



READS Executive Board Meeting

Friday, May 14, 2021 10:00AM

Members Present: Kersten Matera, Natalie Moser, Jessica DeLangie, Sue Harmon, Brianna Hemmah, Jane Martina, Alexa Moore, Eileen Gilbert

- Call to Order at 10:01 AM
- **Acceptance of minutes from March 12, 2021: Natalie Moser makes motion, Jessica DeLangie seconds. Motion carries unanimously.**
- Reports
 - [President](#), Kersten Matera
 - [Vice President](#), Natalie Moser
 - [Past President](#), Mindy Atwood
 - [Treasurer](#), Jessica DeLangie
 - [Membership](#), Sue Harmon
 - [Programming](#), Eileen Gilbert
 - Eileen Gilbert will send information on to Jane Martina to update blog and FB page regarding the fall conference.
 - [READS-to-Go](#), Brianna Hemmah
 - [Public Relations Chair](#), Jane Martina
 - [Website Coordinator](#), Alexa Moore
- New Business
 - Nominating Committee: Sue Harmon has accepted nomination for Vice President. Matthew Gunby has accepted re-nomination for Secretary.
 - Bylaw changes and Elections (Distribution of ballots): language within the bylaw for the website coordinator and Reads-to-Go committee. Two-year term for all non-officer positions on the Board with the option to extend if no successor is found. Allow voting by email by the Board and the membership. Add language to voting by email and allowing meetings to occur virtually as determined by the President. Defining a quorum (50%) for the executive board. Kersten Matera will determine if the required number of meetings is quarterly or bi-monthly. Adding

explicitly that virtual meetings require the same quorum (10%) of total membership. Have final verbiage on bylaw changes go out with the officer's election ballot (by August 9th). Natalie Moser will send this to Matthew Gunby before that date.

- Annual Fall Conference: whether any lunch and learn option during the conference is possible.
- READS Archive/Google Drive

- Old Business
 - READS Raffle Campaign
 - Voting members (Website Coordinator): term limits, defining the position within the bylaws.
 - READS Repository: keeping current format for at least a year to determine if a change is needed. Attractiveness of landing page, table of contents.
 - READS Adult Programming Database
 - READS Transition Guides and Handbook updates: Kersten Matera sent this out to the Board members and saved it on the Google Drive. Will make sure all positions in Transition Guide consistently have "member of READS" under requirements.

- Adjourn
 - Next meeting: Friday, July 9, 2021 at 10 AM
 - **Motion to adjourn made by Jessica DeLangie, seconded by Sue Harmon. Motion carries.**

READS President Report – May 2021

I attended the NHLA Board meeting on April 13, 2021. A couple of take-aways include:

- If we have any thoughts on what we'd like to see at the next conference (Spring 2023), please forward them to Denise van Zanten
- NHLA is accepting nominations for the position of VP of NHLA (similar to READS, it is also a three-year term; Vice President/President/Past President)
- When I shared that we are hosting a raffle to encourage submissions to the READS Repository and Adult Programming Database, the Board suggested we post this information to Librarians of the 603 group on Facebook

Emily Weiss from NHLA's EDI Committee sent along the following message after visiting with us at our last READS Board Meeting:

In response to the board's suggestions:

- the committee will work on creating a list of local authors from diverse backgrounds
- we will be happy to work with READS on finding presenters on EDI topics for the Programming Database and will share suggestions as we receive them
- RTG kits: the books recommended on the NHLA EDI resource page might be a good place to start. The link is: <http://nhlibrarians.org/nhla-equity-diversity-inclusion-edi-committee/> (Scroll to the bottom of the page for the book list)
- assisting libraries who are having difficulty finding support for EDI programming: we talked about it and wondered if other directors and coops might be more helpful. If that suggestion is not useful, maybe Natalie (was it Natalie?) wants to talk more to the committee about the problems that she's running into?

I reached out to Pam Smith, the chair for the Bylaws Committee at NHLA and put Natalie in contact with her to assist with our bylaw changes.

I helped READS-to-Go design their new logo and made sure they had a vector file and png for it.

Lori Fisher reached out to me to ask me to contact Senator Maggie Hassan and request she consider co-sponsoring a bipartisan bill, Build America's Libraries Act S. 127. I called Senator Hassan and also emailed her.

