Council Meeting
February 10, 2022
Agenda

https://zoom.us/j/97081228218
Meeting ID: 970 8122 8218
Passcode: 421678

BOCES Guest WI-FI Internet username "boces"
Password: 43@Rt$iA

Present: Stephanie Berry (Union Springs), Victoria Calarco (Auburn), Elizabeth Cuddy (Auburn), Susan Cutri (Cato-Meridian), Marcella Didio (Auburn), Kelly Gunderson (Skaneateles), Aja Hahn (Weedsport), Jenna Landon (Cato-Meridian), Jennifer Martin (Jordan-Elbridge), Carissa Smith (Southern Cayuga), Jenifer Westover (Moravia), Lori Willey (Union Springs), Elizabeth Zysk (Skaneateles), Claire Lovell (SCRLC), Penny Sweeney (CO BOCES)

- Jen Westover called the meeting to order at 8:38.
- Aja made the motion to accept December minutes. Stephanie seconded.
- SCRLC News
  - Digitization Grants
    - SCRLC is about to open their applications for digitization grants. The grants are for members, so BOCES SLS will have to officially apply and administer the funds. Grants will be due April 14.
    - School libraries can apply to have their yearbooks digitized, which would mean yearbooks are boxed up and delivered to SCRLC. Six months later, the yearbooks will be a digital collection on nyheritage.org.
  - ConsiderTheSource
    - This project aims to strengthen partnerships between the curators of primary sources, especially about historically marginalized communities, and educators like school librarians and teachers. There is an "institute" to bring these professionals together in teams:
      - Central New York Institute is April 5 at Cazenovia College.
      - The South Central Institute is May 10 in Johnson City.
- Collaborative Communities DIscussion
  - Educators in similar roles can come together and discuss what they're doing. For example, all of the earth sciences teachers come to BOCES every other month so that they can talk for an hour or two about their work. It's all teacher-driven.
  - Beginning in March, Penny will set up an elementary collaborative community in the morning and secondary in the afternoon. The meetings will be staggered for months that we don't have Council meetings.

- ○ Topics will be determined by participants. It'll be like the small group that came together last month to talk about the guidelines.
- Upcoming PD
  - ○ Virtual Vendor Fair: February 14. All sessions will be recorded.
  - ○ Jen Lagarde: March 22
    - ■ If you're thinking about going, sign up in MLP.
    - ■ We're sharing the day with TST (who has a new director, Katy Charles).
    - ■ We'll have all three of the rooms at BOCES open.
    - ■ Penny ordered Jen Lagarde's newest book for everyone.
  - ○ Kathleen Odean: April 5
  - ○ Council Meeting: April 20
    - ■ Our last meeting for the year.
- Colleague Discussion: Auburn High School Collection
  - ○ Penny had to present to State Ed about this yesterday.
  - ○ In November, there were some grumblings about books being available. "Lawn Boy" and "All Boys Aren't Blue" were pulled from the high school library by administration without discussion or explanation. The superintendent did bring the books back before December break. At the December board meeting, a parent read part of "All Boys Aren't Blue". In January, the newspaper reported it and quoted the superintendent for saying "we don't have a formal complaint yet." Now, of course, they have a formal complaint and they are following the process. Beth is in the group that will review the book. So is one of the complainants.
  - ○ Penny notes that these complainants are now filing FOIL requests for everything related to the collection. At AHS, Beth had provided five years worth of deletions. The complainants are insisting that they see nonexistent emails to Beth to weed books. They're also sending FOIL requests to OPALS (for records that don't exist).
  - ○ Kelly pointed out that Ed Law 2D might restrict access to non-librarian district staff (like the technology director).
  - ○ Penny reminds everyone not to have generic admin accounts. Also be sure that no former staff have admin accounts.
- ALA Office for Intellectual Freedom with Kristin Pekoll
  - ○ Presentation called "Intellectual Freedom: A conversation - Not a Rule". This is about our values and the principles we keep in mind when we make decisions.
  - ○ Three main places to go:
    - ■ ala.org/tools/challengesupport
      - ● How to deal with the media, how to respond to challenges, how to do reconsideration guidelines
    - ■ ala.org/advocacy/intfreedom
      - ● Resources and core documents, Q&As and best practices
    - ■ ala.org/aboutala/offices/oif
      - ● Outlines the work that ALA does and the different groups that work on IF documents and advocacy

- ○ Remember Article 3 in the LIbrary Bill of RIghts: challenge censorship in the fulfillment of our responsibility to provide information and enlightenment
- ○ Refer to the code of ethics, in that we must distinguish between personal convictions and professional duties.
- ○ Make sure you report censorship to ALA. ALA might not come in and be involved (because that doesn't always help) but it's important for awareness, advocacy, and bigger picture efforts.
  - ■ NYS is developing a hotline for challenges. There is a form being developed by SLSA, SSL and the State Library.
  - ■ 82-97% of challenges around the country aren't reported to ALA at all. There are around 10,000 challenges per year.
- ○ Make sure your policies are updated. There are real and serious consequences for not following your policies, too, including internal distrust.
- ○ Kristin suggests displaying values, like posting library bill of rights on the website and celebrating things like Harper Lee's birthday and Intellectual Freedom day on social media and in fliers. Subscribe and shara ALA's #intellectualFreedom posts.
- ○ Penny notes that NYS is working on an updated 8320 and 8330 form, which might be free to adopt through BOCES.
- ● Project Look Sharp
- ● Collaboration/Team Time
- ● Coser Budgets/Menu.library.fyi
- ● Modifying user side of Library.fyi

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