

**ORANGE LIBRARY ASSOCIATION  
DIRECTORS' MEETING  
SEPTEMBER 14, 2005**

**Attendance:**

Brenda Adams, Florence Brady, Suzanne Brahm, Doris Callan, Lynn Coppers, Claudia Depkin, Robert Hubsher, Kevin Gallagher, Pauline Kehoe, Martha LaValle, Molly Robbins, Suzanne Skeels, Stephanie Thiel, Muriel Verdibello

Claudia Depkin called the meeting to order at 10:38 A.M. in Tuxedo.

Motion to approve the minutes of the last Director's Meeting of February 23, 2005 made by Suzanne Skeels and seconded by Stephanie Thiel. Minutes approved as written.

**Treasurer's Report**

Balance in our account as of 9/14/2005 is \$4,201.13. Additional funds are anticipated with the annual membership drive in November.

**Finance Committee**

Molly Robbins, who is new to this committee, will be meeting with Marilyn McIntosh and Suzanne Skeels.

**Legislative/Advocacy Committee**

Outgoing President will be the Chair of this committee. A request for \$200,000 funding for 2006 has been sent to Orange County. Ed Diana at the Legislative Breakfast quoted a figure of \$115,000 for 2006.

**Publicity Committee**

OLA has received three mentions in the Times Herald Record: Announcement of new officers, OLA Bash and EXPO.

More bags and books are needed for the EXPO. Additional people are needed for closing hours. More member libraries should support this event as a way of promoting OLA.

## **Program Committee**

A program on marketing your library will be presented by Monroe Library staff members at our October 12 General Meeting. A program on the FISH Philosophy will be scheduled for the 2006 Annual Meeting. Huguenot Street in New Paltz is one possibility for the Annual Bash.

## **Old Business**

An OLA website will be developed thanks to a \$5000 grant from Senator Larkin. OLA will be working with a web designer, Seacoast, who has experience working with not-for-profit organizations.

Our request for 2006 Orange County grant has been submitted. OLA has requested funding of \$200,000.

Salary survey is in the works but several libraries have not yet provided their information.

## **New Business**

A gift basket (value \$50-\$75) will be sent to the RCLS staff involved with the Horizon migration as a thank you.

The Orange County Office of the Aging would be willing to send a member to libraries to help seniors with the new Medicare prescription application. Contact Mary Lou McCarville, Orange County Office for the Aging, 30 Matthews Street, Suite 201, Goshen, NY 10924.

The Mayor of Maybrook will be meeting with Robert Hubsher concerning the Maybrook Reading Center status. The current contract will be extended until that meeting. Montgomery and Walden libraries would be the most impacted if the contract were terminated. Walden's Board of Trustees is not interested in contracting with Maybrook.

Information will be coming to libraries from RCLS concerning the Ebook grant in the next six to eight weeks.

## **New Financial Model for RCLS**

The Personnel/Finance Sub-Committee of RCLS asked System Services Committee to work on a proposal for a new financial model for RCLS. The next step would be to take the model to the full Director's Association.

LARC has had a meeting to discuss this, which trustees attended.

Fees for member libraries would phase in over six years. Model calls for \$1,000 fixed fee plus a per capita fee based on the RCLS deficit. The projected deficit for 2005 is \$180,000. The plan would be implemented in 2007 but would use 2005 numbers to allow member libraries to plan their budgets.

System Services Committee reported that sanctions could be used if libraries did not support the new financial model. Sanctions could be reduction in services to non-supporting libraries. It is also legally possible for libraries to opt out of the library system. Suffolk County on Long Island uses a similar model and needed to obtain a waiver from the State. System Services Committee recommended a majority vote from the Director's Association for approval of the RCLS budget, while Suffolk County requires a 2/3 majority.

Has RCLS thought of outside funding? It is highly unlikely that monies would be available from the county. RCLS would have to find out from the State what could be done legally regarding fund raising.

RCLS board requires that 7 months of operating costs be retained because the state money comes in July so without a fund balance RCLS would have to borrow money. RCLS does not have a capitol reserve fund.

Explanation of the RCLS budget approval process: RCLS Director prepares a budget based on the Plan of Service for the Personnel/Finance Committee of RCLS which is then presented to the RCLS Board of Trustees who adopt a preliminary budget which is presented at the Annual Meeting and then given to the System Services Committee. Directors see the final budget at their November meeting. Final budget is approved at the December meeting of the RCLS Board of Trustees.

An annual report is made to the State explaining how the budget relates to the plan of service.

Discussion followed of various directors' concerns.

The next meeting will be a General Meeting on October 12, 2005 and the next Directors' Meeting will be December 7, 2005.

Respectfully submitted,

Florence Brady  
Secretary