

READS Executive Board
Local Government Center
Profile Room
Friday, April 23, 2010
10:00 am

Present: Linda Taggart, Diane Mayr, Amy Lapointe, Lori Fisher, Gaye Kulvete, Deann Hunter, Emily Weiss, Caitlin Stevens, Mary Cronin

Call to Order: Linda Taggart called the meeting to order at 10:04 am.

A MOTION was made by Gaye Kulvete to approve minutes of the January 22, 2010 meeting. Motion was passed.

Treasurer's Report: Deann Hunter

The odd amount reported in the last Treasurer's report was due to a voided membership deposit. As of today's meeting, the fall program expenses are wrapped up. The income from the spring roundtable programs has not yet been reported; receipts for refreshments for these programs are still outstanding.

President's Report: Linda Taggart

Linda Taggart attended two NHLA board meetings, and reported that date of the fall NHLA conference and three speakers are set; NHLA recently conducted a questionnaire/survey for NH librarians to give feedback on membership in NHLA; other NHLA initiatives include encouraging participation in ALA's "library snapshot day" and attendance by NHLA board members at coop meetings to increase awareness of and membership in NHLA; the Small Libraries Summit sponsored by the NHLA held earlier this month was a success, kudos to Lori Fisher for stepping in and presenting for the Labor Laws program; vendor Gaylord will offer discounts to NH libraries, with a portion of sales going to NHLA; NELA will offer conference discounts for unemployed librarians; NHLA board member Kate Russell and a subcommittee will start working on redoing NHLA website with a CMS; NHLA's Academics section has started a blog (<http://nhlaacademics.wordpress.com/>); the NHLA Advocacy Committee will present at the LGC conference; NHLA Treasurer Carl Heidenblad would like to see a assistant treasurer's position added to the board. At NHLA board meetings, State Librarian Michael York reported that there should be no more staff cuts at NHSL; the ILS consortium project is still in the works; NHSL providing Ebsco databases for NH libraries is something he'd like to continue, but funding is still up in the air as are consortial alternatives; NHSL is looking into organizing more consortial groups, like the one for Mango languages, for libraries to provide online services.

Vice President's Report: Gaye Kulvete

Gaye Kulvete attended the READS roundtable program at the new Rodgers Memorial Library in Hudson. At this meeting, good ideas discussed were: library info tables at town elections; places to get free furniture; partnering and working with community groups, Friends groups, and volunteers. Gaye prepared and presented a detailed list of topics for READS programs for future NHSL conferences, copies were provided for board members. Ideas for the list were gathered from personal experience and interest and from other state conferences in Texas, Florida, Massachusetts, Connecticut. Gaye invited others to add their program ideas to the list. Additional idea discussed for the list were small space planning, tech training for staff, documenting employee performance.

Public Relations Report: Lori Fisher

Lori did not submit a written report as she has been busy working with Michael York and the NH Departments of Labor and Justice on preparing a "Best Practices" guide for NH libraries' volunteer programs, an issue that became apparent as a pressing need at the Small Libraries Summit. READS pens and notepads were made available at the READS Roundtables programs and at the Small Libraries Summit. Ace Printing in Nashua will

print up more notepads. Diane Arrato-Gavrish found a large box of READS pens, so no orders need to be placed at present.

For the upcoming NHLA conference, Lori will prepare a display board for READS, and asked for photos of past programs to include on it. Other materials Lori will bring for the READS table are Award of Excellence nomination forms, membership forms (Emily Weiss will check with LGC to see if they can be submitted separately from NHLA membership forms), and READS nametag ribbons for members.

Lori will continue to make updates to the READS website via Steve Butzel, as the SeaMonkey html editor is not working out. Lori feels that NHLA's projected move to a CMS system will allow her (and other section webmasters) to make updates much more easily.

Lori, READS representative for the NHAIS advisory board, will ask at the May 21 meeting in Bow if representation can be shared by READS board members and if locations of meetings can be rotated around the state.

Membership Report: Emily Weiss

As of April 22, READS has 177 members. Emily was disappointed to see that about half of the current members prefer READS communication by mail. Welcome letters to new and renewing members are going out soon.

