

**Attendance:** Kristin Charles-Scaringi (Kingston), Christine Pacuk (Saugerties), Amy Thiel (Kinderhook), Kelly Tomaseski (Esopus), Lisa Prentiss (Staatsburg), Ginny Figlia (Beacon), Christine Houlihan (Tivoli), Veronica Stork (Tivoli), Emily Chameides (Hudson), Kerstin Cruger (MHLS), Janet Battistoni (Hyde Park), Chris Pattantysus (Grinnell).

**Administrator's Report:** Janet informed everyone that John Santana has left Millerton and Kristin McClune is replacing him. Blodgett Library in Fishkill has dropped out. Since John was scheduled to work on Publicity with Ginny, Kristin Charles-Scaringi will take his place. Kelly and Maureen are to be informed of email address changes. They will make the changes to the BOB googlegroups and also inform Amy who will make the changes on our website.

**Treasurer's Report:** Kelly reported that we have \$2, 202.34 in our account. She has received no donations yet.

## COMMITTEES

**Venue:** Ginny will be meeting with the Beacon Board of Education on Feb. 11<sup>th</sup> to speak about BOB and see if they are receptive to hosting a regional battle. Chris reported that her contact with Wappingers CSD has been out on sick leave and she will contact her this week. Hudson HS is another option as they were pleased to host us in the past. JoAnn will pursue Arlington HS again for this year.

**Incentives:** Chris passed around the 3 possible incentives that she found at Janway.com – Full Color Message Picture Frame Magnets (\$.75 each), Full Color Magnetic Memo Board (>\$1.45 each), Junior Spiral Notebooks with Pen (\$1.40 each) and they still have the various colored notebooks with pen that we had 2 years ago. She is still searching for magnetic locker-type incentives. If you know of something, please let her know.

**Books:** Amy reported that she has the books with her to distribute. It is possible that a library received more copies of Brooklyn Nine than what they ordered. If that is the case, please send the extra copies to Kerstin at Mid-Hudson.

**Grants:** Ginny will pursue the Allstate Insurance grant again this year. Janet submitted a grant to Stewart's. Kelly and Ginny will decide between them who will submit requests and to whom.

**Website:** Amy is working to keep all information up-to-date so check the website if you are unsure of something! <http://mhbattleofbooks.org>

## **OLD BUSINESS**

**New Logo:** Christine H.'s contact has not had time to do any work on it. Kelly has someone working on ideas. It was also suggested that we ask the kids participating if they would like to come up with a new logo (for 2013-14).

**Question writing:** Linda Deubert was unable to attend but sent an email suggesting that we may not need to submit 20 questions for each book. The consensus of those at the meeting felt that each participating library needs to write questions for each book. We will wait and see how many questions Linda feels will be sufficient. Amy will post a sample of previous questions and general guidelines on our website. If the newer members still feel they would like more guidance, Christine H. and Lisa volunteered to mentor them. **REMINDER:** Deadline for submitting questions to the 8 book editors is May 1<sup>st</sup>. Deadline for editors to submit the revised and final version of the questions to Linda Deubert is June 1<sup>st</sup>. Questions will be sent to the libraries on July 1<sup>st</sup>.

## **NEW BUSINESS**

Janet would like each committee head to write a set of guidelines for that committee, basically a job description of what is involved and the timeline to be followed., any spreadsheets developed and used, etc. That way, if someone leaves or becomes ill, someone else can step in and know what needs to be done.

Kerstin felt that each year we should keep track of the volunteers for each committee, the year served and what they did, especially since we require each participating library to serve on a committee at least every other year. An archive of previous years can be on the website. This is also important for the person acting a volunteer coordinator, as many of those volunteers for the regional battle are willing to serve again the next year.

Kerstin also felt we should have members serving as back-up with access to the website, googlegroups, online question format.

Janet mentioned that while she was filling out the grant for Stewart's that a 501C3 status (non-profit) is required. Kelly is doing research now for another group and she will share any information that may be helpful for us.

Maureen will be asked to draft by-laws for Battle of the Books. Kelly will assist her with the basic format of what needs to be covered. This should make the program easily understood for the participating libraries or libraries interested in joining. For example: all the books must be read, every library must submit questions, serve on a committee, attend meetings, etc.

Those present discussed the fact that many participants are having trouble attending the meetings. We know we can never please everyone and those at the meeting have most of their programs in the mornings. There was no consensus on a better day or time. We will continue to move the meeting sites to different locations. It is hoped that by advance notice of meeting days and dates and locations that it will help alleviate travel times and give librarians enough time to adjust their schedules.

When voting is required on agenda items the majority of those present at the meeting will determine the result.

### **ACTION ITEMS**

**Reread the battle rules!** Bring any questions or discussion to the next meeting. All rules will be permanently finalized then! Two rule clarifications under consideration:

Upon acknowledgement of a team member, the team has 10 seconds to answer. If they answer incorrectly, Team 2 has 10 seconds to confer after being acknowledged.

When Time is called by the timekeeper, no answer can be given.

**Committee Heads:** Please bring a written job description of your committee to the next meeting and also send it to me for the minutes!

Next meeting: Wednesday, March 13<sup>th</sup> at Tivoli Library from 1-3 PM.