Respectfully submitted,
Kersten

READS Vice President Report – May 2021

Parliamentary:

Drafted and submitted to the Executive Board Amendments to Articles VI and IX of the Section's Bylaws. These amendments, if adopted, would make READS-To-Go a Standing Committee and give the Committee's Chairperson a two-year term limit with the option to continue in the role until a successor is nominated/instituted if they so choose, and allow for voting by email. Amendments were structured according to the 11th edition of Robert's Rules of Order.

Researched possible impact of making our Website Coordinator a voting position. Discussed issue with Pamela Smith, who serves on NHLA's Bylaws Committee, who suggested that we create a distinct section within the bylaws specifically addressing that position - its duties, method of appointment, term limit, etc... This would clarify that it is neither a Standing Committee nor an Officer position, but a distinct 'something else'. The article this section would go under and what would be laid out therein is open for discussion.

Other:

Responded to Repository content submissions. Researched capabilities of Google Drive to create a more streamlined table of contents, or landing page, for Repository. Did not discover any good options within Google, but will expand search and see if there are any third-party plug-ins that could work. Submitted update to Handbook and Transition Guide amending Vice President's responsibilities to include oversight of the Repository.

-Respectfully Submitted by Natalie Moser, READS Vice President
05/10/2021

READS Past President Report
May 14, 2021

- Sent sample email texts to READS Board members to promote the READS Award of Excellence one-on-one to their colleagues
- Sent emails to colleagues about the READS Award of Excellence
 - One positive response
- Sent email to library co-op promoting READS Award of Excellence
- Sent multiple requests to NHLA social media co-coordinators asking about the procedure for getting something posted about the READAS Award of Excellence on the NHLA social media accounts. Offered to create a post and send it. No response.

For discussion: Have there been any on-line submissions?

For discussion: What else can we do to promote the award?

Question: Who can access any on-line submissions?

Treasurer's Report May 2021

Balance 03/12/2021 **4,515.91**
Income:

Interest 0.12

Membership 480.00

Fall Program

Reimbursement

Spring Program

Overpayment

Reconciliation

Expenses :

Membership

Publicity

Fall Program

Annual Meeting

Award of Excellence

Program Support

Refund

Spring Program

NHLA

READS TO GO

Banking fees (bounced check)

Misc.

Balance 05/11/2021 **4,996.03**

Respectfully submitted,
Jessica DeLangie, Treasurer

READS Membership Report: May 14, 2021

We currently have 156 Active, Paid members! This time last year, we had 175, so that is a decrease of 10.86%.

Since last report, two members renewed, and we have one member who is new-to-READS. A welcome email was sent out on 5/10/2021.

Newsletter

The newsletter was sent out on Tuesday, April 6, 2021. It reached 151 recipients, and was opened by 56% of recipients (82). 12%, or 35 people, opened links in the email.

The next newsletter will go out on June 1, 2021.

Programming Repository

Worked with Alexa to add tools to the database to help users more easily find programming that focuses on and promotes Equity, Diversity and Inclusion. This includes a question on the intake form, and a tab that collects any programs that have that question answered.

Membership Chair

Reached out to a couple candidates who might be interested in filling the Membership chair position next year.

Respectfully submitted,
Susan Harmon

READS Program Committee --- May 2021

The READS Program Committee sponsored two online Roundtables in April on the topic of pandemic programming. The April 12 Roundtable had 18 participants of 25 registered. The April 19 Roundtable had 9 participants out of 10 registrations. The video made in March for the same topic was made available to READS members through the April newsletter. I would like to see it available to broader NHLA membership in the next month. The material will probably be outdated by the end of summer.

The virtual Fall Conference is set for October 8, 2021. We are planning to use NHLA's Go-to-Meeting platform. The schedule right now is

9:30-11am: RA for All: Flip the Script and Think Like a Reader [Covid Edition]: Join Becky Spratford as she walks you through her 10 Rules of Basic RA Service, completely updated with lessons learned from our Covid experience, explaining how every member of your staff can get involved providing this vital service to readers. Participants will learn why a staff that can harness the power of sharing a great read, whether in person or online, will become a stronger team, improving service to all patrons. And the best part, it all begins with you, the individual staff member, and more specifically, your personal love of your favorite books.

11:15-11:45 READS Annual Meeting and Award of Excellence announcement

12:00-12:45 Lunch and Learn breakout rooms ???

