

NJLA CSS Meeting

Wednesday, November 7, 2018 at 3PM

Jackson Branch of the Ocean County Library

- Welcome and Call to Order
 - In attendance: Pham, Aaron, Dana, Jen, Sharon, Colleen, Ann
- Approval of Minutes from October
 - Approved by Jen, seconded by Aaron
- Old Business
 - Is Books for Kids continuing? Pham and Sharon to look into this more.
 - Pham now has log in for NJLA website so we can update the CSS page.
 - Pham and Aaron will look into finding out what social media accounts CSS has other than Facebook. Will also try to post more on Facebook – up to member-submitted displays, program ideas, etc.
 - There are still open positions on the CSS board for second vice president and secretary. Pham will check to see with NJLA if it's okay for Jen to do double-duty as both secretary and member-at-large for this year.
 - In addition, need to look forward to the next year's executive board members. Pham will be done with her two-year commitment as will Dana; Aaron will move up to president, and Jen will remain as member-at-large. That means will we need first and second VPs, a secretary, and a second member-at-large.
 - Pham and Jen working on finalizing dates and locations for the remaining meetings for this year. Would like to get more out of meetings – either speakers or “toolbox” style meetings or meetings where members share their favorite/best books, programs, etc. Can use conference ideas for some of these if the proposals don't get accepted. Might also be good to do a “Summer reading to summer learning” type topic where we can share summer reading ideas (programming, summer reading groups/challenges, etc.)
 - For reference, the future summer reading themes are:
 - Space – 2019
 - Fairy tales – 2020
 - Animals – 2021
 - Change - 2022
- New Business:
 - NJLA Annual Conference Update (Aaron Pickett)
 - 2019 NJLA Conference will be held May 29-31, 2019 at Harrah's Conference Center in Atlantic City, NJ. Conference Proposals are due Friday November 30, 2019. The theme for this year is “Engage & Inspire”
 - Pham will reach out to the NJLA executive board and conference planning committee with the CSS suggestion of having 1 full day of the

conference be for YS and another for adults. We hope this would make it easier for staff to attend.

- We should aim to send 10-12 proposals to the conference committee
- CSS proposals (suggested and/or planned):
 - Pham: toxic workplace
 - Nature programs (w/ community partnerships)
 - Ready, Set, Preschool: School Readiness
 - Aaron: Waive Goodbye to Fines
 - Afterschool STEAM
 - Managing afterschool crowds
 - Middle grades programming
 - Programming in small spaces (co-sponsored with Small Libraries section)
 - Programming on a shoestring (however, this was done 2 years ago so may be too recent to re-visit)
 - Children with disabilities (under-reached/under-served communities)
 - Readers' advisory for YS (Pham will out to Ellen and Liz about conducting this one; Sharon available also)
 - First time children's librarian or considering YS specialization (co-sponsor with YA)
 - Collection development, including how to deal with vendors and weeding best practices
 - Digital services/databases – are these worth the money, especially for children?
 - Outreach
- Aaron has additional suggestions from the YS forum; also, he will reach out to conference organizers to see what feedback there was from last year's attendees.
- We should also consider preconference ideas, a meetup type event such as a mixer, and a lunch. There will also be the Garden State Book Awards lunch, which will be hosted by YA this year.
- NJLA Honors & Awards Committee
 - The NJLA Honors & Awards Committee will open nominations beginning November 30
 - Pham would love to see more children's librarians here so please nominate your colleagues. If you don't feel comfortable submitting yourself, you can send nominations to Pham and she will submit.
- Children's Toolbox
 - One being set up to be hosted in Cape May (for southern CSS members)
 - Another being set up to be hosted in Warren (for northern CSS

- members)
 - All members are welcome at either, but we are trying to make in-person meetings more accessible for all.
- Reports from subcommittees
 - Library Link NJ (Sophie Brookover)
 - Townhall meeting also on 11/7 and they can provide more updates after.
 - They ask everyone to talk up your experiences with LibrayLink for advocacy purposes.
 - State Library (Sharon Rawlins)
 - Updates on YS Forum (see below)
 - Supercharged Storytimes trainings will be available online
 - Garden State Children’s Book Awards (Robin Rockman)
 - Please encourage your patrons to vote!
 - If you have a display for GSCBA, send it to Robin so it can be posted on the committee’s social media.
 - Per Pham, CSS approves of upping the number of GSCBA committee members and changing the policy so that online voting can be counted the same as paper ballots.
 - CSS will ask to have one meeting on the 2019 roster be a joint one with GSCBA.
 - Public Policy (Jen Fitzgerald)
 - The PP committee adopted three main legislative priorities for the year: per capita state aid; school library initiatives (school librarian ratio & info lit bills); and library network (has been flat funded for years).
 - The PP Forum will be held on 12/10 at Monroe Township Public Library. Registration is now open: <https://njla.org/content/public-policy-forum-1>
 - PP will hold Advocacy Month in April in conjunction with National Library Week 4/8-4/14.
 - Executive Board (Jen Fitzgerald)
 - Please complete survey from Strategic Plan Task Force. Emailed to listserv last week and posted on NJLA website. Survey responses are due 11/16.
 - The Scholarship committee is looking for new members; they meet only 3 times a year. Contact Mimi Hui if interested.
 - The following task forces were reauthorized: Core Values, School Libraries, Strategic Planning, Office Operations, Future of the NJLA Conference. The following task forces were NOT reauthorized: Collaboration, Library Achievement, Technology.
 - The Nominations Committee will run a special election for Exec Board member-at-large position (to finish out the remainder of the unexpired term ending in June 2019. The announcement will be made December 11.
 - YS Forum (Sharon Rawlins)
 - 125+ participants; feedback was largely positive

- Suggestion for next year: maybe not have a keynote speaker but have additional sessions instead.
- Performer's Showcase (Jess Bauer)
 - Positive feedback from event, 55+ librarians in attendance
 - Suggestions for future Performer's Showcase events:
 - Combine with YS Forum to make a full-day event?
 - Add more teen program presenters to the roster to make a full-day event?
- Important dates
 - Diversity & Outreach: Do-It Conference - November 8, 2018 Raritan Valley Community College, Conference Center
 - LMX Unconference- December 7, 2018 East Brunswick Public Library 9:30-1
 - Free and open to everyone (must RSVP); bagels available; optional holiday cookie swap; free giveaways; variety of topics will be addressed (outreach, policy, etc.)
 - Family Math Learning Grant
 - seeking letters of intent due 11/16, with selected organizations being invited to RFP by first week of January 2019.
- Adjournment
- Next meeting: Wednesday, December 5 at 3:00. This will be a virtual meeting. Link will be sent out in the future.