

READS

REFERENCE AND ADULT SERVICES SECTION

READS Executive Board
Local Government Center

Meeting Minutes
Friday, January 22, 2016

Present: Ann Hooey, Mathew Bose, Rebecca Crockett, Emily Weiss, Kersten Matera, Diane Mayr, Nancy Miner Smith

Absent: Caitlin Stevens, Corinne Chronopoulos, Kate Thomas

Call to Order: Rebecca Crockett called the meeting to order at 10:02

Approval of Minutes: With a minor adjustment to the minutes from 11/20/15, (e.g. adding Kate Thomas to the absent list) Mat MOVED to accept minutes, Rebecca seconded, and the MOTION passed.

Treasurer's Report: We talked about not having spent anything for the Fall conference last year. Mat will get back to Kate as to what the budget is going to be for the Fall 2016 conference – Ann Hooey talked about how much the facility costs for the Robert Frost Hall at SNHU. It was pointed out that parking is an issue if we are thinking about having a conference while school is in session. Hooksett has hosted this in the past – and Mat can look into that. We talked about the costs being prohibitive at \$45 per attendee. Rebecca reported that the committee was considering holding it in early September to distance it from the NELA conference. (There is also a YALS conference scheduled in September (9/22).)

EXECUTIVE BOARD REPORTS

President's Report: Rebecca did some research into the virtual meetings. Skype would allow us up to 10 attendees with video. We are going to try Skype for our next meeting (March 18). Rebecca is going to pick a date for a pre-meeting meeting, i.e. a dry-run meeting to see how things go using Skype. Participants will need a webcam and a working mic. An ipad/tablet can work too.

The website is up-to-date. Rebecca is still looking at updating the READS Handbook. She's going to do that before the next meeting.

NHLA news: There will be no Spring 2016 conference, but they are starting to prepare for the Fall 2017 Conference. Nancy volunteered to take part in the planning for the Fall Conference. Also in NHLA news: NHLA voted to sign a contract with a lobbyist to monitor legislature pertaining to libraries and advocate for libraries in the state government. The lobbyist keeps an eye on what's going on in the state government and advises on when to act/if we need to act.

Vice President: Picking up the discussion that not all of the NH librarians know there is a community for adult services, Nancy is happy to do some work on branding. We talked about our mission statement

and the typo in our mission statement online. (Kersten will fix that.) Nancy would like to get our objective out there. What logo do we have? There is a logo with a book on it that Nancy found – maybe this was something that Lori had been working on when she was chair of the Publicity Committee? We talked about getting a new logo and reflecting the mission statement in the logo. There was the suggestion that NH librarians could give us some ideas for a logo and we could get it made. Do we need to talk to the NHLA Board because NHLA is the parent and we are the section? Rebecca will reach out to Jenn Hosking and inquire. Maybe we could have a prize for the logo competition? Amazon gift card?

We talked about the acronym which lacks the ability to convey what READS does. It's easier to get a logo than rename us. The act of putting a logo contest out there would generate and draw attention to us. Rebecca and Nancy will get together to cement some guidelines and see if there is room in our budget for a promotional budget in regards to a logo contest.

Membership: Emily is still familiarizing herself with the Wild Apricot software.

Programming: Absent, but we reviewed her report. The budget for conferences in the past has been \$600. Mat talked about the Un-conference Mark Glisson (Hooksett) was working on with the ITS group. The Un-conference was postponed due to weather. ITS reached out to READS Programming committee to see if they could incorporate their agenda into a Spring Round Table. Would this be an all-day event? The Un-conference was originally scheduled as a ½ day event. Would that work with our Round Table format? We need more information from Kate for feedback and how that might fit into READS agenda. Topics for the Un-conference were to include: how to keep up with IT, staff training, embracing technology, social media and marketing. Would it be better as a separate event that READS participates in? This may be the type of topic/format which is good for a one-time event, but multiple dates might be hard to participate in. We are going to wait to hear back from the Programming committee.

READS-To-Go: 156 titles (153 in NHUpac). READS-To-Go recently accepted a gift of multiple copies of the book by NH author, Maureen Kirsch, who wrote a story about her parents. A library which hosted her had 14 copies of her book. They donated these copies to READS-To-Go.

