schools early in the new year.

**Reading in Action Grant:** Currently, the Reading in Action grant is still in a development state. Its focus will include, social justice, inclusion, Opposing Viewpoints, fake news and cyberbullying.

**Annual Report:** The Annual Report was submitted on time.

**Automation Grant:** A top priority for OLS is to re-evaluate the budget with the intention of helping city schools with any essential technology needs. As a first step, OLS is offering low-
level automation grants for all school libraries that are not automated or need to migrate to Destiny.

**Library Liaisons:** During the morning session Committee members met with the Field Support Center Library Liaisons team. The discussions were very enthusiastic and productive. Committee members were given the opportunity to meet with their respective FSC Liaison Officer. In summary NYCSLS will provide DOE with:

- A list of Professional Learning Opportunities available to all librarians and teachers.
- A detailed menu of services offered by OLS.

**Librarian Directory Survey:** The Librarian Directory Survey for 2017/18 school year has been sent out. The survey includes all NYSED certified teachers-assigned to libraries, as well as MLS/MLIS in Charter and Independent schools. The directory will be updated once a month, and when finalized, it will be posted on [http://nycdoe.libguides.com](http://nycdoe.libguides.com).

**MyLibraryNYC:** Amy Mikel announced that Shauntie Burns has been appointed full time to coordinate the MyLibraryNYC program. The position was held by Amie Wright, who has returned to her home in Canada.

Bernardine made a motion to adjourn the meeting. It was seconded by Alison.

**Future Meetings**
Thursday, February 8, 2018 – (virtual meeting: time to be determined)
Tuesday, April 24, 2018 – 9:00- 3:00 p.m. (Washington Heights office)