

Diversity and Outreach Meeting Minutes

Meeting Date/Time: 1/25/2024 at 11:00 a.m.

Members present: Sharon Owens, Allan Kleinman, Lorraine Ruiz, Ashley Mitchell, Tanya Finney-Estrada, Laura Giacobbe, Jen Sulligan, Noah Anderson, Deborah Blackwell, Yesenia Lopez, Stephanie Sendaula, Alan, Danielle Pitter

October minutes are approved. Motion to approve – Ashley. Second – Tanya.

Discussion of news and updates in D & O

1. December joint meeting event with Hip Hop speaker Ralph McDaniels celebrated as a successful event.
2. Laura advises of the free event open at [Monmouth University MLK's](#) distinguished speaker series featuring Dr. Anneliese Singh, author of *The Racial Healing Handbook* and *The Queer and Trans Resilience Workbook*, 1/31/24.
3. Tanya advises that updates to conference proposals should be in next week.
4. Sharon advises that the annual D & O conference will be postponed to November 2024. She will have a shared document available for sign-ups for conference assistance, proposals, etc.
5. Tanya shares that they are working on PSAs for recruitment of male librarians of color and spoke to Trevor Dawes of the University of Delaware for input. Consideration is given not only to recruitment, but to support and retention.
6. Allan K. discusses bookmobiles and guidance on getting started.
7. Noah talks about scheduling D & O meetings potentially on different dates/times to gain more participation and discusses outreach.
8. Laura discusses statewide book banning attempts. Sharon includes book bans occurring in Newark Public Schools. <https://protect-us.mimecast.com/s/fHGrC73qv7sZpXwNc8AWyo?domain=locallyraisedsussexcounty.com>

Upcoming BHM events

1. Members of the committee discuss local events held at their libraries for Black History Month including partner events with local food banks, local artists and wellness events, and drum circles.

Next meeting to take place, February 29, 2024, at 11:00 a.m.

Meeting called to close at 12:00 p.m.

Minutes taken by Laura Giacobbe.