

**Library Association of Rockland County (LARC) Adult Services Committee
Meeting Minutes
Friday, February 19, 2016
Valley Cottage Library**

Present: Brian Jennings (New City), Ashley Maraffino (Valley Cottage), Sean Antonucci (Valley Cottage), Carol Connell Cannon (Suffern), Amy LaRocca (Suffern), Rosemary Farrell (Nyack), Anya Berg (Palisades), Richard Morbeth (Finkelstein Library), Jessica Bowen (Piermont)

Chair of the adult services committee, Brian Jennings, calls the meeting to order at 10:08am.

Minutes of the January 15, 2016 meeting were reviewed. Amy LaRocca moved to accept the minutes, Sean Antonucci seconded.

LARC Survey Results

A. Scheduling Future Meetings

Brian Jennings began the meeting by raising the question of how the committee would like to schedule future meetings. Based on the results of the LARC survey, where 84% of respondents deemed professional development the most important function of LARC, it was decided to add a continuing education element to future LARC adult services committee meetings. It was agreed by committee members that the adult services committee would hold bimonthly meetings in the future. These future meetings would be longer in length with the first half of the meeting being something that could be transferred to continuing education credits (CE) and the second half being the regular business meeting.

CE opportunities would either be a presentation by a member of the committee or bringing someone in to present on a specific topic. Rosemary Farrell stated that any CE offered would be helpful, especially for part-timers.

B. Networking for Library Professionals and Library Advocacy

The second most popular response to the LARC survey question asking what is the most important function of LARC was: networking for library professionals. Ideas for networking events were brainstormed, including forming a Meet-up group, and happy hour drinks. No definitive decision was reached on adding networking opportunities.

Library Advocacy was deemed the third most important function of LARC. Brian Jennings reported that there are some new LARC members thinking of ideas to expand advocacy efforts.

C. Continuing Education (CE)

Richard Morbeth commented that CE credits are not always issued in full hour increments. Brian Jennings said he will check with Grace Riario about the rules for awarding credits.

Brian Jennings then asked for suggestions for CE opportunities. Ideas included: Richard Morbeth presenting on the history of the Finkelstein Library; having a panel of local history presenters; Brian Jennings suggested a presentation on digitization of newspaper clippings; grant writing; foreign language collection development; how to conduct a survey for patron feedback; outreach to non-English speaking communities; OverDrive training; a presentation about Valley Cottage's Book and Pub Club; how Richard Morbeth uses YouTube at Finkelstein Library. Additional suggestions were asked to be emailed to Brian Jennings.

Oral History Training April 20 Update

Brian Jennings reported that the oral history program training will take place on April 20, 2016.

LARC wants people who attend training to be LARC members. There are only 12 spots open. If all 12 spots fill up, the LARC executive board expressed a willingness to have additional training sessions.

Libraries should have equipment needed to conduct oral history interviews purchased ahead of time so it can be brought to the training session.

Rockland County Author Award Update

Jessica Bowen reported that a list of eligibility guidelines has been created with broad specifications to get people to participate. Works submitted must be published between June 2013 and the finalized date for submissions. Publication must be in the form of an eBook and/or physical book available from a major distributor, and must be submitted by the author. It could be possible, based on the number of submissions, to have a fiction award and nonfiction award.

A draft of the donation form has been created. Copies were passed out at the meeting. Veronica Reynolds is finalizing the letter to accompany the form asking for donations. It was asked that if anyone not on the author award committee has ideas for possible donors to let Veronica know.

Around the Table

1. Ashley Maraffino/Sean Antonucci (Valley Cottage): nothing new to report since last meeting. Getting a good response to book clubs.
2. Richard Morbeth (Finkelstein): working on planning for library's anniversary; researching library's history. Richard is the library's tax help coordinator. He reported that they now have AARP tax aide volunteers at the library twice a week.
3. Anya Berg (Palisades): library is hosting an outside artist exhibit in the community room. She created a crafting book club program where participants discuss a book and make a craft inspired by the book.
4. Rosemary Farrell (Nyack): reported on the Seed Library; Nyack is hosting a Seed Slam on March 5 from 10-2. There is also a seed exchange Facebook page. She also reported that Nyack is exploring reconfiguring a computer classroom to create a makerspace.
5. Jessica Bowen (Piermont): library is hosting a local author talk; looking for alternate money for spring concerts; looking for funding for a bus trip to the 9/11 memorial.

6. Amy LaRocca (Suffern): preparing for upcoming budget vote; hosting an adult coloring book program.
7. News from the LARC executive board:
 - a. Carol Connell Cannon reminded everyone that the LARC annual meeting is June 10. She reported that the lack of submissions in the past for the scholarship awarded by LARC has made the executive board think about expanding the scholarship to include awarding the scholarship for CE opportunities.
 - b. Jessica Bowen is working with the Westchester Library System to trade off conference years. Westchester is holding its conference on May 6, 2016.
 - c. Brian Jennings reported on an idea of having LARC create a Rockland-only local resources guide and/or updating the 55+ resources for seniors guide that RCLS provides. Jessica Bowen reported that Grace Riario offered her services for translating any brochures created into Spanish.
8. Brian Jennings (New City): reported on library's 3D printer. Veronica Reynolds had well-attended "meet the 3D printer" sessions. A program on how to design things for 3D printing had 15-20 attendees.

Next meeting to be held on March 18, tentatively at Suffern Library. After March meeting the bimonthly meetings will begin with meetings to be scheduled for May, July, September, and November. A tentative date for the May meeting is May 20 at Finkelstein Library. The July meeting will possibly be held at Nyack Library.

The meeting was adjourned at 11:27am.

Respectfully submitted,

Ashley Maraffino, secretary