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WNYLRC: a leader in library innovation.

MINUTES/DISCUSSION RECORD

COMMITTEE: WNYLRC Committee Chairs – Spring 2025 Meeting

ATTENDING: Sheryl Knab, Caitlin Kenney, Debra Porter, Jenn Northup, Michael Green, Grace Di Virgilio, Emily Carlin, Debra Lucas, Hailey Oldham (WNYLSS), Chris Hulsman (RSC), Joe Riggie (RSC), Jacob Rachwal (CE), Devon Cozad (LEAP), Allison Vazquez (HS2C/EDIAR), Adam Rubin (Preservation), Jake Dion (Preservation), Jan Dekoff (Board), Kathy Leacock (Board)

EXCUSED:

ABSENT:

DATE: May 7, 2025 at 9:30 AM

LOCATION: Zoom

RECORDED BY: Caitlin Kenney (WNYLRC)

<i>TOPIC</i>	<i>DISCUSSION/ CONCLUSIONS</i>	<i>RECOMMENDATIONS/ACTION/ EVALUATION/ FOLLOW-UP</i>	<i>RESPONSIBILITY & TARGET DATE</i>
1. Call to Order – Sheryl Knab	Sheryl Knab called the meeting to order at 9:30 AM.		
2. Introductions	All members introduced themselves.		
3. Approval of Fall 2024 Minutes	All committee members reviewed the minutes. Sheryl noted an open sentence about discount options for committee members attending committee events and discussion ensued.	Motion to approve: Hailey Oldham Seconded by: Jacob Rachwal Vote: Approved Unanimously	Logistics for discounts need to be figured out both in WNYLRC accounting and WNYLRC website capabilities. Will be discussed further at a future date.
4. Committee Membership a.) Committee Funding Update – Debra Porter i. Individual committee funds b. Committee Orientation	a.)i. Debra Porter provided individual committee fund updates in the Zoom chat. Sheryl confirmed committee fund requests for the next fiscal year. b.) Sheryl asked if there was additional feedback from new committee members and whether it was being used. Feedback indicates it is not being used by committees but it is available on the committee portal	Questions on amounts can be directed to Debra Porter.	

	<p>on the WNYLRC website. Discussion about committee communications ensued. Sheryl apologized on behalf of WNYLRC for issues committees experienced with the listserv.</p>		
<p>5. WNYLRC Updates</p> <p>a.) Awards</p> <p>b.) June 6 Retreat</p> <p>c.) Ask Services</p> <p>d.) Membership Services</p> <p>e.) Continuing Education</p> <p>f.) Digital Services</p>	<p>a.) Caitlin shared that the nomination forms for WNYLRC awards are now open and the deadline to submit is June 30, 2025. The WNYLRC Awards Program Task Group is looking for nominees in the categories of Library All Star or Outstanding Library.</p> <p>b.) Sheryl reminded members that the retreat for the Strategic Plan is June 6, 2025, and to please register. WNYLRC is looking for input from all committee members.</p> <p>c.) Ask the Lawyer – Moderate usage of the service; over 300 RAQs available to peruse. Ask Us 24/7 – Usage has been steady. Clarkson University recently joined as a member.</p> <p>Ask the Archivist – Not as heavily used as the other two services. With Heidi’s retirement, there are now only two archivists (LILRC and CDLC) across the state staffing this service.</p> <p>d.) No update at this time</p> <p>e.) Caitlin provided the full list of events coming up.</p> <p>May 28 – Supporting Survivors, held at SUNY Niagara CC</p> <p>June 12 – HeinOnline Tour</p> <p>June 13 – NYAC watch party</p> <p>July 11 – 2025 PILLARS Symposium</p> <p>July 22 – Meet NYLA President at WNYLRC</p> <p>Sept 23 – Annual Meeting at Tewksbury Lodge</p> <p>Oct 3 – Unconference at Buffalo Naval Park</p> <p>f.) Michael shared that Buffalo Museum of Science and Network of Religious</p>		

