



NJLA Annual Business Meeting
May 29, 2020
2:00-3:00pm
via Zoom

MINUTES

Call to Order - Jen Schureman Brenner, President

The President calls the meeting to order at 2:02pm.

Adoption of Rules - Jen Schureman Brenner, President

Leah Wagner moves to accept the Rules Governing the Conduct of the Business Meeting of NJLA. Pham Condello seconds and the motion passes.

Adoption of Agenda - Jen Schureman Brenner, President

Leah Wagner moves to accept the agenda. Susanne Sacchetti seconds and the motion passes.

Minutes - Kate Jagggers, Secretary

Cindy Czesak moves to accept the minutes from the 2019 NJLA Spring Business Meeting (May 30, 2019) as submitted. Janet Marler seconds and the motion passes.

Treasurer's Report -

In Treasurer Judah Hamer's absence, the President and Executive Director provide a report.

- Pat Tumulty presents a budget report, highlighting that some significant income lines remain unrealized, specifically income expected from Conference and workshops
- Pat reports that NJLA has been granted funds from the Payment Protection Plan, under the Federal CARES Act, which can be used towards payroll, rent, and utility expenses. Pat thanks Judah Hamer and Keena Rudolph for all of their work in ensuring NJLA applied for this funding. While the funds are listed as a loan, it is expected that we will qualify for loan forgiveness. This money has not yet been distributed in this budget.
- Jen Brenner reports that NJLA has received a "no strings attached" donation from Ebsco in the amount of \$50,000. Jane Crocker asks if the donor has been acknowledged, and Jeanne Marie Ryan responds that a thank you letter has been written and sent.
- Eric Schwarz requests clarification on the budget lines for Summer Reading and Census.
 - Pat explains that Summer Reading is a long-standing grant from the State Library and NJLA acts as an administrator of those funds and are paid an \$1,500 administration fee.

- NJLA is also given a \$3,000 administrative fee for a grant from the Princeton Area Foundation to plan and execute Census workshops through public libraries, largely focused on support in urban communities. Of course, in the midst of the COVID-19 shut-down, the details of how to proceed with this are being determined (with a November deadline).

President's Report - Jen Schureman Brenner

Jen first acknowledges and thanks the current Executive Board members of NJLA for their work and dedication in supporting our association. She then invites Tonya Garcia, elected NJLA President for the 2019-2020 term, to speak to the membership.

President's Report - Tonya Garcia

- Tonya begins by sharing how honored she was to be asked to run for NJLA President, and then to work with the Board for a limited time. She thanks Jen Brenner for taking on the role of President, and she also shares some about the unexpected cancer diagnosis that prompted her to step-down from her role as President in 2019.
- Tonya thanks Laverne Mann (Public Policy Committee Chair), James Keebler (Professional Development Committee Chair), and John Bonney (former Finance Committee Chair), and acknowledged many successful programs during most of the year, thanks to the support from the Executive Board and all NJLA members.

President's Report (continued) - Jen Schureman Brenner

- Jen reports on the organization of the NJLA Office, which has gone through a series of changes over the past year, including: the promotion of Karen Cerra to Assistant Executive Director; the hiring of Keena Rudolph as NJLA bookkeeper; and the retirement of Pat Tumulty effective October 30, 2020.
- Jen thanks Judah Hamer in his role as Treasurer and in particular for pushing NJLA to secure funding from PPP, Ebsco for their generous donation, and NJLA leadership for everything they've done over the year.
- Jen also thanks those members who are leaving the Board at the end of June, and welcomes those who are joining the Board as of July 1.
- Cindy Czesak acknowledges the traditions that are lost as a result of not having an in-person Conference this year, particularly the formal thank-you of the past President and welcoming of the new President at the Inaugural President's Luncheon (formerly the Leadership Luncheon), and she suggests that we make sure we do something at a future time.
- Many members present at the meeting share comments thanking Pat and wishing her well in her retirement.

Executive Director's Report - Pat Tumulty

- Pat acknowledges the NJLA Honors & Awards Committee and award winners who were celebrated at a virtual ceremony on May 28
- Pat highlights the important work of many within NJLA and highlights:

- Unlock Student Potential with NJASL
- NJLA Professional Development Committee, who has been doing remarkable job, including hosting over 500 virtual attendees at a recent training session centering around the pandemic
- TOPCATS with LibraryLinkNJ and others
- The Public Policy Committee and Laverne Mann's essential advocacy efforts; Pat acknowledges that it will not be an easy budget year coming up, but NJLA was able to forge many positive legislative relationships

ALA Chapter Councilor's Report - Eileen Palmer - [full report](#)

- New ALA Executive Director, Tracie D. Hall, started in late February
- ALA has been reviewing larger reorganization plans for the association
- There will be a virtual ALA Conference in June with reduced registration fees, further reduced for those whose work status has been impacted during the pandemic; there are a number of NJ librarians taking part in ALA's virtual poster sessions this year
- Eileen has created an ALA Forum on Memberclicks for NJLA membership discussion

Reports of Committees & Sections

- **Nominations & Elections** -- Leah Wagner, Chair, announces results of the 2020-21 election. Thank you to all who ran in the election, as well as everyone who voted. Congratulations to the new NJLA Board members.
 - Vice President (President-Elect): Susanne Sacchetti, Cumberland County Library
 - Secretary: Kate Jagers, Highland Park Public Library
 - Treasurer: Samantha McCoy, West Caldwell Public Library
 - Members-at-Large: Laverne Mann, Cherry Hill Public Library
John Wallace, Ocean County College Library
Kerry Weinstein, Fort Lee Public Library
 - Second Vice President: Tonya Garcia (appointed)
 - Past President: Leah Wagner (appointed)
- **College & University Section** -- Cara Berg, CUS President, announces the results of their Section elections (including incoming president Alyssa Valenti)
- **Public Policy Committee** -- Sarah Lester, Vice Chair, thanks Laverne Mann and acknowledges the wonderful relationships that the committee has worked to build this past year

Partnering organizations

- **NJ State Library** -- Mary Chute, State Librarian, [provided a full report](#)
 - Thanks library staff for the amazing work they have done this year, particularly in light of the pandemic
 - Mary's retirement date is December 31, 2020
- **Rutgers LIS** -- Marie Radford, Chair, Library and Information Science program

- While the Fall Semester is likely uncertain, there is a good chance that it will be almost entirely online (graduate and undergraduate programs), but expects that an announcement will be made after July 1 when the new President is onboard
- Rutgers has been a leader in online education for MI program, with 60-70% of students/instruction already online
- This summer, there will be a review of the quality of courses and curriculum
- Planning a social media campaign to highlight work done during the pandemic
- The hiring process in the program is continuing based on decisions made prior to Rutgers' hiring freeze

Unfinished Business

There is no outstanding business to report.

Membership Comments

Jen Schureman Brenner opens the floor to public comment. No comments were made.

Eileen Palmer moves to adjourn at 2:53pm

Respectfully submitted by Kate Jagers, Secretary