NJLA Diversity & Outreach Section Meeting

July 27, 2023

11:00am

Meeting Held on Zoom

Meeting start time: 11:05am

Attendees:

Rachel Talbert - Parsippany Library

Sharon Owens - Newark Public Library

Carina Gonzalez - Piscataway Library

Joy Robinson - Piscataway Library

Christina Campbell - Cumberland County Library

Danielle Pitter

Jennifer Haise - Plainfield LIbrary

Laura Giacobbe

Liz Kelly - State Library Talking Book and Braille Center

Lorraine Ruiz - Kenilworth Library

Michelle Yeager - Cherry Hill Library

Jeff Cupo - Elizabeth Library

Ashley Mitchell

Yesenia Lopez

First Meeting of the 2023-2024 NJLA Year

Member Updates:

* EDI Initiative and Meeting Updates:
	+ Statewide EDI coalition
	+ restructuring how the group is functioning used to be different subcommittees; now they are working on specific projects
		- EDI professional development
		- DEI toolkit for directors/administrators
	+ Next EDI meeting August 10 11:00am
		- Creating a roster for projects
* Talking Book and Braille Center - TBBC
	+ Promotional videos
		- <https://www.youtube.com/playlist?app=desktop&list=PLfajGieVHxO3VvacmCx4-GzFgP6crqcS9>

Projects for 2023-2024

* Add to the PSA for LWOC and continue to collaborate with LWOC
* Recruiting and collaborating for grant through NJLA
	+ LWOC meeting at NJLA Mr. Smith, Librarian from East Orange PL mentioned there was a need for more Black male librarians.
	+ Modeling PLA - IAI inclusive inclusive internships for recruiting Black males - invest in early ages for careers in libraries
		- Scholarship Endowment
	+ Sections can apply for funding and collaborate to create initiatives - not a lot
* Malawi Project –
	+ [Urban Promise Learning Network (1).pdf](https://drive.google.com/open?id=1TxESLU-BfUsIJt05wy7R2OlaYJuLZHWU)
	+ Benefit the citizens of Malawi
	+ Build a library and mentoring librarians in Malawi
	+ Review and decide if we will share and promote to NJLA membership - let Sharon know by COB on Monday, August 7.
* Findhelp.org
	+ Zoom meeting to find out more about the services- Laura Giacobbe volunteered to attend
	+ Free services - social services

June Minutes approved

Literacy Enhancement - more Diversity – Miss New Jersey

* Inclusive literacy for diversity and early literacy
* Youth Literacy Initiative across the nation
* Joint Meeting/ Project with CSS & YASS?

Summer Programing:

* Laura mentioned that she had attended a session on racism -a 15 year old had spoken about her experiences – Cumberland County offers programs in Mental Health for BIPOC teens
	+ “Hear their voices” platform to share their experiences
* Recruiting TAB members for jobs in libraries
	+ Get teens interested in library work
* Will look into collaborating with the YASS section.

Other Comments/ Announcements:

Next meeting: Thursday, August 24, 2023 at 11am. Via Zoom

End of meeting: 11:39 am