Libraries interested in weeding their READS-To-Go kit should:

1. See if another library wants to host it (post this offer to the READS-To-Go Facebook page, or NHais list)
2. Take it out their collection if no other library wants it

Diane talked about what committee members do: most of them read potential titles. Diane does a lot of the additional work (which she'd like to parcel out). She could use the most help preparing group discussion questions for kits, writing bio's about the author, preparing READS-To-Go bags, handling questions from hosting libraries, etc. She'd welcome help preparing questions and more readers.

Past President: Absent.

Conference Committee Liaison: Absent.

OLD BUSINESS

READS Newsletter – Continuing with the conversation we had through email of creating and distributing a Newsletter to members, we talked about the role of the committee we recently eliminated (i.e. Publicity). This position made sure we had note pads and banners. We talked about perhaps having the

newsletters be part of this committee. While excited about doing promotion, we don't want to overload ourselves or our members.

We could start our first issue of the Newsletter with the logo contest. Possible title for the Newsletter: "Tools of the Trade". Newsletter topics could include: reference helps, links, resources, free resources, free/cheap subsidized programming, a place to drop/share marketing, handouts, etc. We can send it out to our membership list, share the newsletter on NHAIS, post the newsletter/tools on FB, etc. We talked about using a template to fill in Newsletter content. Rebecca is going to build a template to present to the group at the next meeting.

Kit Keeper / RTG Automation – no new updates, but concerns... Apparently there is a bug with configuring the software for us. Once that's fixed, we could roll out for NH libraries. Mat and Rebecca need to talk to Corinne about KitKeeper's status. In addition to the bug, there was also concern with how the automation would affect the READS-To-Go committee - specifically there was concern that responsibility for this project will fall on the shoulders of one person. Another concern is that the individual libraries may drop out of keeping their holdings and reservations current if their staff leaves. Hopefully the community would be able to rely on their state-wide colleagues to bring them up to speed.

NEW BUSINESS

Facebook Page – Diane took herself off as administrator of NHLA after having one of her posts taken down. If something needs to be posted to the NHLA page, it can be forwarded to Jenn Hosking.

Senior Services in NH Libraries – Ann Hoey talked about her job to try and address senior services. NH demographics are changing and moving in the direction of having a big population of seniors which will impact our library services. Even within the term "seniors", there are fractions, (e.g. active seniors, 55 and over communities, 50 year old with health issues, 89 year olds who are sharp as a tack, etc.). Ann is here today to get suggestions/offer her help to work on this issue. She is endeavoring to:

- Create a task-force of people who are interested in this topic and explore what we'd like to see happen
- Work with READS on offering a program at the Fall conference
- Discover ways to partner with other groups. What have libraries been doing with other organizations? Can we partner with them?

Ideas discussed included:

1. Challenges for seniors
 - a. Transportation is a challenge – can libraries offer programs during the day? – That is sometimes a good time for seniors to come.
 - b. The need for a resource database (this was one of the most requested things Rebecca's survey found).
2. Collaborating with other groups
 - a. Durham Public Library collaborates with the ARA (American Retirement Association) – this very active group comes to the Durham library and does few programs there. ARA does all its own programming, the Durham library doesn't do anything – just provides the venue.

- b. Smaller towns don't have groups like the ARA to couple with (no senior organizations around)
 - c. Coupling with the Talking Books program (Marilyn) who is happy to get the word out about their services.
3. Library programs
- a. Movies for seniors in the afternoon.
 - b. Mentorship between teens and seniors for technology.
 - c. Senior health clinics.
 - d. Series on memory loss/Alzheimer's.
 - e. Memory cafe.
 - f. Grieving groups.
 - g. Estate planning.

Should the READS programming committee focus on senior services for the next conference? Ann is available for help if there is a follow-up survey. We could also put a call out in the Newsletter to people who want to get together to develop things further.

Adjourn: Rebecca Crockett MOVED to adjourn the meeting, MOTION passed. Adjourned the meeting at 11:50

Next READS Executive Board meeting: Virtual meeting on March 18 at 10:00AM

Respectfully submitted,
Kersten Matera
READS Secretary