

Minutes
Reads-To-Go Meeting
Monday December 5, 2022 3 pm
Via Go-To-Meetings

Present: Brianna Hemmah, Martha Simmons, Michele Ricca, Gail Zachariah, Tricia Ryden

Call to Order: Brianna called the meeting to order at 3:05 pm.

Acceptance of Minutes: The Minutes of the previous meeting were accepted.

Old Business:

- **NELA/NHLA Conference Presentation:** Brianna reported that 11 people attended the Reads-To-Go presentation at NELA/NHLA, including someone on both the YALS and CLNH boards who was able to help further the discussion of YALS/CLNH participation in NHKitKeeper (see discussion in New Business).
- **Collection Development Policy final review:** Brianna has updated the document based on the changes suggested by the Committee. Martha suggested one more change in the paragraph about vetting titles requested by libraries. It should now say: "All titles are vetted by the Committee before assignment, and the Committee may choose to decline a requested title."
- **New Kits being added:** Brianna gave a progress report on New Kits being added to KitKeeper. *American Dirt*, *Rooted*, and *Project Hail Mary* have been added. Brianna has not heard back from the Library that is supposed to be hosting *Grey Bees*, so that is still pending.

New Business:

- **Request for removal of A Girl Named Zippy:** The Committee agreed to the request from a Library to remove their kit, *A Girl Named Zippy*. Brianna will contact them to see if they would like to host a replacement kit. If not she will ask them to send back the bag to her. Michele wondered whether there needs to be a clearer statement of the process of de-accessioning a kit. Brianna noted that the steps are on the FAQ page of the website. Michele pointed out that there is a formatting problem on that page that makes it hard to see the full explanation of the steps. Brianna will contact the webmaster on the READS board to make the changes.
This led to a discussion about how to get the word out to libraries about hosting a kit, and about remembering to look for KitKeeper email requests. Gail pointed out that there have been problems with libraries remembering to send kits that have been requested. Martha suggested that things like staff turn-over and changes in library email addresses could be

part of the problem. Gail pointed out that it might be a good idea to send out an email reminder to all kit-holding libraries (by copying all of the emails we have in KitKeeper and sending a group email) reminding them to keep an eye out for kitkeeper emails. Brianna suggested we get the word out on multiple fronts, including the ILL and NHAIS listservs.

- **Newmarket Public Library has offered to host a kit of *Palaces for the People* by Eric Klinenberg.** They have 10 paperback copies left over from a program they hosted. As a sociology book about Libraries, it is an unusual title for a kit, but Gail pointed out that some libraries might want to use the kit if they are doing something like raising funds for a renovation and want to spark a community discussion about the role of libraries in communities. The Committee agreed. Brianna will contact Newmarket to see if they are willing to pay for the remaining copies needed to host the kit.
- **NH KitKeeper Statistics Spreadsheet:** Brianna updated the Committee on the situation with the KitKeeper Statistics Spreadsheet. Brianna asked for the statistics, but they were sent in a way that is not easily searchable. Then when she went back to do more work with the statistics the link was broken. She has asked for them to be sent again. Brianna asked if it would make sense for the last circulation date to be added to the spreadsheet. Martha agreed that it would be useful but worried about how much time and effort it might take Brianna to do it. Brianna said it is worthwhile to do it if it would be helpful. The Committee agreed it would be helpful. Martha offered to help.
- **Centralizing Information on the NH KitKeeper Google Account:** The Committee agreed with Brianna that everything should be kept on one drive so things like the title list won't have to be updated in more than one place. Brianna pointed out that it is best to keep the information on the NH KitKeeper drive rather than the NHLA drive because there are limitations on the NHLA drive. The Committee agreed. Brianna will do the centralizing.
- **Template for discussion questions:** Brianna sent out the template for discussion questions for the kits with an example from a current kit. Brianna pointed out that she has been doing the discussion questions for years, but will not be able to do it anymore with her change in roles. The job of discussion questions will have to be taken up by other Committee members.
- **CLNH/YALS participation in NH KitKeeper:** As mentioned above, Brianna reported that a member of both CLNH and YALS came to the NELA/NHLA RTG presentation. She got the discussion of whether they want to participate in NH KitKeeper moving again on each committee. CLNH has declined. YALS is considering it. The READS board will wait to see what they decide before deciding how to proceed, but READS is inclined to welcome YALS to KitKeeper if they decide to join. One option is to see whether it is possible for NH KitKeeper to have a book listed in more than one dropdown menu. If so, then we could add not only YA as a category in the drop down menu options, but also genres. Brianna will check with Katie to see if this is possible.

- **Minutes and Annual Reports on NHLA website:** Brianna noted that while not every READS subcommittee does formal reports, minutes, etc, RTG does. Brianna has posted our RTG Committee minutes for the last two years and her Annual Reports for the last 4 years on the website.
- **Readstogo and reads-to-go domains:** Brianna reported that both domain names will be auto-renewing in January. They are attached to the NHLA debit card. The cost is \$20 each per year.
- **Chair Transition:** Brianna and Gail will be meeting separately to discuss the transition to Gail becoming Chair of RTG. Brianna informed the Committee that she will keep doing NH KitKeeper database stuff as a member of the Committee, although she will not likely be able to attend meetings for a while. Martha is willing to help with the database work, and both Martha and Michele are willing to learn how to do more of that work. Gail asked who else has specific responsibilities on the Committee, beyond Brianna doing the NH KitKeeper database work. Tricia is the secretary, and Martha answers the NH KitKeeper gmail account. Gail also asked about the number of people on the Committee. Brianna pointed out that some people are readers only who vote on books but can't attend the meetings. She noted that others are "lurkers," meaning that they haven't voted on books or attended meetings, but they are still interested in being on the email list. Martha suggested that it might be helpful to have an annual email check-in to all Committee members to clarify their status. Gail said she will send that email.
- **Book Discussion:** Brianna pointed out that it has been a while since a library has requested the list of potential titles. Lately there have been more people requesting to host a specific title rather than expressing an interest in hosting and having us offer them a list of titles. Gail wondered if we still need the list given this trend. Brianna mentioned that the list is still useful, especially when offering replacement titles to libraries that are weeding their kit. Martha suggested we start sending out the list to the NHAIS list on a quarterly basis to help boost interest and awareness of the list. The Committee agreed that there is still value to the list.

The Midnight Library, *Crying in H Mart*, and *The Lincoln Highway* are all approved for kits but are taking a while before being released in paperback, but Brianna pointed out that sometimes libraries agree to host a kit even if there will be a wait before the book is released in paperback. The group agreed to remove some of the books on the potential list, including *The Sentence* (we already have other books by that author) and *Somebody's Daughter*. There are a few books on there that need more readers, including *Olga Dies Dreaming*, and *West with Giraffes*. *The Kitchen Front*, *Remarkably Bright Creatures* and *Lessons in Chemistry* were moved to Voted books.

Gail raised the idea of having a potential survey for book clubs included in the Kit folder. It could contain a QR code leading to the form on the website for suggesting a title for a kit. It was suggested that we email the document to host libraries to print out themselves

and put in their kits. It could also be added to the reproducibles on the website. The Committee agreed this would be a good idea.

- **Thank you Brianna!:** The Committee thanked Brianna for all of her amazing work as Chair of the Reads-To-Go Committee!

Adjournment: The meeting was adjourned at 4:57 pm.

Next meeting TBD: Gail will send out a few possible dates for the next meeting.

Respectfully submitted,
Tricia Ryden