**Meeting Minutes  
NJLA Diversity & Outreach Section**

**April 1, 2014**

**Paterson Free Public Library/Adobe Connect**

**Attendance**: Enola Romano (Montclair), Andrew Luck (Paterson), Mimi Lee (NJSL), Jill D’Amico (East Brunswick), Jen Schureman (GCLS)\*, Jennifer Salt (Middletown)\*, Adele Puccio (Bloomfield)\*, Kate Baker (Piscataway)\*, Karla Ivarson (Ocean County)\*, Melissa A. Hofmann (Rider)\*, Allan Kleiman (Montville)\*, Misun Lyu (LibraryLinkNJ)\*. Kate Vasilik (Piscataway\*) moderated Adobe Connect.

*\* attended via Adobe Connect*

**Meeting was called to order at 10:27 a.m.**

After brief introductions and a hello to our colleagues attending via Adobe Connect, minutes from the 2/24/14 meeting were approved.

**By-laws & Diversity and Outreach Strategic Plan 2014 – 2016**

Mi-Sun put both documents on Google drive. The executive board ***(ed note: I wasn’t clear if we were putting it out to the wider membership or not)*** is invited to edit and adjust them by April 22, and to be discussed at the next meeting. A mission statement is to be developed at the next meeting, and will be on the agenda.

**Web presence**

NJLA is looking for a representative to take Drupal training to learn how to work with the new platform that will replace the wikis for the section - Mi-Sun volunteered for this.

**NJLA Conference Update**

Allen is working to coordinate our efforts at the conference and will be reaching out to those involved.

An updated speaker list for the preconference was posted on the NJLA site. YA came on as a co-sponsor. A preconference publicity website that would encourage registration, especially among out of state attendees, was discussed. Andy moved to approve the creation of this website, and it was approved.

Allen is working with the Willingboro library for their presentation on serving African communities, as well as with the CSS on Diversity You Can Do. Mimi is presenting at Serving Asian Communities.

We discussed careful promotion so as to not inundate NJLA members and the wider NJ librarian community.

A suggestion was made to propose D&O programs for the youth services forum, set for October 1. This will be on the agenda for the next meeting.

**Report from PLA**

Nola reported on her experience at PLA in March. She said it was excellent and inspirational - the opening session in particular. She saw many potential speakers for future D&O programming, and it made her think ahead to NJLA 2015. [Conference programs and handouts can be found here: <http://www.placonference.org/programs/>]

We want to keep up with ALA’s ethnic caucuses, to see if they will be meeting in the near future. There are connections to be made there as well.

**Elections**  
Karen Klapperstuck the Chair, Nominations & Elections Subcommittee contacted Allan & Nola about elections - it was recommended that we proceed with an uncontested ballot format if we are not ready to do nominations and elections. Those present agreed, and we will proceed with the current executive board.

We will prepare for elections next year.

The co-chairs met recently to determine their roles and responsibilities. Move forward, Allan will be focusing on the NJLA conference and increasing visibility of the section. Nola will be handling correspondence, overseeing the By-Laws & Strategic Plan, and the Book Award ‘Taskforce’

**Book Award Taskforce**   
There was discussion ahead of forming this task force - how are awards funded, how do other sections organize them, what criteria will be used, and how is voting handled.

Kate Baker, Jennifer Salt and Jen Schureman volunteered to work with Nola on the task force. They are looking for additional members, who can reach out to Nola if interested.

**State Library Report**

Mimi reported that the state library is coordinating training events and holding summer reading information sessions. There are numerous grant awards open, including for early literacy and multicultural programming.

They are waiting to hear on grants for the State Library from IMLS that will focus on intergenerational technology, and a Department of Labor grant for adult literacy which would allow people to get their HS diploma online through a Gale product.

**Meeting Structure**

Moving forward (post-NJLA), Nola and Allan propose that we limit board business to the first hour of the meeting and bring in speakers or have some activity for the second hour -with will ideally increase attendance. Ideas for a joint meeting with other sections (ULS) were also discussed. We are looking for ideas for speakers. It was suggested that we pull ideas from the strategic plan when it comes to speakers. Also, meetings will move to the second Thursday of each month beginning in July (Dates through 2014: July 10, Aug. 14, Sept. 11, Oct. 9, Nov. 13, Dec. 11). Possible locations include Burlington County, Bloomfield, Montville and Gloucester, as well as PFPL and EBPL. One suggestion that was widely encouraged was to meet at a library with bookmobile service.

**Good of the Order**

USCIS presentation for librarians at Piscataway on May 6.

A link for a Digital Publishing & LGBT Romance is available through Nola – please email her if interested – enola.romano@bccls.org

The Urban Librarians Unite Conference is being held in Brooklyn on April 11 - Jill and Andy will be promoting D&O NJLA programs.

**Next Meeting**

The next meeting will be on Thursday, April 24, 2014 at Piscataway Public Library (500 Hoes Lane Piscataway, NJ 08854) and will be hosted by Kate Baker, Special Populations Librarian. Adobe connect will be used again!

**Meeting was adjourned at 11:55 a.m.**

*Respectfully submitted by Jill D’Amico, 4/17/14*