

YOUTH SERVICES ADVISORY COUNCIL

Meeting Notes

October 17, 2003—William K. Sanford Town Library (Colonie)

10:00 a.m. – 12:00 noon

Attendance:

Jendy Murphy (Albany Public Library) Trevor Oakley (Guilderland Public Library), Pat Sahr (Nassau Free Library) Sharon Hodges (Petersburg Public Library), Carol Gaillard (Cheney Library), Beth Bomba (William K. Sanford Town Library), David Cole (William K. Sanford Town Library), Ann-Marie Cicchinelli (William K. Sanford Town Library), Ginny LaJuene (Altamont Free Library), Darlene Miller (Castleton Public Library), Kim McMann (Troy Public Library), Lisa Neuman (Menands Public Library), Jane Chirgwin (Sand Lake Town Library & Brunswick Community Library),Christina Stenson-Carey (Albany Public Library--Pine Hills Branch) Diane Riganti (UHLS) Mary Fellows (UHLS)

Pre- and post-meeting

Six folks from small libraries met before the meeting for the small library concerns discussion. After the meeting, two representatives of larger libraries met for discussion. Attendees also had the opportunity to choose books for their libraries from Mary's collection of books received last year as a member of the Notable Books for Children Committee.

UHLS UPDATES

SUNY Albany - Carol Doll, new literature professor at SUNY Albany, is working on including internships in public libraries as part of a new arrangement. She has also inquired about holding children's and young adult literature classes at large public libraries. (Albany Public Library, Guilderland Public Library, Bethlehem Public Library, East Greenbush Community Library all expressed interest following an email Mary sent directors of larger libraries. SUNY Albany will make its own decision on this.)

Kids Pac - There is more work on the indexes to be done. The "vetting" group has attempted working over email on the look and feel, but a meeting is necessary. The group will meet after the November YSAC meeting.

Contest - The Center for the Book in the Library of Congress and Target Stores are sponsoring an essay contest for students in grades 4-12 on how a book inspired them. The essay will be due 12-6-03. A teacher or librarian has to send the entries in. This may be a good partnership with the school. Mary will send information out in a mailing.

New readers - Mary showed copies of "We Both Can Read" books. These books have text for parents on left side and text for kids to read on right side. Libraries who have them say people love them, and concept is great, though illustrations sometimes leave much to be desired. Information on these books is somewhat hard to find. Publisher is Treasure Bay, Inc. Amazon carries the series.

GETTING THE MOST OUT OF STORYTIMES DISCUSSION

The group discussed the article on Children's Librarians as Educators, and Mary provided handouts (checklists) for working towards school readiness in your storytimes. There was a discussion about doing a workshop or meeting segment on storytimes. The value of seeing someone else perform a story hour was also noted. Colonie staff invited people to call and then come to observe.

NEW EYES FOR LIBRARY GUYS

The YSAC is beginning a program called "New Eyes." Interested librarians can host a YSAC meeting and invite attendees to formally assess their youth services spaces (or entire small library) before and after the meeting.

SUMMER READING PROGRAM DISCUSSION

Library staff that did not have time to share at the last meeting discussed the best successes and problems of their summer programs.

NEWS FROM YOU

Anne Simon and members of the Board of Regents visited William K. Sanford Town Library. Regents asked Ann-Marie, Dave and Beth questions such as, "What role do you think libraries play in education process?"

Kim will send in Kindergarten screening forms that are used in Troy Public Schools. Darlene Miller will also send forms. Mary will distribute so we all know what skills schools are looking for. We can put emphasis not only on helping kids to develop them (which we already do), but also on making the connection to funders about our role in school readiness.

Kim announced that there will be a conference in Albany April 2nd & 3rd sponsored by Frank Hodges of Hodge-Podge Books in downtown Albany.

Ann-Marie, Kim and Jendy went to the Fall Into Books conference sponsored by Ramapo-Catskill Library System and BOCES of Ulster County. They find it a great conference.

Guilford Public Library is having Joan Steiner, author and creator of Look-Alikes Books, on Sat. November 22 at 2 pm.

PERFORMER SHOWCASE

Zelda Hotaling gave a presentation about her Native American/nature programs.

NEXT MEETINGS

November 13 (Thursday), UHLS; December 19, place to be determined