

Minutes
Reads-To-Go Meeting
Monday September 12, 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 3:12 pm (after a few technical difficulties).

Changes to Agenda: Brianna brought up 2 changes to the Agenda:

- The Annual READS meeting will be virtual as well as in person, due to the high costs of attending the NELA/NHLA conference in person, so it will be accessible to more people if anyone wants to come.
- The next READS board meeting on November 11 is a transitional meeting, so that is when Brianna will be stepping down and Gail will be taking over as Chair of Reads-To-Go.

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

Old Business:

- The **Reads-To-Go page** is now up on the new NHLA website. It includes a form for libraries to suggest a kit (which we had talked about having before). Brianna suggested we all take a look at the new site.
- **NELA/NHLA Presentation:** Martha and Brianna will be doing a KitKeeper presentation on Sunday October 23 at 4:30 pm at the Conference.
- **New Kits progress report:** Brianna reported that most of the libraries that have withdrawn kits have added new kits to replace them, including Manchester which is adding *Project Hail Mary* as a replacement for a kit they weeded.

The Book Woman's Daughter - added

Brooklyn – added

Facing the Mountain – added

The Heart of the Deal - added

Interior Chinatown – added

I Am Malala – added

Paper Palace – added

Project Hail Mary - pending

The Spirit Catches You and You Fall – added

Travels with George - added

Underground Railroad - pending

The Vanishing Half - added

Varina – added

New Business:

Collection Development Policy: The Committee had a good in-depth discussion of the Collection Development policy, as well as practices surrounding it. As far as the policy itself, there was discussion of whether we should codify what we mean by current titles, and whether we should specify that we occasionally allow older titles that have become newly popular to become kits. It was decided that we should make it clear that we prioritize newer titles, but that the Committee might consider adding other titles requested by libraries. The committee also discussed the inclusion of YA titles. We decided that it makes sense to just indicate that we are making kits for Adult book discussion groups, without specifying whether the books themselves are YA or Adult. That way we leave the door open for the occasional YA or cross-over title that we might want to make into a kit. Brianna will work on making those changes to the document and will email it to the Committee for feedback. Brianna pointed out that any changes to the actual mission statement would need to also be updated on the brochure, which Martha will make shareable.

We also discussed practices surrounding collection development of kits. Brianna clarified what her practices have been as Chair. In terms of fielding requests, she brings virtually every request to create a kit to the RTG Committee and lets the committee decide. When offering titles to libraries, she gives libraries the list of voted-on titles and lets them choose from that list, rather than assigning a title. Martha suggested that we prioritize certain titles from our list of voted-on books, i.e. having a couple of starred titles, while still allowing libraries to choose from any of the books on the list. The Committee agreed that this would be a good practice going forward.

The Committee also discussed changes to the RTG spreadsheet. In addition to having one tab for Potential Titles and one for Voted Titles, the Committee decided to add a tab for titles that have been removed from the Potential list, and titles that have been removed from the Voted list, so that we would have a record of that information we could refer back to. Those tabs have been added. It was also suggested that we create a Notes section in the Potential Titles sheet where people could expand upon their Yes or No votes, especially for those unable to come to the meetings and join in the discussion. This change was made as well.

Martha suggested that it might be helpful to have KitKeeper circulation statistics as part of that spreadsheet as well, so that the Committee could use the statistics to help inform title selection. Brianna will work on doing this. Brianna also added it needs to be decided where the master list of RTG titles should live - either on the spreadsheet or on the RTG website, so that we don't have two places to update.

There were a few KitKeeper updates as well. Brianna mentioned that some of the KitKeeper statistics have yet to be repopulated after the Plymouth Rocket server attack. Gail asked how things on Plymouth Rocket are backed up. Brianna will ask Katie at KitKeeper to find out. Michele mentioned that Matt's info is still on the KitKeeper receipts. Brianna will have Katie change that as well. Brianna also mentioned that there is both a KitKeeper email, which

currently Martha and Brianna monitor, as well as an NHLA RTG email, which will need to be changed over to Gail when she takes over as Chair.

Potential Books list: there was little time to discuss books today because of the discussion of Collection Development, but there were some titles removed from the Potential Books list (and moved over to the new Removed from Potential Books tab), including *Band of Sisters*, *Last Chance Library* and *Leave the World Behind*. We ran out of time to go through the Voted Books list, but It was decided that *Mexican Gothic* would become the “starred” pick of the Potential Books list when it is offered to sponsoring libraries.

New Members: Brianna mentioned that we need to do a membership drive at some point for readers for the Committee.

Next meeting: Brianna will send out potential dates for our December meeting.

The meeting was adjourned at 4:57 pm.

Respectfully submitted,
Tricia Ryden