NJLA Diversity & Outreach Section Meeting

June 22, 2023

11:00am

Meeting Held on Zoom

Meeting start time: 11:05am

Attendees:

Joy Robinson - Piscataway Public Library

Sharon Owens - Newark Public Library

Rachel Talbert - Parsippany Library

Melody Scagnelli-Townley - Bayonne Public Library

Jeff Cupo - Elizabeth Public Library

Laura Giacobbe - Monmouth University

Stephen Felle - NJ State Library Talking Book and Braille Center

Stephanie Sandula - Library Link New Jersey LLNJ

2023- 2024 Meetings - continue as we has in past

4th Thursday of the month at 11am via Zoom

Next meeting: July 27 11am

2023-2024 Officers:

President: Sharon Owens

Vice President: Tanya Finne-Estrada

Secretary: Rachel Talbert

Communications Manager: Laura Giacobbe

Members-at-Large: Lorraine Ruiz & Jen Sulligan

No formal agenda - share ideas for next year

* Looking to work with LWOC and other sections – collaborations etc.
* Build on work with LWOC

New Jersey State Library - “Life Happens at your Library” initiative

* Promote and use the pre-made graphics
* Great for smaller libraries
* <https://www.njstatelib.org/marketing/beyond-books/libraries-are-for-everyone/>

Mentioned by Melody Scagnelli-Townley

Social Workers in Libraries

* Grant program
  + <https://www.congress.gov/bill/118th-congress/house-bill/3006/text/ih?overview=closed&format=txt>
  + <https://sylviagarcia.house.gov/media/press-releases/congresswoman-garcia-reintroduces-bill-increase-number-social-workers-libraries>
* Section within NJLA being established - to come soon

Mentioned by Jeff Cupo

NJLA Conference review/ update

* Still receiving surveys and feedback (at the time of the meeting)
* Nothing new for the 2024 meeting.
* Still will be in Atlantic City - best space, best rates, etc.
* Issues:
  + Food availability and access
  + Tried to make sure more options were open and an accurate DoorDash List
* Numbers were way up from previous year- great turn out
  + Institutional membership allow for more people to attend
* Contact/ reach out to Joy Robinson with any comments, etc.

EDI Initiative and Meeting Updates:

* Meeting was held on June 8.
* Statewide coalition and collaboration with New Jersey State Library, Library Link NJ (LLNJ), New Jersey Association of Library Assistance, NJLA
  + Coordinates efforts in EDI throughout the state
* Refocusing efforts on concrete actionable efforts - sent out a survey to narrow down the focus (survey to be at the meeting on July 13)
* Professional development for EDI initiatives
  + Money for library staff for professional Development
  + Pilot program
    - Application and selection process

Other Comments/ Announcements:

End of meeting: 11:22am