1-2:30 Eastern: Demystifying Genre: Nothing is scarier than trying to help a fan of a genre you yourself don't enjoy. You want to help that, for example, Romance reader find the perfect book, but you are having trouble knowing where to begin because...eek!... you don't read Romance. You are afraid they will find out you are a fraud. How can YOU possibly help THEM?!? Never fear, in this program, Readers' Advisory expert Becky Spratford, will teach you the basic appeals of the major genres, give you the inside track on what a fan of that genre is most drawn to, and provide you with talking points to get your genres readers to tell you what they want. This program focuses on providing you with a diverse and inclusive list of up to date authors with at least 40% of the example titles representing "own voices". You will leave this session with the confidence and skill to help fans of every genre, regardless of whether or not you have ever read a book in that genre yourself. And that will leave a trail of happy patrons in your wake.

Reads-to-Go Report 5/10/21

Kit Development

Kits recently added include: *The Magpie Murders*, *COVID Spring*, *Devil in the White City*, and *I'm Still Here: Black Dignity in a World Made for Whiteness*.

Kits in the process of being added include: *A Year of Silence*, *Intimations*, *Inheritance*, *Exhalations*, and *Giver of Stars*.

Kits currently being offered to Libraries for hosting include: *Akin*, *Dear Edward*, *Deacon King Kong*, *The Glass Hotel*, *Great Believers*, *Interior Chinatown*, *Long Bright River*, *Mexican Gothic*, *Miss Benson's Beetle*, *Such a Fun Age*, *The Switch* and *Where the Crawdads Sing*. Books that can be added after the paperbacks become available are: *Anxious People*, *City We Became*, *The Exiles*, *The Splendid and the Vile*, and *The Vanishing Half*.

READS-to-Go Committee

The READS-to-Go Committee held a meeting 3/15/21. The Committee voted to delete the old READS-to-Go blog, which has since been done. We discussed adding some clarifications to the Processing Instructions. Most of the meeting was spent refreshing the approved titles list.

READS-to-Go Page

Several updates were made to the READS-to-go Page. The Printable Title List was updated and replaced. Two new sets of ILL labels were added and the old labels were removed. New corresponding Discussion Questions were added along with the activation of each kit in NH KitKeeper, as is usual.

There were 29 new kit reservations in March, and 44 in April.

The next READS-to-Go meeting will be held on 6/14/21.

Respectfully Submitted,
Brianna Hemmah

Reads Public Relations Report
May 14, 2021

Newsletter:

- The April/May Newsletter was sent out on April 6, 2021. The next newsletter is scheduled to go out on June 1, 2021. Some potential topics for the upcoming newsletter include: Award of Excellence, READS Repository and Programming Database highlights -- Summer Reading Program, Spring Conference wrap-up, Reads Raffle, Fall Conference Save the Date, or any additional READS news or relevant adult services highlight.
- Resized April/May newsletter graphics for Alexa to post on the blog.

Publicity:

- Posts for the READS Award of Excellence, READS Raffle, READS Programming Database, and READS Repository were scheduled on the NHLA Facebook and Instagram for the month of May. Several posts have already been posted and shared in the Librarians of the 603 Facebook Group (suggested by Kersten!). Another series of posts are being created to be scheduled for June.
- A Call for Submissions for the READS Award of Excellence was sent out to the NHAIS Listserv.

Respectfully Submitted,
Jane Martina
Public Relations Chair

Website Coordinator Report: May 14, 2021

General Updates:

- Updated Blog in April & May with newsletter articles. Jane resized her graphics for me so that they could be included in the blog.
 - READS Roundtable 4/6/21
 - Call for Submissions: READS Award of Excellence! 4/12/21
 - Welcome to the READS Programming Database! 4/19/21
 - READS Raffle! 4/26/21
 - READS Repository: Social Media! 5/3/21
- Worked on READS Website Coordinator Transition Guide

Program Repository

- We now have 39 submissions, only 3 more since our last meeting.
- Continued to reach out to librarians who posted program recommendations to NHAIS.
- Worked with Sue on Program Database to make it easier for users to add and find programming that focuses on and promotes EDI.

Meeting Minutes:

- Posted draft minutes for March 12, 2021 meeting
- Posted approved minutes for January 8, 2021 meeting

Respectfully submitted,
Alexa Moore