

Meeting Minutes
NJLA Intellectual Freedom Subcommittee
Friday, May 10, 2023

1. Welcome

- a. in attendance: Judith Pissano (chair), Carol Phillips, Jen Fitzgerald, Chip McAuley, Richard Kearney, Kiana Kirby

2. Old Business

- a. Last meeting with Judith as chair. New assignments come out in June or July. No June meeting unless the new chair schedules one.
- b. Approve April meeting minutes
 - i. approved by Carol
- c. Honors & Awards
 - i. teachers (husband/wife duo) thrilled to be nominated and will be at the conference
- d. NJLA Conference update
 - i. Book Challenge Toolkit session: lawyer participating in panel discussion; what to do before, during, and after a book challenge
 - ii. Judith requested a table but didn't hear back, not sure where exactly it will be. If you are going to the conference, it would be great if you could sit there for some of the time. Judith wants to have tips & tools there and the meeting room template once finalized.
- e. Meeting room policy template
 - i. Leah and Carol have recommendations for some changes.

- ii. Judith will make the changes and then will share out. Everyone should then respond yea or nay.

f. ALA One Click Politics

- i. partnership with EveryLibrary nixed; NJLA would rather use them as a consultant. NJASL and LibraryLink are still interested in a statewide coalition and are looking to use ALA One Click Politics instead. It's more complicated than originally thought so continuing to look into this. Still want to have a one-stop shop for NJ.

3. New Business

a. Amistad Commission

- i. looking to share information and collaborate with them about book challenges. Conversations going on but still in the early stages.

4. In the news

a. Roxbury High School

- i. Librarian singled out/harassed by parents over specific titles; lawsuit is pending.
- ii. Judith reached out to see if the librarian wants support; no response yet.

b. Ocean County Library

- i. art display: artist was asked to take down a piece by Ocean County Library manager as it didn't meet their guideline for all ages; artist feels it is censorship. Artist reached out to Judith, Brett (NJLA), and ALA. Will see how this plays out.