

Orange Library Association (OLA)  
General Meeting  
Albert Wisner Public Library (Warwick)  
April 6, 2017  
2:00pm

Present: Mary Susan Flannery Climes – Middletown, Rosaleen Leahy – Cornwall, Pamela Hawks – Cornwall, Ginny Neidermier – Walden, Patty Sussmann – Newburgh, Robert Hubsher – RCLS, Laurie Angle – Warwick, Catina Strauss – Monroe, Lisa Hewel – Walden, Annette Shaughnessy – Florida, Caroline Siecke-Pape – Tuxedo, Ginny O’Neill – Tuxedo, Beverly Arlequeew – Port Jervis, Rosemary Cooper – Warwick, Diane Loomis – Tuxedo, Grace Riario – RCLS, Claudia Depkin – Haverstraw, Mary Lou Carolan – Cornwall.

The meeting was called to order at 2:08pm by Patty Sussmann.

- I. **Approval of Minutes:** A motion was made to approve the minutes from the January 23, 2017 Director’s Council Meeting by Catina Strauss, seconded by Ginny Neidermier, and unanimously approved.
  
- II. **Treasurer’s Report:** A motion was made by Rosemary Cooper to approve the Treasurer’s Report (balance as of January 2017), seconded by Beverly Arlequeew, and unanimously approved.
  
- III. **President’s Report:**
  - OLA donated \$200 to help pay for busing to NYLA advocacy Day on March 1.
  
  - In late March, we had our County Meet & Greet (had been postponed due to Blizzard Stella) and it was a wonderful event. We had representatives from 12 of our libraries, Orange Ulster BOCES, as well as 10 different county agencies.

Three events coming up:

- 1) Leadership Orange is hosting ***Experience Orange***, April 26, 2017, 5:30 PM at Villa Venezia, 2257 Goshen Turnpike, Middletown, NY. Event description: With hundreds of food, beverage and artisan shops located in Orange County, it's

difficult to experience every one. Experience Orange County is about bringing the best of Orange County to one location. Not only will this event give you the opportunity to try new things, but it will also give you the opportunity to use every one of your senses to fully understand what Orange County has to offer.

There was a brief discussion on being a vendor or just attending? There was agreement that we should just attend as a group and to learn more about it.

- 2) **Social media event** - For staff and volunteers at Hudson Valley historical sites, museums, and not-for-profits: Saturday, May 6, 2017 from 10:30am – Noon at SUNY Orange, Kaplan Hall Room #201, One Washington Center, Newburgh, NY. The event is free, seating is limited, and reservations are suggested. Contact MJ Goff at (845) 360-6978, or email [mgoff@orangecountygov.com](mailto:mgoff@orangecountygov.com) and include the number of guests. Hosted by social media expert, Nicole Scholet de Villavicencio, the workshop will focus on how to boost public awareness and reach target audiences through Facebook, Twitter, Instagram, Periscope, and other social media platforms. Topics to be discussed include how to utilize both common and event-specific social media platforms for event advertising. Attendees need not bring a laptop, but paper and pen for note-taking.
  
- 3) Lisa Kochick (through CLOUSC) has alerted us to the Junior League of Orange County's first "**Girl Empowerment Expo**" event to be held in Newburgh at South Middle School on Saturday, May 20, 2017 from 9-3 p.m. The organization has reached out to Newburgh Free Library to participate in the event as a vendor table. Staffing this event has become complicated with only Newburgh Staff, so Patty is wondering if other libraries would like to partner and register as an Orange County Libraries vendor table and help pull together resources and materials to reflect library support for Girl Empowerment.

If you are interested in helping to staff the information table, please respond to me by Monday, April 10 with the following information: Your Name, Your Library, Your Email and indicate which "shift" you would want to work: all day 9:00-3:00; Morning only [setup 8:30ish to Noon]; or Afternoon only [Noon to cleanup 3:30ish]

- We had an inquiry from Melissa Cody (PT at Goshen) about whether OLA has a scholarship program. She has just started an online MLS program at Syracuse. The idea has been raised in the past, but no action was taken. Patty is passing the inquiry on to the membership.

A brief discussion on whether we have the funds? It was suggested to put on a future agenda for discussion. LARC's scholarship is \$1,000. A potential staff development scholarship was discussed. A committee needs to be formed.

- A copy of the 2017 library directory is available in print and on the OLA website. Please double-check if information is correct.
- Patty requested a show of hands to see who is receiving OLA emails. Martha Sullivan at RCLS is the contact for checking the OLA email list. Catina Strauss to add new members to the OLA list.
- Please send Patty photos of things happening at your library to help update the OLA website.

#### IV. **Committee Reports:**

**Nominating Committee:** we are in need of an additional person to serve on this committee.

**Programming:** Diane Loomis reported on a potential author event with Colson Whitehead to be held in the fall. This event would be made possible through collaboration with the Tuxedo Park Library Authors' Circle. The main event to be held in Tuxedo, and would be a low-key book discussion and signing. A discussion on the specifics of OLA's involvement: would OLA be willing to purchase books for a book discussion? OLA will plan to put together a package outlining how we will participate (in conjunction with the Tuxedo Authors Circle). A motion made by Beverly Arlequeew to allow OLA to allocate \$3,500 towards purchasing books for this event (approx. 10 copies per library). The motion was seconded by Diane Loomis and unanimously approved.

- #### V. **Old Business:** Patty Sussmann will plan another Director's Council meeting in the coming year. The proposed Colson Whitehead author event will be on the agenda, as well as a Meet & Greet with Orange County Legislators.

- VI. **New Business**: Following the meeting there will be a presentation by Margo Gustina, Trustee Development Consultant for the Southern Tier Library System and Eli Guinee, Exec. Director of Chautauqua-Cattaraugus Library System: “Hooray for Freedom! Privacy, Confidentiality & Intellectual Freedom in the Public Library
- VII. **Adjournment**: A motion to adjourn was made by Diane Loomis at 2:48pm, seconded by Beverly Arlequeew and unanimously approved.

Respectfully submitted,

Pamela Hawks