

**WESTERN NEW YORK LIBRARY RESOURCES COUNCIL**  
**Minutes of the September 26<sup>th</sup>, 2023**  
**Member Business Meeting**  
**57th Annual Meeting of the Membership**  
**Location: Buffalo History Museum**

**Attendance:** A list of 71 members and guests in attendance is appended to the minutes.

**Welcome remarks-Sheryl Knab**

Sheryl Knab introduced herself and welcomed the members to the 57th Annual Meeting of WNYLRC's Membership and introduced Alicia Thompson, the President of WNYLRC's Board of Trustees and Director of Instructional Technology at Buffalo Public Schools.

**Agenda Item 1: Call to Order and Recognition of all Board Members**

Alicia Thompson called the meeting to order at 4:34 PM. The board members were introduced.

**Board Officers:**

- President-Elect: Kathy Leacock, Director of Collections, Buffalo Museum of Science, Tift Nature Preserve
- Immediate Past President: Cece Fuoco, Director, Cattaraugus Allegany School Library System
- Secretary: Deborah Chiarella, Coordinator, Education Services, Associate Librarian, University at Buffalo
- Treasurer: Jan Dekoff, Executive Director, Chautauqua Cattaraugus Library System

**Board Members:**

- Dan Albertson, Chair, Department of Library Science, Graduate School of Education, University at Buffalo
- Donna Berryman, Associate University Librarian for Research, Collections and Outreach, University at Buffalo
- Heather Gring, Archivist, Burchfield Penney Art Center
- John Spears, Director, Buffalo & Erie County Public Library
- Justin Cronise, College Librarian, SUNY Erie
- Dennis Galucki, Founder and Director, Center for the Study of Art, Architecture, History and Nature
- Jeremy Lyman, School Library Media Specialist, Riverside Academy High School #208, Buffalo School Library System
- Kristine Kasbohm, Director, Andrew L. Bouwhuis Library, Canisius University
- Lisa Erickson, Communications, Advocacy/Outreach Consultant, Nioga Library System
- Dr. Jamie Smith, Chief Academic Officer, Senior Vice President of Education and Dean of the Roswell Park Graduate Division of the University at Buffalo, Roswell Park Cancer Institute
- Gabrielle Harrington, Director of Community Affairs & Policy Advisor, Senator Sean Ryan's office, Ex-Officio

## **Agenda Item 2: Recognition of Committee Chairs**

Alicia Thompson recognized the 2023/2024 WNYLRC Committee Chairs and all WNYLRC's committee members for their hard work on behalf of WNYLRC. A small gift was distributed to the committee chairs.

### Committee for Health Information Access (CHIA)

- Michelle Brancato, Trocaire College – Rachel R. Savarino Library

### Continuing Education Committee (CE)

- Jacob Rachwal – Buffalo and Erie County Public Library – Central Library
- Bryan Sajecki, University at Buffalo – Lockwood Memorial Library

### Equity, Diversity, Inclusion, and Anti-racism Committee (EDIAr)

- Allison Vazquez, Trocaire College – Rachel R. Savarino Library

### High School to College Committee (HS2C)

- Andrew Johnston, Erie 1 BOCES School Library System, Clarence High School

### Library Education, Advancement, and Partnership Committee (LEAP)

- Michelle La Voie, Chautauqua-Cattaraugus Library System – Olean Public Library

### Preservation Committee

- Amanda Shepp, SUNY Fredonia – Reed Library

### Resource Sharing Committee (RSC)

- Chris Hulsman, SUNY Buffalo State University – E.H. Butler Library
- Joseph Riggie, SUNY Buffalo State University – E.H. Butler Library

### WNY Library Support Staff Committee (WNYLSS)

- Sarah Patton, University at Buffalo – Abbott Library
- Paul Whiting, University at Buffalo – Lockwood Memorial Library

## **Agenda Item 3: Recognition of WNYLRC Staff**

Cece Fuoco acknowledged the WNYLRC staff members at this time and thanked them for their work throughout the year.

- Jason Barone - Technology Services Coordinator
- Emily Carlin – Hospital Library Services Program Circuit Librarian
- Grace Di Virgilio – Hospital Library Services Program Coordinator
- Caitlin Kenney – Reference and Research Services Coordinator
- Jennifer Northup – Member Engagement Services Coordinator
- Debra Porter – Finance and Employee Relations Coordinator
- Heidi Ziemer - Outreach and Digital Equity Coordinator

## **Agenda Item 4: Approval of the 56th Membership Meeting Minutes**

The minutes of the September 27, 2022, Annual Meeting were provided in member packets. Alicia Thompson asked for a motion to approve the minutes of WNYLRC's 56th Annual Meeting of the Membership. Janice Dekoff made a motion to approve the minutes; seconded by Lisa McLaughlin. All in favor, no opposed, two abstentions, motion passed.

#### **Agenda Item 5: Introduction of WNYLRC Board of Trustees Slate for 2024**

Board members approved the following slate of nominees for positions on the board in June 2023. The election will be of three (3) members of the WNYLRC Board of Trustees whose terms will be January 1, 2024, to December 31, 2028. The official vote will be conducted electronically the week of October 9, 2023. For each seat, Alicia Thompson first announced the slate of candidates approved by the Board, then requested nominations from the floor.

