

## Youth Services Forum Meeting

February 16, 2017

Naperville Public Library, 95<sup>th</sup> Street Branch

Meeting Notes provided by Secretary: *Ellen Norton*

Attendance: (X – Present)

- Jill Martorano (Glenside/Glendale Heights)
- Jen Abler (Oak Lawn)
- Jennifer Bueche (Gail Borden/Elgin)
- Christy Kepler (Oswego)
- Anne Kunzen (Huntley Area)
- Ruth Anne Mielke (Bartlett)
- Ellen Norton (Naperville 95<sup>th</sup> St.)
- Vince Sovanski (Glenside/Glendale Heights)
- Leander Spearman (new ILA Board Liaison from Belleville Public Library) - remote
- Stephanie Spetter (Des Plaines)
- Lisel Ulaszek (Geneva)
- Tina Ruzala (Reddick)
- Heidi Knuth (Glenside)
- Amber Creger (Schaumburg) Guest

### I. Welcome and Reports

- A. Introductions-Everyone went around the table to introduce ourselves to Tina.
- B. Assign Forum buddies for new members and explain requirements—Tina will buddy with Jen Abler. Forum buddies is an initiative to pair up current forum members with new members to help explain our mission, our meetings, and what exactly we do.
- C. Assign Notetaker-Ellen will take notes
- D. Approve meeting minutes of August 4, 2016 – Approved by the board with one correction-August board meeting will be held at Gail Borden library, not 95<sup>th</sup> Street.
- E. Additions or changes to agenda – Additions were to add Marketing as a point to the Business section.
- F. I.L.A. Board Report (Leander Spearman) – We connected with Leander at 11am via phone. He reported that Bob Doyle will be retiring from the board in July, so many changes are possible. Bob has agreed to stay on beyond July until his replacement is found. The board is excited about the YS Institute coming up March 10-11 and asked if any assistance was needed which it is not. The board had nothing new to report at this time.
- G. YASF – Rachel Bild shared minutes from the 11/17/16 YASF meeting with Vince, who brought copies for all board members.
- H. iREAD – Joe reported that Nikeda Webb from Matteson Public Library will be the new iRead head.
- I. Correspondence – Mary Adamowski sent a card thanking the Forum for a gift we sent her. After the November meeting, Jen added email addresses of people who indicated interest in the board on their ILA session surveys when she has sent out meeting reminders, so far there has been no response. Katie Stringwell from Aurora was contacted by Ruth Anne Milke about joining the board but is unable to join at this time.

### II. Business

- A. Check YS Forum Board Roster Info-We corrected any issues on the Roster, which Jen will update
- B. YS Forum Brochure—Anne shared a great 1/3 sheet brochure that she created that includes a description of the forum and what we do. We made a few changes with the wording, and Anne has requested that everyone look over the brochure and send her any additional changes by Feb. 20 so that it will be ready for IYSI. Jen will also give this brochure to Rob Innes to share with other libraries. Anne will send a PDF copy of the completed brochure to all board members via email.
- C. 2017 ILA Conference

