

North County Public Library Directors Organization
Meeting Minutes
October 4, 2008

Lyn Swafford called the meeting to order at 2:05 P.M.

Attendance: Joan Kampnich, Croghan, Linda Voorhees, Cape Vincent, Alice Barton, Clayton, Charlotte Garafalo, Gouverneur, Patricia Musante, Potsdam, Linda McCullough, Carthage, Sally Brown, Lowville, Dawn Myers, Lowville, Barbara Wheeler, Watertown, Andrea Arquette, Cranberry Lake, Stella Todd, Heuvelton, Carol Ferlito, Oswego, Penny Kerfien, Fulton, Cheryl Shutts, Henderson, Carolyn Linehan, Henderson, Dennis Eickhoff, Colton, Toni Ellinger, Sackets Harbor, Beverly Ripka, Williamstown, Cindy Hutchinson, Alexandria Bay, Ceil Cunningham, Alexandria Bay, Tracy Tanner, Philadelphia, Marilyn Bickham, Dexter

Minutes from the June 11 meeting were read and approved

Committee Reports-

NCLS Liaison Committee-Barbara Wheeler reported on both the May and July NCLS Board meetings. The Board expressed their sadness at the loss of Rev. Bernard Fortune on Sunday, July 6. It was also reported that state Senator Darryl Aubertine is investigating the possibility of making the New York State Construction Grants 20% matching grants rather than the 50% matching grants that they are currently. It is believed that many of the small rural libraries would like to improve their structures via one of the grants, but simply can not raise the funds for the matching requirement.

Old Business

Gates Grant update- Steve Gaines reported that 150computers were purchased with Gates Grant funds. With the exception of Sandy Creek and Russell, all of the computers have been installed. He reminded everyone that they must complete both the TechAtlas and the ALA surveys online if they received Gates Grant funds. The money can be used for software as well, and can be saved for up to four years.

Several libraries wondered why their new computers are always asking to reboot. Steve explained that it means the "Automatic Update" function is enabled in BitDefender. Disabling it will solve the problem.

Steve asked how many libraries might be interested in computer management software to assign users time slots, control printing, etc. Watertown and Oswego are using such software currently. There was significant enough interest that Steve will explore what the cost would be and let us know.

New Business

NCLS Director's remarks- Steve Bolton was attending the simultaneous NCLS Board meeting, but he sent along a statement (copy attached) which was read by Lyn Swafford. The two issues covered by the statement were:

Expansion of the current delivery services- Regarding the possibility of expanding the current services to cover more deliveries per week to member libraries, Steve explained that the large number of libraries served and the great geographic area covered create unique problems for our system. Steve is considering the options, but it doesn't look promising at this time.

and

The demise of the old NCC database- We are reminded that the database ceased to be supported by the NCLS staff two years ago. Libraries need to be using web-based programs like BT Online for acquisitions instead of NCC.

Lyn Swafford informed us that David Franz of the Ogdensburg Public Library has retired. A card was passed to be signed by all and a collection was taken to be donated to the library in honor of Dave. We will all miss him.

Nominating Committee- Nominations from the floor were: Lyn Swafford, President, Joan Kampnich, Vice-President, and Linda Voorhees, Secretary. Penny Kerfien moved to accept the slate, seconded by Carol Ferlito. The secretary cast one vote to accept the slate of officers.

Amy Degnan reminded everyone about the "Twilight Tournament" which will be conducted online via chat. Several of the participating libraries are planning to attend the showing of the movie as a group when it is released to theaters.

Charlotte Garofalo spoke about the rural libraries roundtable which will be meeting for the first time this year at NYLA. She encourages everyone to join so that our rural voices can be heard. The cost is only \$5 above the fee for NYLA.

Pat Musante followed up on the "worksites wanted" program in which she participates. The St. Lawrence County Dept. of Social Services is recruiting agencies to provide work opportunities for its clients. Pat has made use of these workers, who are provided at no cost to the library, in the past and she has found useful. She encourages libraries in other counties to check with their Social Services offices and see if a similar program is available.

Barbara Wheeler announced that the title for the 2009 North Country Reads event is Skeletons at the feast, by Chris Bohjalian. This will most likely be the final year for North Country Reads in that the funding has run out. At least one copy of the book will be sent to each library, but probably not the multiple copies we have received in the past.

The next meeting will be Tuesday, April 28th at the Gouverneur Public Library

The meeting was adjourned at 2:55