



Sustainability and Resiliency Section Meeting

Thursday, November 9, 2023 at 2pm

Google Meet <https://tel.meet/ttm-jzwh-jxj?pin=7593294625264>

Present: Larissa Brookes, Emily Abramenko, Cara Berg, Lisa O’Shaughnessy and Mary Catherine Sudiak.

The meeting was called to order at 2:02. As there was not a quorum of members at the meeting no vote was taken on the minutes. Mary asked if there were any comments on the minutes. Larissa indicated that she would like the minutes to reflect that it was not the staff in general to whom she reached out but the administration. Mary will update the minutes.

Larissa opened the discussion by mentioning that she had just virtually attended the ALA Sustainable Roundtable meeting. She indicated that she found it to be very informative. One of the things that she noted in particular was that the Roundtable had a book award program. This opened a discussion about having our Section sponsor a book award. Emily mentioned that we could potentially reach out for grant money. It was commented that we could have it as part of a program. We would have to develop criteria and policy. Also discussed possibly having a raffle for a presenter. Emily suggested that we relate the award to the State of NJ such as the NJ Flower or the NJ fruit.

Another thought that Larissa shared was having an award for promoting and practicing wellness in libraries and said it would be great if NJLA could give such an award and maybe include recognition. It would highlight what NJLA libraries are doing.

The concept of having a Section Book Club was the next topic discussed. One topic of managing climate anxiety was suggested.



We talked about how to share information such as Google doc and Wakelet. Larissa said to keep in Google.

She then suggested that we request that NJLA have vendors and attendees sign an optional Sustainability. Although the suggestion is to have it be optional it would be encouraged. Cara mentioned she could look into it.

Recapping the Northeast Summit . One of the notable comments was that Rebekkah Smith Aldrich, co-founder of the Sustainable Libraries, mentioned that it was an iterative process to get it going.

It was mentioned that there are state library Trustee Boards, such as New York, that have committed to sustainable core values and have it in their handbook. Mary indicated that she would reach out to the Trustee Board president as she is the current president of Cranford.

Lisa mentioned using Lib guide for resources that it would be good for SRS to come up with some input.

Emily mentioned the giveaways and other activities that could be done in more sustainable ways . She mentioned that for Halloween Haunted House Spooky Stacks that they used black sheets instead of trash bags which can be used from year to year.

The NJLA article on code red and code blue was discussed next. Several people indicated that they thought it was well done.

The last item that was discussed was programming proposals for NJLA's conference. Larissa mentioned she was going to submit one on Seed Library's. She encouraged others to think about other programming that the Section could do.

At 2:47 Larissa asked for a move to adjourn which was made by Lisa and seconded by Mary.