URBAN LIBRARY ADMINISTRATORS CONSORTIUM (ULAC)

MEETING AGENDA
Friday, October 28, 2022
10:00am – Meeting in-person, Kilton Library (Lebanon, NH)
80 Main Street, West Lebanon, NH 03784

Sylvie Brikiatis (Windham), Natalie Ducharme (Salem), Miriam Johnson (Bedford), Heather Ranier (Hooksett), Eric Stern (Derry), Denise Van Zanten (Manchester), Dee Santoso (Manchester), Sean Fleming (Lebanon), Mindy Atwood (Sunapee), Yvette Couser (Merrimack), Mike York (NHSL); Marti Fiske (Keene)

1. CALL TO ORDER – 10:14am


Mindy Atwood introduced herself to the attendees.

3. Association reports
   a) NHSL – Mike discussed the “Come Together” program held in Oyster River. They used Eric Klinenberg’s book as a jumping off point; recommended a program for the Spring NHLA Conference. Mike discussed the lack of people in Concord at the moment, comparative to other locations he’s been visiting. There has been a push by the Governor to get state employees back into their offices, but many are still working remotely. Nothing has come through from the LSRs that is presently of concern to public libraries – mostly things concerning schools. And sadly, they didn’t win the snail... (which is actually a nautilus)
   b) NHAIS
   c) NHLA – bylaws changes went into effect at the NELA/NHLA Conference
   d) NELA
   e) ALA; PLA

4. Old Business
   • Thoughts re ULAC speaker for NHLA Spring Conference, May 4 & 5 in Meredith, at Mill Falls – possible speaker on safety, book challenges, challenges for programming and displays; Sylvie spoke about helping disabled patrons with access; Possibly coordinate with Lori an ALA speaker for the conference; discussion about volunteers; Mindy stated that there have been challenges with shifting from being reactive to being proactive (post-Covid); Denise asked about possibly bringing in someone to address trauma (our collective trauma) re Covid; many of

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the libraries discussed the difference between the Covid world and our busy environment that we’re back in (like the “before” times...) Group discussion about self-sensorship in the age of populism... pros and cons of doing the “trending” programming... Eric will check-in with Lori regarding possible speakers for the Spring Conference.

- Continued follow-up re book/programming challenges at our libraries – Thankfully, nobody has had any formal challenges since our last meeting. Discussion of how to address people who challenge materials... Perhaps the first question should be “are you a resident/cardholder?” Some libraries require both residency and active cardholder status to challenge materials. So far nobody has heard about downloadable book challenges. The group transitioned to talking about policies and codes that are being amended in our respective communities. We then transitioned to discussion of donations (and the financial/other strings attached...)

5. New Business

- Welcome to our meeting, Mindy Atwood! (Any updates/announcements?) – Mindy introduced herself earlier.
- Takeaways from the NELA/NHLA Joint Conference – and how about that ULAC raffle basket!? ;-) – the ULAC Raffle Basket was the 2nd most popular basket at the conference, with a total of 62 tickets sold ($310 brought in). Seems like the parrot did the trick!
- Finalize location for December ULAC meeting – Mike volunteered the State Library for the meeting location, and it was decided that we would be meeting in Concord, at the State Library
- Tour of Kilton Library – Sean lead us on a wonderful tour of the Kilton Library from 11:08 – 11:59. For many of us, it was the first time in the Kilton Library. It is a state-of-the-art, beautiful library! (And speaking on behalf of myself and my library’s HVAC woes, I’m quite envious of the geothermal system they have!) Many thanks to Sean for taking the time to provide such a thorough tour!
- Other? – Given the timing, no other business was discussed.

6. ADJOURNMENT at 12:00pm

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