Reads-to-Go Report: Diane Mayr

The Reads-to-Go kits and committee are both very busy. Three kits were added since February, making 64 total. Diane asked for ideas to publicize availability of noncirculating kits, ideas discussed included posting messages to NHAIS email lists. A question of what to do with kits that have lost interest/relevance was discussed; consensus was that if hosting library wants to keep a kit, they should. There have been numerous requests from librarians for READS to add recent titles only available in hardcover; READS-to-Go committee will stick to original guidelines about using only paperbacks for kits. READS-to-Go will present a roundtable program "Read Any Good Books lately?" at the NHLA conference in May.

Past President Report: Amy Lapointe

No written report. The nomination committee for the READS award of excellence is getting organized. Nomination forms will be available at NHL conference.

Programming Report: Caitlin Stevens

Caitlin attended a READS programming committee meeting on April 9 in Boscawen. Minutes were taken at that meeting by Jennifer. Forty-eight people attended the spring READS roundtables programs. The committee may decide to hold two roundtables programs next year instead of three as it seems one of the roundtables is perennially underenrolled. The committee discussed ideas for the fall READS meeting, these included internet reference with Brian Hackert from Peterborough Public Library, a readers' advisory program with Nancy Malone Hill, a "Getting to Yes" facilitating staff program with Mary Ann List of the Portsmouth Public Library. Erin Apostolos of Meredith Public Library will step in as READS programming chair at the end of the year.

The fall READS conference will be held on October 22 at the Local Government Center. This date has a possible conflict with the URBANS section meeting. Brochures will again be printed at Nashua. Caitlin Stevens will ask Erin if she will send Lori Fisher a half-page promotional ad to have available at the spring NHLA conference.

Conference Committee Liaison Report: Caitlin Stevens

Assignments for introducing READS programs at the upcoming NHLA conference are: Diane Mayr for the "Read Any Good Books Lately" program, Catlin Stevens for the "Managing Employees" program, and Lori Fisher for the "Reading Women" program.

Old Business

NHLA Spring Conference:

READS board member staffing of READS table at the NHLA spring conference was discussed. It was decided that rather than have specific time slots, board members attending the conference should stop by during breaks to be a "smiling face" at the table and to answer questions, refill brochures and candy. READS-to-Go will have a "suggest a title, win a book" promotional drawing at the table.

Spring Roundtables: See Programming report above.

READS Treasurer Substitute: Diane Mayr will step in as READS Treasurer during Deann Hunter's leave. All receipts for reimbursement should be sent to Diane in Windham starting today. Caitlin Stevens will let the READS programming committee know this.

New Business

NHLA Conference Staffing:

NHLA-ITS Petting Zoo: Lori Fisher got an email from Kate Butler of the NHLA ITS section about READS help staffing the technology petting zoo program at the spring NHLA conference. Time slots are still available. Lori will forward email to READS board members.

NHLA READS table: See above.

Mileage Reimbursement Request:

Deann Hunter received a request for mileage reimbursement from one of the spring roundtables facilitators. As this amount is not budgeted for READS member presenters and NHLA does not reimburse mileage for presenters, Deann wanted to know the board's decision about granting this request. In the past, READS has reimbursed nonlibrarians and librarians making a very long trip to a meeting. Deann Hunter will ask NHLA treasurer Carl Heidenblad what the NHLA policy is and report back.*

Next Meeting Date:

A NELA program on eBooks being held in Portland, Maine conflicts with the next scheduled READS executive board meeting. Alternate dates for the board meeting were discussed, but schedules were so tight that it was decided to leave the next board meeting on the June 11 date.

A MOTION was made by Amy Lapointe to adjourn the meeting at 11:14 am. Motion passed.

Respectfully submitted,

Mary Cronin
Secretary

*Subsequent to this meeting, on April 23, 2010, Deann Hunter contacted READS executive board members by email, reporting that the NHLA makes exceptions for mileage reimbursement on a case-by-case basis. Deann asked for an electronic vote in order to expedite this decision. Voting results were tallied on April 26: No-7, Yes-1, No Response-2. Reimbursement request will not be granted.