

Coalition for Library Workers of Color C.L.W.C. Meeting

Minutes August 28th, 2020 1:30pm

Meeting Agenda Link:

https://docs.google.com/document/d/1MaRD20cWs7dJOzowakw4pd95CHiuVO_U5Wg-eeI BzuY/edit?usp=sharing

****Attendance - 18 Participants**

Peyton Powell

Emily Dowie

Elizabeth Portillo

Morgan Strand --Head of Advocacy Committee mstrand@nyacklibrary.org

Jessica Gordon - jgordon@rcls.org

Madvena Valerius - mvalerius@rcls.org

Kim Naples -- Programming Committee--Book Discussions knaples@rcls.org

Alison Petrus-Wilkins [aWilkins@rcls.org](mailto:AWilkins@rcls.org) -- Interested in helping with Coalition Book Club

Joanna Goldfarb - jgoldfarb@rcls.org

Katie Karheck --Interested in helping with Coalition Book Club kkarkheck@rcls.org

Chris Coleman - ccoleman@mail.finkelsteinlibrary.org

Anita Baumann - abaumann@rcls.org

Tracy Dunstan-- Web Master, Advocacy Committee Co-Chair tdunstan@nyacklibrary.org

Sam Sambrato - ssambrato@rcls.org

Sam (No Last Name)--May have been the same person twice

Lisa Allen - lallen@rcls.org

Nicola McDonald - Programming Committee - nmcdonald@rcls.org

Jen Park - jen@rcls.org

****Going to Combine Advocacy and Programming Committee**

Letter to Governor Cuomo Link

https://docs.google.com/document/d/1NR_izpb6pGREYV-2oRSihVEXmrjsGhuHaROXi0Qg-0w/edit?usp=sharing

Anti-Semitism in the System --Jessica Gordon

- Spoke of discrimination against Finkelstein patrons specifically from other libraries with borrowing policies (Example restrictions on what can be borrowed by finkelstein patrons)
- Is this a part of a larger RCLS policy that allows libraries to restrict usage of library materials?
- Policy that has the potential to foster discrimination
- Joanna Goldfarb RCLS -- Commented about the restriction "policy"

- States that it is not a “policy”, but it's a usage option for libraries in response to borrowing of materials that go over 5% by non-resident patrons
- Not a policy but is enforced by individual libraries against Finkelstein
- Some of singling out only is only applied sometimes and only seems to be towards Finkelstein Patrons
- Anita Baumann (RCLS Board of Trustee Member) -- Has never heard of this “policy” but states that RCLS does not have such a policy, but the board only provides guidance and can give suggestions. States that each library director has the right to implement policies as they see fit but recommends that education and training is needed within the system to combat discrimination and discriminatory practices.
 - Anita will follow up with Grace (RCLS)
- Call for more Anti-Semitism programming and education within the system
 - Emily, Jen, Joanne have an Anti-Semitism program in January.
- Direct Access Plan information may be found at this link. (Provided by Jen Park)
 - <https://guides.rcls.org/DAarchives>
- RCLS Direct Access Plan 2017-2021
 - <http://www.rcls.org/sites/default/files/2017-2021-Direct%20Access%20Plan%20approved.pdf>

How to Support each other in the workplace

- Learning what staff members do (Learning Each others jobs)
 - RCLS Leaders do team building (Alison spoke about Grace coming into her library to do icebreakers, and programs with the staff)
- Safe Space/Sounding Board
- Social to get to know people as a starting point

Upcoming Program Ideas

- Virtual Author Talks (Alison Partik, Nana Kwame Adjei-Brenyah) Both Hudson Valley based authors
- Black American Culture & Art Series coming up. The list is here:
 - <https://www.nyacklibrary.org/tmschedule.html>
- LINK to sign up for FOCUS Groups for RCLS plan of service for the coming years
 - <https://rcls.evanced.info/signup/calendar>
- Here's the link to my book club discussion of The Hate U Give on Sept 14th (Programming Committee)
 - <http://nanuetlibrary.evanced.info/signup/EventDetails?EventId=5698&backTo=Calendar&startDate=2020/09/01>

- CTUG (from Jen Park):
<https://rcls.evanced.info/signup/EventDetails?EventId=8795&backTo=Calendar&startDate=2020/09/01>

Programming that would like to be seen

- Asian centered Programming
 - Korean Spirit and Culture Promotion Project <http://www.kscpp.net/default/index.php>
- Emily encouragement for others ideas for programming i.e. Coalition Book Clubs, Conversations from the Heart type series.
- Book Suggestions:
 - Girl, Women, Other
 - Saving Ruby King
 - The Chiffon Trenches: A Memoir
 - Book by André Leon Talley
 - The Poet X by Elizabeth Acevedo

Check out “Allison’s Book Corner” Reviews on Instagram:
[@albertwisnerpubliclibrary](https://www.instagram.com/albertwisnerpubliclibrary)

Meetings are usually the 4th Friday of each month

- Next Tuesday September 29th Meeting 1:00pm.
- Following Meeting October 23rd 1:30pm

If you would like to be on the Coalition Listserv:

Email Martha Sullivan msullivan@rcls.org

****End of Meeting Minutes****