<p>g.) Advocacy</p>	<p>Communities have added to currently existing collections on NYH and additional collections will be added to both NYH and NYSHN thanks to AIG submissions. Hoping to increase marketing for EmpireADC, ESLN AIR, and ESIE.</p> <p>g.) Caitlin shared that the state budget has not yet been finalized but will hopefully be finalized soon. She asked members to check NYLA's Advocacy page to stay up to date on current pieces of legislation they hope to pass before the legislative session ends in June. There is also a push to pressure the federal government to stop dismantling IMLS.</p>		
<p>6. Committee Accomplishments</p>	<p><i>Committee for Health Information Access - Grace Di Virgilio</i> Chair has stepped down after a fantastic year and they are looking for a new chair. CHIA is planning to buy new devices that determine the wearer's biological age as these have been very popular at the health fairs they attend. They will be attending the WNY Developmental Disabilities Health Fair. Members have also been updating CHIA handouts.</p> <p><i>Continuing Education Committee – Jacob Rachwal</i> The committee is planning the next Unconference to be held at the Buffalo and Erie County Naval & Military Park on Oct 3 from 9:30 AM to 4:30 PM. The committee is in the process of training two new co-chairs who will take over from Jacob.</p> <p><i>Equity, Diversity, Inclusion, and Anti-Racism (EDIAR) – Allison Vazquez</i> The committee is still working on its dissolution process and coming up with a plan to instate diversity officers on each committee. They hope to have a plan in place by July.</p> <p><i>High School to College – Allison Vazquez</i></p>		

	<p>This winter the committee offered its Diversity in Collections grant and two schools applied. Both were funded. The committee is considering moving this grant opportunity to the fall to give schools more time for collection purchases. The committee is also investigating putting together a new workshop about locating alternative authoritative sources of information due to the federal removal of resource web pages. The committee will also be looking for a new chair in July.</p> <p><i>Library Education, Advancement, and Partnership (LEAP) – Devon Cozad</i> The committee is investigating putting together a social media toolkit for members to utilize. This toolkit would help provide basic information about library advocacy for the average person who may not be familiar with library work or funding. Devon is also interested in working with other committees and collaborating on projects.</p> <p><i>Preservation Committee – Adam Rubin, Jake Dion, and Michael Green</i> The committee is sponsoring registrations for training webinars from NEDCC. The committee is also in the process of rolling out a grant to help smaller WNYLRC members purchase necessary archival supplies. They sponsored a Networking & Special Collections breakfast in April that was very well attended and provided great discussion. Michael shared the findings from this discussion that will be used during strategic planning. These findings indicated most special collections library workers are under resourced, underfunded, and understaffed. Many of them also expressed concerns about the federal government’s interference with library and museum grants. The committee is also updating its handouts and brochures.</p>		
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	<p><i>Resource Sharing Committee – Chris Hulsman and Joe Riggie</i></p> <p>The committee will be looking for new chairs as this is Chris and Joe’s end of term. As part of leading the initial planning for the Strategic Plan, they have agreed to lead the focus group session for Academic Libraries (May 22) which will help inform the Plan. The committee reviewed Access and Innovation Grant (AIG) proposals and awarded funds for six projects for a total of \$49,455:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • The Fredonia Censor Newspaper • Holley Standard Newspaper Digitization Project • Niagara Gazette 1971-1974 part 3 • Getting to the moon by way of WNY - WNY-s Contributions to the Apollo Program • William McKinley Assassination Collection • Digitization of Niagara Gazette 2018-2024 <p>The committee is looking to put together an advisory group for ESIE to test the site and compile user experience information for potential improvements. WNYLRC Open Data Project – Unfortunately it looks as if this project will be discontinued due to the end of IPEDS Academic Libraries portion of the annual survey. The committee has also formed a group who plans to write a response to nondisclosure agreements that vendors have forced on some private institutions regarding pricing models and open access. The possibility of creating a group that focuses on eBook lending is being discussed.</p> <p><i>WNY Library Support Staff Committee (WNYLSS) – Hailey Oldham</i></p> <p>The committee is currently analyzing the results of the survey they put out last winter which focused on continuing education opportunities for support staff. They are also putting together some new networking events including a tour of the</p>		
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	<p>Tool Library that will take place in June. The committee is also organizing a webinar about cataloging for support staff (but anyone is welcome to attend). This will be held in the fall and will focus on the basics of demystifying cataloging. Attendees were all very interested in this workshop and discussion ensued about the lack of cataloging classes in library school.</p>		
7. Other Business	<p>Sheryl stated all committees will need to review their charges and the committee name to ensure these still fit the purpose of the committee. It would be best to start this process this summer since the WNYLRC Board of Trustees will approve charges in their September 23 meeting.</p> <p>Sheryl also shared the results of the WNYLRC member survey that was sent out this spring. The top two concerns from members are funding and advocacy. There is a greater interest in advocacy this year. She stated that there were many direct comments from members referencing the federal government's executive orders. These concerns and the results will be addressed during the June 6 retreat and considered during the Strategic Plan process.</p>		
8. Fall 2025 Meeting	<p>A poll will be sent out to determine the next meeting date.</p>		
Adjournment	<p>The meeting adjourned at 11:03 AM.</p>		