- i. Breakfast-Ruth Anne and Jennifer B. will be chairs of the Breakfast committee. They have nothing to report at this time.
- ii. Stories and Spirits-Christy and Ellen will be chairs of the Stories and Spirits committee. Ellen and Christy will need to get in touch with Rob Innes regarding his daughter performing again at the event. We discussed ways that we could make the music less overpowering at the event, and will continue to brainstorm ways to make the event flow well. Attendees enjoyed the gift card raffle. The Forum may decide to use its \$200 to purchase gift cards this year, we will determine this once planning is further along.
- iii. Awards-- Jill Anne, and Lisel will chair this committee. Nominations will be due in June or July, the date has not yet been determined. Jill will work on a brochure to promote the awards at the IYSI conference.
- iv. Conference Programs
  - a. Forum Hour-Anne will write up a proposal for YS forum to have a table to promote either during exhibits or during registration. We would prefer a pop-up booth either in a high traffic area, but would be open to a room if that's our only option. Anne will contact Cindy and Tina about this since we are looking for something more specific than a regular proposal.
  - b. Betsy Bird-Jennifer B. will contact Betsy about presenting a Best Books program again.
  - c. Panel of Children's Authors-We will not pursue this idea at this time.
  - d. Dr. Dana Suskind-We will not pursue this idea at this time.
  - e. Jill's Escape Room program idea-Jill is going to have her staff who is a member of the YASF take this idea to YA since that is where their experience lies.
  - f. Sandy Wesiz Puzzle Hunt Program-Stephanie reached out to her friend Sandy, who is willing to present a program on puzzle hunts and mystery story league which he creates for his business. He has created puzzles for both Oak Park and Chicago Public Libraries, and will talk about how he created these games, how to run this type of program with a limited budget, and will also answer questions. Stephanie will work on a conference proposal.
  - g. "You Can't Do *That* at the Library!" Leisel will work on this proposal about out of the box programming ideas.
  - h. Coding programs-We will not pursue at this time
  - i. Good Bad, and Ugly of STEAM Kits-We will not pursue at this time.
  - j. Fundraising on a Small Scale-Stephanie will work on a presentation aimed at youth librarians and talking about how to raise small scale funds instead of just applying for large grants. She has had much success with soliciting within her community for small donations, and her focus will be youth specific.
  - k. Weekly Make and Takes-Christy and Ruth Anne will be working on this program about different ways to do Make and Take Crafts. They may include some ideas from Ruth Anne's Art Room she had built, and how to make that concept accessible for any library
  - l. Coding Program-Mary Donovan from Oak Lawn and a Naperville staff member are working on a presentation about coding. Jen and Ellen will look for more information.
  - m. Ignite for Youth Services-Ellen will submit a proposal for a Youth focused Ignite session. If it is accepted, she will need librarians from different libraries and will look to the Forum for help finding presenters.
- D. IYSI Conference Update-Jill gave an update on IYSI, which is March 10-12 in Springfield. The theme is "Create your Adventure" and the keynote speakers are adventure themed and include a "play worker" who facilitates dangerous play and a Morton Arboretum staff who works on nature play programs.
- E. YS Forum Field Trips-Amber Creger joined the forum meeting to pitch an idea for "Forum Field Trips" which would be programs at cultural institutions in the area that would be coordinated by the Forum. ILA would be responsible for handling the money and registration, but the Forum would coordinate the trips. Some ideas for institutions to visit included the Art Institute, MSI,

Naper Settlement, the DuPage Children's Museum, and other local museums. Amber, Jill, and Jen will work on organizing the first field trip, and they are hoping to offer it in August. They will investigate with a few institutions and let the board know what they find.

- F. YS Forum Membership Promotion & Clearing House for State-Wide YS Interest Groups/Meetings-We had a lot of discussion throughout the meeting about ways that the Forum can attract new members. Vince had an idea to create some type of website that has information from all over the state about professional development opportunities, meetings, trainings, etc. Anne suggested that we change our Facebook from a page to a group, and invite and promote to other librarians so that they can interact with one another and promote events that they are aware of, and the Forum can run the group. This group will be open to everyone regardless of ILA status but we will vet anyone who wishes to join to make sure that they are a librarian. Anne will work on the Facebook page, and Ellen and Tina will assist in vetting members. Jill had created a calendar which nobody really used. We will revisit the idea of a clearing house type website after the launch of the Facebook.
- G. Any Area YS Meetings, Programs, Etc- LACONI is holding a Diverse Books Need Us! Event on February 24 in Alsip. Ellen will be attending and will bring copies of the Forum brochure if they are ready in time.
- H. Marketing- We are really hoping to attract new members to the board, so we are looking into additional ways to promote. LACONI will allow us to have a table at upcoming events. Reaching Forward will give us a booth at the conference on May 5, and Jen, Christy, Tina and Anne will help staff the table. Jen will investigate if forum members can just attend as exhibitors and not pay for admission to the conference. We will also have a table at IYSI that Vince, Jen, and Jill will help to staff. Jill will also investigate making buttons before IYSI. Due to so many upcoming outreach opportunities, we would like to acquire a table cloth. Jen will look into alternative funding for the table cloth, and Christy will help Jen with the resolution of the logo to be printed on the table cloth.

**Upcoming Meetings:**

Friday, May 19, 2017 @ NPL 95<sup>th</sup> Street

Friday, August 4, 2017 @ Gail Borden Library

October 10-12, 2017 @ ILA Annual Conference at Tinley Park Convention Center