

NJLA Reference Section Meeting - notes  
Pequannock Township Public Library  
April 15, 2016

### **Introductions**

Jill Stafford, President, Matawan Aberdeen Public Library  
Theresa Agostinelli, past-President, Old Bridge Public Library  
Karen Vaias, Member-at-Large, Bernards Township Library  
Cassidy Charles, incoming Co-President, Madison Public Library  
Nancy Polhamus, incoming VP, Gloucester County Library  
Diane Alimena, host, Pequannock Township Library  
Tammy Marshall

### **Tour**

Diane Alimena gave a tour of her library pointing out features unique to Pequannock, including a local history room that technically isn't part of the library.

### **NJLA Conference Update**

Support the Reference Section sponsored programs:

- All Together Now: Best practices in internal communication on Tuesday, May 17, 11:30am-12:20pm
- Brown Bag Book Cafe: Under the Radar Reads on Tuesday, May 17, 12:30-2:00pm
- Training Tips & Tricks: Templates and Strategies for Training New Staff on Wednesday, May 18, 3:40-4:00pm
- Weeding Watchdog on Wednesday, May 18, 9:00-9:50am

Diane Alimena will be presenting a poster on May 17 from 2-3 pm titled "Tell Your Family Story World War I Commemoration"

Activities for the Brown Bag Lunch: Under the Radar Reads were discussed.

- Use dice games (tie-in with AC theme) or business cards to give away pre-pub books .
- Spaghetti and marshmallow tower building contest as fun ice breaker.
- Quizzes based on literary characters or guess the author based on a collection of titles.

Dennis is still seeking volunteers to fill key time slots at Reference Section table.

- Louisa Bann will be creating some "goofy" buttons to have at the table.
- Jill will provide candy and a handout explaining the Reference Section.
- A draft of the handout was circulated for editing.

### **2016-2017 Reference Section Leadership**

Co-presidents: Louisa Bann - Elizabeth Public Library and Cassidy Charles - Madison Public Library

VP/President-elect: Nancy Polhamus - Gloucester County Library System, Mullica Hill Branch

Member-at-Large: Theresa Agostinelli - Old Bridge Public Library  
Member-at-Large: Dennis Kuhn - Old Bridge Public Library  
Member-at-Large: Karen Vaias - Bernards Township Library  
Member-at-Large: Doug Baldwin - Piscataway Public Library  
Recording Secretary: Tierney Miller - Margaret E. Heggan Free Public Library  
Past President: Jill Stafford - Matawan Aberdeen Public Library  
Student Representative: open

We started brainstorming about next year's Adult Services Forum. Cassidy Charles and Louisa Bann will start working on a theme for this event. It was suggested to look into programs that will allow for interaction between attendees since many look to this event for networking. Cassidy and Louisa will receive the survey results from the 2015 forum to help with planning.

We discussed a potential name change for the Section since the word "Reference" doesn't fully describe our function. Possible names would include the words "information" or "adult services."

The possibility of an Unconference on a specific "reference related" topic was discussed. The unconference could be held in northern New Jersey on one date and southern New Jersey on another date with little advanced preparation needed.

#### **Next meeting**

Jill is finalizing details for a tour of the NJ Family History Center in Eatontown. More information will follow.