

NJLA Diversity & Outreach Section Meeting Minutes  
Virtual Meeting  
November 15, 2018

**Attendance:** *Google Hangouts:* Kate Angelo (LBPL) Ally Blumenfeld (EPL), Jeff Cupo (MPL), Stephen Felle (TBBC), Andrew Gerber (NBPL), Melissa Hoznik (EBPL), Zoe Lopez (SCLS), Mi-Sun Lyu (LLNJ), David Perez (LBPL), Enola Romano (MPL), Selwa Shamy (SCLS) Jen Schureman (GCLS)

**Reports:**

NJLA Executive Board: Jen mentioned that there has not been an Executive Board meeting since the last D&O meeting on October 25. The next Executive Board meeting is on Tuesday, November 20, 10:00am, at South Brunswick Public Library.

State Library/TBBC: The State Library is sharing a [survey](#) asking participants to rank statewide services in New Jersey in order of importance.

LLNJ: Mi-Sun directed members to the [Google document](#) shared by Sophie Brookover, outlining updates from the October Meeting, information about upcoming Virtual Town Hall Meetings, and a save the date for the Readers' Advisory PLUS Unconference, on February 6, 2019. Mi-Sun shared a link to an [Advocacy Form](#); LLNJ is gathering stories from NJ libraries about the difference LLNJ has made personally and professionally.

**DO-IT Conference Feedback:**

Ally shared a [spreadsheet](#) including brief versions of the 42 evaluations that were turned in at the DO-IT Conference.

Members agreed to aim for an annual DO-IT Conference with a different theme each year. Save the date: **November 14, 2019**. Location: TBD. Members are considering a new location more amenable to bringing in outside refreshments, as RVCC had a contract with a campus vendor. Possible locations include Monroe Township Public Library and Monmouth County Library Headquarters. While the conference will still be free, members will seek out funding opportunities for refreshments, or offer attendees the choice to make lunch requests and chip in the day of the conference. It was determined that it is more important that the conference be offered free of charge than to provide refreshments.

Mi-Sun will send out the slides and handouts via email to all LLNJ subscribers, not only conference attendees. It was agreed that the information should be shared regardless of attendance. Jen and Ally will provide Mi-Sun with two additional links to include: a digital version of the feedback survey for anyone who did not complete it at the conference, and a survey asking for suggestions for the topic of next year's conference.

**NJLA Annual Conference Program Proposals:**

- Inclusive Programming (Working Title) - Jen will submit

- Jen and Erica Krivopal are developing a pre-conference on the topic of creating youth programs inclusive of children who are differently abled. Speakers will include occupational therapists and others who work directly with these children in non-library capacities. Potential for involvement from librarians who can share hands-on action steps and tools that library staff can use to improve inclusiveness in their youth programming
- Outreach Librarian Meet-Up - Ally will submit
  - Informal meet-up for anyone who does outreach work, including Bookmobile Librarians and Outreach Librarians, to talk shop
- Social Workers in Libraries (Working Title) - David will submit
  - David and social workers in libraries across the country have been meeting to collaborate, facilitated by PLA. He will invite a colleague from Brooklyn Public Library to participate in a roundtable to update NJ library workers about the evolving and expanding possibilities for social workers in libraries.
- Inclusion in the Workplace - Jen/Ally will submit
  - An expansion of the program presented at the DO-IT Conference, with additional speakers who work in libraries discussing their experiences fighting for inclusion, and potentially HR or workplace specialists.
- Librarians Fighting the Opioid Crisis: A Conversation Starter - David/Ally/Jen will submit
  - In conjunction with Urban Libraries, library staff who have had NARCAN training will take part in a conversation starter about what it means to fight the opioid crisis from inside a library. Possibility for other experts to be involved. Goal would be to examine the issue from multiple sides.
- Adopt-A-Library Drive for Puerto Rico - Tanya Finney-Estrada will submit
  - Tanya has been communicating with ALA about hosting an Adopt-a-Library Drive at NJLA and we have been partnered with a PR library.

At the D&O Table this year, we will put together a Bookmobile Spotlight tri-fold, have Save the Dates for the 2019 DO-IT Conference, and make D&O buttons.

### **In between meetings**

All members can contribute to the Twitter (@njlado) feed - email Nola at [enola.romano@montclair.bccls.org](mailto:enola.romano@montclair.bccls.org) for log-in information.

Members-at-Large for 2018-2019 will be assigned the task of administering the LLNJ D&O Resource Page. We are preparing for the possibility of LLNJ no longer hosting the site; in which case, the site will be hosted by Jersey Connect or NJLA, and D&O members can be trained by Mi-Sun in using Drupal to update it.

The next meeting will be held on **December 13, 2018 via Google Hangouts**.

Ally motioned to adjourn. Jen approved, seconded by Nola.

Submitted by Ally Blumenfeld