NJLA Executive Board Meeting

September 5th, 2014

Westergard Library, Piscataway Public Library

In Attendance:

Erica Solomon, President, Piscataway Public Library

Katie Bojanek, Vice President, North Plainfield Library

Megan England, Secretary, Atlantic City Free Public Library

Rosy Henderson, Member At Large, New Brunswick Free Public Library

Michelle Yeager, Member At Large, Cherry Hill Public Library

**Youth Services Forum – October 1st**

* Table to promote the section and GSTBA, try to recruit readers
* Promote 2014 Teen Librarian Toolbox

**Toolbox for new YA librarians**

* An event (every other year) for new teen librarians in NJ
* 2012 event
  + Presenters talked about specific topics relevant to new librarians
  + Attendees brought money for pizza
  + Unconference after lunch to share ideas and concerns
  + Held at South Brunswick
  + Librarians brought flyers as examples of programs they’ve done
  + CSS did something about book ordering – collection development and ordering is a big thing that none of us knew going in, weeding
  + Keeping statistics
  + “Things I Didn’t Learn in Library School”
  + Put on during winter
* 2014 event
  + At first meeting, Rosie will talk about the previous event
  + We will ask for volunteers to help plan and present
  + Two locations during our two new meeting dates: North and South
  + Add tween topics?

**Multiple YA Section Meeting Locations**

* CSS moves their meetings around the state
* CSS includes professional development to lure people to their meetings
* When we send out promotional e-mails, we need to actually tell people what we do at our meetings. Professional development, unconference, etc.
* Separating YA Section and GSTBA a bit more – sounds like a good idea!
  + Keep YA Section meetings and GSTBA on the same day, but have a much more clear separation – a short lunch break with a group ordered lunch (or bring lunch).
* Add virtual meeting element, using adobe connect
* Can we change our declared mission on the NJLA website to sound less like the GSTBA is our one and only purpose in life?
* Hawthorne, Cherry Hill as possible meeting locations
* We could add a date to our calendar for a trial run at a new location so we can avoid losing meeting time if new locations don’t work out.
* Possible date: December 12th (Cookies and Cocoa?!)
* Everyone in the section needs to commit to word of mouth recruitment for new meetings!
* Open Forum at the end of each meeting: either structured (submit questions ahead of time or put in a box) or unstructured like we’ve done before
* Why *don’t* we meet more often like CSS does?
* Perhaps another joint meeting with CSS? (Yes – May 15th)

**New Website!**

* <http://njlamembers.org/yasection>
* Take picture for front page at first meeting

**GSTBA**

* Annotations:
  + Annotations were submitted REALLY late last year
  + Can we use the annotations from our library catalogs or worldcat?
  + The annotations aren’t on the ballot, only on the wiki – can we just link the titles to a website with blurbs, like the publisher’s website for the book? Gauge how much the annotations are being used by the membership.
  + Possible new annotated list: title, author, age range, genre, cover, and a link to the publisher’s site or worldcat.
  + Discuss this possibility with membership at September meeting.
* Deliberations:
  + Last year was much smoother.
  + After one round of voting, move all books above a certain percentage onto the list. This helped save time last year.
  + In the future, we might be able to combine Fiction 6-8 and Nonfiction into one meeting to save time.
  + Other options for voting: Print covers, put them on the wall, and have everyone put a post it on the books they vote for. We can also do this with the physical books. Adds a fun hands-on element.
  + Exec board will be responsible for bringing physical books to meetings to make sure we have one copy of each. Less hectic.
* Pamphlets
  + There are WAY too many printed every year. How can we deal with this?
    - Design a flyer promoting the online ballot
    - Provide a PDF so people can print their own at the library
    - Needs to be MUCH more obvious that the voting is for teens. New branding: Teen Choice Awards, Teen Picks, Teens Vote, etc.

**NJLA Conference**

* Our table was sad last year. We need a trifold, flyers, crafts, fun things! Hopefully we’ll be in a brighter space this year.
* Exec board should have one meeting totally devoted to prep for conference where we can divide and conquer.

**E-mail to Section Pre-Meeting**

* New website (in beta)
* If you’ve never been to a meeting, this is the one to come to!
* FAQ about the section
* Needs to be *advertisement*, not just an announcement

**September Meeting Ideas**

* GSTBA reader signups - announce at end that it will be done via google form, quick blurb about what it means to be a reader
* Rebranding the section – providing broader services to NJ teen librarians, networking, professional development, more than just the Awards

**September Meeting Agenda:**

* What *is* the YA Section
* Introductions
* Live tweet the meetings!
* Sharon’s State Library Announcements will be via e-mail
* Youth Services Forum/What the state library does
* Sophie about LibraryLinkNJ
* Share Summer Reading Successes and Failures
* Expanding the YA Services Section
  + New meeting dates in new locations, plus Teen Librarian Toolbox
    - December 12th – Cherry Hill
    - February 20th – Up north somewhere
  + Toolbox volunteers
  + Ask for north location
* GSTBA intro, more coming via e-mail
* GSTBA will be separated at meetings – after lunch break, bring $ for pizza
* Exec. Board will meet afterwards

**CSS and YA Joint Meeting Plans**

* Conference proposals
* GSTBA and GSCBA
* Open Forum about collaboration