

NJLA Professional Development Committee

Minutes: February 17, 2021 ~ 2 p.m.

Zoom meeting, called to order at 2 p.m.

Attendance: Selwa Shamy (Montclair Public Library), Amanda Piekart (Berkeley College), Theresa Agostinelli (LibraryLinkNJ, Brookdale Community College), Eric Schwarz (Englewood, Union City, and Clarence Dillan Public Libraries), Jen Brenner (Cumberland County Library), Jennifer Larsen (Sayreville Library)

1. Welcome & Introductions

2. Minutes from January 20, 2021, meeting

- a. Will send them out and approve at the next meeting

3. Professional Development Newsletter (April 1, i.e., the end of May)

- a. Feature - Arlen Kimmelman is a Google certified trainer, she will write an article about how she got her certification. She is a school media librarian
- b. Cynthia Lambert said she is still willing to write a feature article
- c. Mind, Body, Spirit - Selwa Shamy
- d. NJLA Spotlight - C. L. Quillen is head of the Small Library section and the Readers Advisory roundtable, she will choose what to write about
- e. How I Got Here - Jade Mapp is a literacy specialist and will write an article
- f. Resources Toolkit - Hillary Westgate put together the resources page for the Turning Tinted Pages virtual keynote and it will be included here
- g. Community Partner - need an article, related to career help. Eric will reach out to Heldrich Center for Workforce Development
- h. NJLA Officer - need an article, Jen suggested asking Samantha McCoy since she is the treasurer
- i. Inspiration Corner - Ally from Newark Public Library, creative virtual storytimes
- j. PROMOTION - the newsletter used to get mailed to all NJLA members through Mail Chimp but the account was changed. The 2020 budget had to be trimmed so Mail Chimp was dropped. Now Mail Chimp is paid for by NJLTA (trustees association) and that limits use by NJLA to only send information to NJLTA. Access to MemberClicks is wonky, Karen in the NJLA office can send messages to all members. MemberClicks isn't working properly in all areas, the listservs have issues. Juliet, the new executive director, can revisit subscribing to Mail Chimp again if it will be used. Jen said the Finance Committee can review the cost of Mail Chimp and determine if a subscription can be reinstated. The extent that MemberClicks can be used to create a newsletter will be examined.

4. Virtual Keynotes (Theresa)

- a. Friday, February 5, 10-11:30 a.m., "Turning Tinted Pages: A Conversation and Celebration of Black Librarians and Library Workers." - The panelists were very good and had important things to say. Keisha did a presentation on the history of Black librarianship which set the stage for the panel discussion. The session was

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emotional at times. The breakout rooms at the end made the program run long but quite a few participants participated.

- b. Ideas for future keynotes:
 - i. Leadership models that promote inclusion
 - ii. Similar program on LatinX and Asian library staff
 - iii. Someone suggested doing this program as a pre-conference

5. NJLA Conference Proposals

- a. Conference to be held June 3-4.
- b. Stuck in the Middle with You: Leading from the Middle (sponsorship)
 - i. Need other sections and committees to co-sponsor. Ask Administration & Management section, MentorNJ
- c. Podcasting co-sponsoring with Readers Advisory
- d. Double session: Recruitment, Retention & Advancement, co-sponsoring with Diversity & Outreach section

6. Upcoming Learning Opportunities

- a. *Emerging Leaders program*. This is currently happening, this month's session is networking and career paths for development. There are close to 25-30 participants.

7. Updates from other NJLA committees/sections/roundtables/board

- a. NJLA Executive Board meeting (Feb. 16)
- b. Conference Committee
- c. All NJLA meetings listed on the [calendar](#).

8. Good of the order

- a. Ellen Ryan from the Children's Services Section had asked for funds for a speaker. The PD committee no longer has a budget to support speakers for training purposes.
- b. Perhaps corporate sponsorships can underwrite future training opportunities in-person. Selwa will bring this up to the executive board.

9. Future Meeting Dates

- a. Third Wednesday of the month at 2 p.m.: March 17, April 21, May 19, June 16. The Zoom login will remain the same for these meetings as this meeting.