

Library Association of Rockland County (LARC)
Adult Services Committee Meeting Minutes
Wednesday, November 16, 2016 at Valley Cottage Library

Present: Ashley Maraffino (Valley Cottage), Katie Karkheck (Valley Cottage), Anya Berg (Palisades), Amy LaRocca (Suffern), Judy Joseph (Finkelstein), Rosemary Farrell (Nyack), Brian Jennings (New City)

LARC Adult Services chair Ashley Maraffino called the meeting to order at 10:05 A.M.

Minutes from the September 23rd meeting were reviewed. Brian moved to accept the minutes, and Rosemary seconded.

Round Table Discussion: Unique and Unusual Collections at Your Library

- **Ashley and Katie (Valley Cottage):**
 - **Tech Trading Post:** The library has a collection of gadgets made available to Nyack School District patrons, including GPS devices, karaoke machine, Bluetooth speaker, Flip video camera, air mover, and e-readers pre-loaded with titles from Overdrive. Device loan agreement cards for these items, which outline the loan information, replacement fees, and overdue fines, are kept at the reference desk for patrons to sign upon checkout.
 - **Community Closet:** The library also has a collection of bakeware items (i.e. baking pans and cookie cutters), a 60-cup coffee urn, and lawn games. Each item from the bakeware collection is stored in hanging bag along with a laminated instruction sheet and small notebook, which patrons can use to share baking tips. These items can be checked out for 7 days to all RCLS patrons (no holds). Binders are kept at the reference desk in both the adult area and children's room so that patrons can browse the collection. Circulation of this collection has been increasing, in part due to related displays throughout the library. There is also LibGuide linked on the library's website, which offers more information on both the Tech Trading Post and Community Closet collections.
- **Brian (New City):**
 - **E-Readers:** The library has a collection of 12 NOOKs loaded with bestselling and summer reading titles quarterly. The circulation of e-readers is improved by staff trained to mention it as an alternative to patrons looking for popular books that are checked out in print.
 - **Chromebooks:** The library has a small number of Chromebooks for in-library use.
- **Rosemary (Nyack)**
 - **E-Readers:** The library has 5 Kindles (including one loaded with Children's titles), all loaded with bestsellers each month. Circulation is good, due in part to repeat customers.

- **Nyack Seed Exchange:** The seed library, made up of samples provided by community members and organic seed companies, opened this past spring. It was started and staffed by Laurie Needell and other community members and has been a success. No library card is required to use this collection and there are no limits placed on how many samples individuals can take. A binder is kept with all available seeds listed alphabetically for users to browse. The seed library will re-open Spring 2017.
- **Amy (Suffern)**
 - **E-Readers:** The library has 11 e-readers divided by genre (including 1 NOOK Color for kids).
 - **DVD Binge Bags:** The library has ~18 DVD binge bags. Each themed bag includes 7 DVDs purchased specifically to be included in a binge bag. Each bag has one barcode and can be checked out for one week and renewed once (no holds). This collection is open to Suffern and Sloatsburg cardholders.
- **Anya (Palisades)**
 - **E-Readers:** The library has 4 NOOKs loaded with bestsellers, book club picks, and patron requested titles. A LibGuide has been created to keep track of and advertise titles loaded onto each device.
 - **DVD Binge Bags:** The library has a small collection of DVD binge bags. Each themed bag includes 5 DVDs taken from the existing DVD collection, 1 Palisades Free Library tote bag, and 1 bag of popcorn. The bags circulate for 7 days and are available to all RCLS cardholders.
- **Judy (Finkelstein)**
 - **E-Readers**
 - **Special Collections:** The library houses a Jewish Traditional Collection (includes fiction, non-fiction, DVDs, books on CD, etc.), African-American Collection, Urban Fiction Collection, and World Language Collection.

General Discussion

- **Hoopla:** Ashley asked about other libraries' experience with Hoopla. Suffern and Finkelstein subscribe. Amy and Judy noted that while there may be a significant cost up front, there are many benefits of Hoopla: no platform fee, debit set-up, money-back guarantee, funds that roll over from year to year, and overall customer service experience. Judy cited one negative: the proliferation of Hoopla-related entries in the library's online catalog.
- **Overdrive:** Ashley mentioned the new curate feature found the Overdrive Marketplace. Brian shared information on the RCLS e-book pool, recommending any related questions be sent to Patty Sussman at Newburgh. Many agreed it is difficult to keep up with patron holds on Overdrive while still remaining within the limits of library budgets.

Book of the Year Award Update

- Ashley provided an update on the LARC Book of the Year Award. The original 48 titles, from 39 authors, have been narrowed down to 8 titles after the first round of reading. Readers are currently working to narrow that list to 2 or 3 titles by January, at which point they will be

passed on to special guest judge, Mary Beth Keane. The winner(s) will be announced at the LARC Annual Meeting in June 2017.

2017 LARC/WPLA Conference

- Ashley announced the 2017 LARC/WPLA Conference, which will be held on Friday, April 28th 2017 at the HNA Palisades Premier Conference Center in Palisades.

Around the Table

- **Rosemary (Nyack):** There is discussion of a business center at the Nyack Library, thanks to a donation from the Kurz Family Foundation, which would provide resources (computers, books, databases, etc.) for those starting and running their own businesses. There will also be upcoming programming at the library's Maker Space, to which 2 sewing machines were recently added.
- **Anya (Palisades):** *The Artist's Way Meetup Exhibit* will be on display during the month of December, featuring the artwork of participants in the library's *The Artist's Way Monthly Meetup*.
- **Brian (New City):** Brian is working on an oral history listening station at the New City Library. There will also be programming in early 2017 related to African-American history, including a screening of the documentary film *Family Name*. Ongoing programs featuring the library's 3D printer has been bringing in new patrons. The library is currently looking into updating their website.
- **Amy (Suffern):** Suffern Library is celebrating its 90th anniversary with special programming in December.
- **Judy (Finkelstein):** Finkelstein Memorial Library is currently planning for their 100th anniversary, which is coming up in 2017. The library is also undergoing a second floor renovation in its main building and is planning for renovations of the Holocaust Museum & Study Center.
- **Katie and Ashley (Valley Cottage):** The annual Holiday Craft Fair will be held on Saturday, December 3rd. The library is also looking to expand programming for 20- and 30- somethings at the library, including a game night.

Meeting Dates

- Ashley made a recommendation to move meetings to Thursdays and those in attendance agreed to the change.
- The next meeting will be held on Thursday, January 26th 2017 at New City where Veronica Reynolds will be presenting on the 2016 Library Marketing and Communications Conference.

Brian moved to adjourn the meeting at 11:50 A.M., and Rosemary seconded.

Respectfully Submitted, Anya Berg, Secretary