



163 US Highway 130 N, Building 1, Suite 1C, Bordentown, NJ 08505
(609) 482-1282 | njla.org

NJLA Executive Board Meeting Minutes

July 18, 2023, 10:00 a.m.

Piscataway Public Library - Kennedy, 500 Hoes Lane, Piscataway, NJ and via Zoom

1. Call to Order: Carina Gonzalez, President *10:20 am*
2. Adoption of Agenda: Carina Gonzalez, President - *approved*
3. Welcome and Introductions.
Attendance: Brett Bonfield, Carina Gonzalez, Allan Kleiman, Rosy Wagner, Darby Malvey,
Adriana Mamay, Ralph Bingham, Joy Robinson, Jeff Cupo, Jen Nelson, Cara Berg, Ally Blumenfeld, John Wallace, Will Porter (left 10:50am), Selwa Shamy, Lynnette Fucci, Jessica Trujillo, Emily Witkowski, Tony Joachim, Alicia Gough, Laverne Mann, Karen Cerra, Bonnie Lafazan
4. Partner Organizations Reports
 - a. [NJSL: Jen Nelson](#)
 - b. **LibraryLinkNJ: Ralph Bingham**
 - i. NJLA and LLNJ met to better collaborate on ideas
 - ii. LLNJ looking into ways to improve delivery
 - iii. Keep an eye out for more online learning opportunities soon
 - iv. Book Bash coming up
 - c. [NJASL: Darby Malvey](#)
 - d. Rutgers University: Lilia Pavlovsky- *no update*
 - e. NJLTA: Pat Pavlak- *update provided by Brett*
5. Adoption of Meeting Minutes- *approved*
6. Financial Reports: **Allan Kleiman, Treasurer (report coming later)****
 - a. Overall the organization is in good financial health
 - b. Have not yet received all Conference expenses and revenues
 - c. Mini grants totaling \$7,500 are included in the new fiscal year budget
 - d. Allan recommends the last two pages of the report to get the best sense of expenses and revenue
7. Reports
 - a. [Laverne Mann, ALA Councilor](#)
 - i. Idaho Library Commission also considering leaving ALA
 - b. [Carina Gonzalez, President](#)
 - i. Carina assessed regional library representation within NJLA sections and leadership- Central Jersey is highest, followed by North Jersey around 26% and South Jersey lowest around 14%
 - ii. Efforts coming to promote EIM to those regions, promote NJLA to those



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- iii. Breakdown of NJLA Presidential plan for the year by Carina and Jeff
 - 1. Listed in priority order, not deadline/launch date
 - 2. Website will launch January 2024
 - 3. Discussion followed regarding the creation of a Strategic Plan
 - a. Let Brett know directly if there is something you want to see addressed in this plan
 - iv. Lynette Fucci challenged the idea of Exec Board investigating why the Master's is required to certify Librarians
 - 1. Jessica proposed a task force to do the research
 - 2. Jeff clarified this would simply be research
 - 3. John Wallace shared his support for the idea
 - 4. Darby Malvey commented on pay versus value of the Masters-how do we use this research to encourage our institutions to provide salary commensurate with education
- c. [Brett Bonfield, Executive Director](#)
- i. Brett attended the [JMLS 2023 National Medal for Museum and Library Service Ceremony](#) at the White House to see them honor the Long Branch Public Library
 - ii. Discussion about Presidential Plan replacing Strategic Plan
 - 1. Multiple board members (John Wallace, Rosy Wagner, Adriana Mamay) questioned this, Carina asserted that she does not want this to replace a strategic plan
 - 2. Brett mentioned concerns about NJLA having the capacity to take on too many initiatives concurrently
 - 3. Tabled for further discussion
8. Old Business
9. New Business
- a. [ALA President Emily Drabinsky and the Montana State Library Commission](#)
(information or action)
 - i. Jessica Trujillo proposes an official statement from NJLA
 - ii. Resolution for Executive Director and President to issue statement to support Emily and ALA proposed by Allan Kleiman
 - iii. Seconded by Joy Robinson
 - iv. Carina shared that a member requested more than statements with regards to showing support
 - v. Allan suggested having Emily come and speak to NJLA members
 - vi. Carina requests amendment to resolution to include Emily's name in statement and speaking invitation



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- vii. Allan Kleiman moved, Joy seconded
 - viii. All board members voted in favor
- 10. Committees, Sections, and Task Forces
 - a. Liaison assignments for Executive Board members and NJLA staff
 - i. Carina reminds everyone to select desired sections and committees in Memberclicks in order to receive communication
- 11. Good of the Order
- 12. Next Meeting- Zoom only
- 13. Adjourn
 - a. Adriana moved, Rosy seconded