

## **ET Section Minutes from 10/19/18**

**Next Meeting will be Friday, 1/18/2019 from 10:00-12:00 at the Lawrence Headquarters Branch, 2751 Brunswick Pike, Lawrenceville, NJ 08648. Additional information will be sent in December with the Agenda If you can't attend we will send a virtual link the day before through Google Hangout.**

**This ET meeting was after a Mentor NJ meeting at Cherry Hill Public Library on Friday, 10/19/18.**

The topics discussed were

1. NJLA Conference in 2019.
2. The Name Change for the ET Section. Megan Kociolek will send out a Google Doc form for section members to vote on in December.
3. The new Bylaws were discussed and will also be sent with the Google Doc form for section members to vote on in December.
4. The Tech Boot Camp will take place in late April 2019 in Somerset New Jersey.
5. We will be looking for members to run for President (Innovation Expert), Vice-President (Rockstar Expert), and Secretary (Word Expert) for the 2019 Calendar year.

## LibraryLinkNJ Updates for NJLA Section & Round Table Meetings

### The Future of LibraryLinkNJ

- A brief snapshot of results from our [Save LLNJ Survey](#), which closed on 9/20: Would you support the library community prioritizing its funding request to the legislature to identify stable, ongoing funding for LibraryLinkNJ as the top priority for library funding in FY2019 and FY2020?
  - Total responses: 689
  - YES: 94% (645)
  - NO: 6% (44)

Background information: LibraryLinkNJ has adopted a budget for July 2018 - June 2019 that requires libraries participating in delivery services to contribute to its cost for the period January 1, - June 30, 2019.

The current budget - even with library contributions for delivery – is still \$370,000 short of full funding for LibraryLinkNJ. This deficit is the result of several unfortunate circumstances, including an increase in the cost of services and continued flat funding from the state. In years past, we have made up for any deficits through reserve funding. That funding, however, has now run out.

**If additional funding is not secured and secured soon, LibraryLinkNJ will close for good. LibraryLinkNJ has already had to put a contingency plan in place, with staff layoffs starting in January 2019 and with LibraryLinkNJ dissolving entirely in June 2019.** There is great uncertainty regarding the future of all of the services LibraryLinkNJ provides: delivery, continuing education, innovation projects, and a voice for advocacy for the entire library community as a whole.

LibraryLinkNJ is funded through the Network Aid line in the State Library's budget. That budget line funds a number of other services in addition to LibraryLinkNJ.

**We are doing this survey in hopes of demonstrating that there is a high level of consensus among the library community to sustain funding for LibraryLinkNJ and its services into the future.** We appreciate your time and hope you will join our efforts to save LibraryLinkNJ!

- [Advocacy Form](#): **Action Item** open until further notice. We're gathering stories from staff at member libraries about the difference LibraryLinkNJ has made in your careers and in your libraries' abilities to serve your communities. If you have a specific story to share about LibraryLinkNJ services -- continuing education, innovation project funding, and delivery -- we'd love to hear from you!
- [Virtual Town Hall Meetings](#): we're holding these updates for our membership via Adobe Connect on as close to a monthly basis as we can. We can accommodate up to 100 individual participants in real time, but if someone at your library registers, you can participate with them as a group. We are also archiving recordings of and agendas from each meeting on our website.
  - [October Virtual Town Hall Meeting](#): This meeting was held on 10/17, and included updates from our Advocacy Task Force and a recap of a major meeting on 10/15 we held with stakeholders from around the state.
  - November Virtual Town Hall Meeting: will be held on 11/7; we'll open registration for it by 10/26

## CE Updates

- Recent webinar archive: Revisiting Changes, Trends, and Values: Futures Thinking for Libraries, with [Miguel Figueroa](#)
- [MentorNJ Networking Event](#) was held on 10/5 at Monroe Township Public Library
- Save the date for **Readers' Advisory PLUS**, an all-ages Readers' & Cultural Advisory Unconference on February 6, 2019 at the Monroe Township Public Library (snow date: February 8)! We're partnering with NJLA's Readers' Advisory Round Table and [LibraryReads](#).