Ayodele Ojumu, Teacher-Librarian at Hutchinson Central Technical High School, was announced as a candidate for the seat representing School Libraries/Library Systems. Alicia Thompson opened the floor to other nominations for the Board position of representative for School Libraries/Library Systems.

**There were no other nominations, so Alicia Thompson asked for a motion to close nominations for the Board position representing School Libraries. A motion was made to close the nominations by Joseph Riggie; the motion was seconded by Allison Vazquez. The majority approved, and the motion passed. The nominations for this seat were closed.**

John Spears, Director of Buffalo and Erie County Public Library, was announced as a candidate for the seat representing Public Libraries/Library Systems. Alicia Thompson opened the floor to other nominations for the position.

**There were no other nominations, so Alicia Thompson asked for a motion to close nominations for the Board position representing Public Libraries/ Library Systems. A motion was made by Brian Meyer to close the nominations; Paul Whiting seconded this motion. The majority approved, and the motion passed. The nominations for this seat were closed.**

Heather Gring, Archivist at the Burchfield Penney Art Center, was announced as a candidate for the seat representing Special Libraries. Alicia Thompson opened the floor to other nominations for the position.

**There were no other nominations, so Alicia Thompson asked for a motion to close nominations for the Board position representing Special Libraries. A motion was made by Kathy Leacock to close the nominations; this motion was seconded by Danielle Ptak. The majority approved, and the motion passed. The nominations for this seat were closed.**

**The slate has been approved for voting by the voting members.**

All nominees were congratulated and thanked for their willingness to serve on the WNYLRC Board of Trustees.

#### **Agenda Item 7: Report of the Board President**

Alicia Thompson presented the President's year-end summary. She discussed development activities the board engaged in throughout the 2022-2023 year to improve the organization's responsiveness to members. Accomplishments of the board were shared, including but not limited to; the creation of a board orientation handbook and mentoring program, a leadership succession plan, and securing a new space for the WNYLRC Training Center and offices. Alicia thanked the staff and membership for the opportunity to serve as WNYLRC Board President.

#### **Agenda Item 9: Old Business**

There was no old business to discuss.



Questioning existing practices. Testing new ideas.  
WNYLRC: a leader in library innovation.

#### **Agenda Item 10: New Business**

There was no new business to discuss.

#### **Agenda Item 11: Adjournment**

Alicia Thompson asked for a motion to adjourn the business meeting. Chelsey Lonberger made a motion to adjourn the meeting, seconded by Stephanie Molnar. The meeting adjourned at 5:01 PM.

Alicia Thompson passed the gavel to the 2024 WNYLRC Board President, Kathryn Leacock, Director of Buffalo Museum of Science.

Sheryl Knab thanked Alicia Thompson for serving as President in 2023.

## **2023 Guest Speaker**

Dr. Barbara A. Seals Nevergold spoke about her work with the Uncrowned Queens Institute, an institute she co-founded in 1999.

Biography: Dr. Barbara Seals Nevergold is a graduate of the Buffalo Public Schools and received her undergraduate degree from Buffalo State College with a Bachelor of Science Degree in French Education and her Master of Education degree in both French Education and Counseling Education from the University of Buffalo. In 1986 Dr. Seals Nevergold earned a Doctor of Philosophy degree at the University at Buffalo in Counseling Education. She also studied French at Laval University in Quebec, Canada and at the University of Dijon in Dijon, France. Dr. Seals Nevergold retired as the Director of Student Support Services at the University of Buffalo's Educational Opportunity Center. She has also held adjunct instructional positions at Empire State College and the University at Buffalo and has served in leadership roles on numerous local and national boards. Beginning in the Fall of 2004, she and fellow co-founder, Dr. Peggy Brooks-Bertram, of the Uncrowned Queens Institute began working full-time on the establishment of the Uncrowned Queens Center for Excellence at the University at Buffalo. Established in 1999, the Institute promotes the collection, preservation and dissemination of the individual histories of women, women's organizations and women's collective history; and to teach and educate women on the use of technology to preserve and disseminate their histories. With Dr. Brooks-Bertram, she has co-authored *Uncrowned Queens: African American Community Builders of Western New York*, Vol. 1 (2002), Vol. 2 (2003), and Vol. 3 (2005) and *Uncrowned Queens: African American Community Builders of Oklahoma* (2007). She has many other publications as well. Dr. Seals Nevergold has received numerous awards including the Williams Wells Brown Award in recognition of her efforts to preserve local African American history.

## **2023 WNYLRC Excellence Award Winners**

**Outstanding Library Award** – presented by Bridget Baker, Librarian 1 at Niagara Falls Public Library

- The Henrietta G. Lewis Library at Niagara County Community College

**Library All-Star Award** – presented by Reed Jones, Annex Collections and Digital Production Technician at the State University of New York at Buffalo

- Christopher Hulsman, Electronic & Educational Resources Librarian, SUNY Buffalo State University.

**Library All-Star Award** – presented by Terri Faut, School Library Media Specialist at Lewiston Porter High School

- Lori Moskaluk, School Media Specialist, Niagara Falls City School District

**Library All-Star Award** – presented by Rich Pyszcze, Jr., Coordinator for Social Studies for Buffalo Public Schools

- Ayodele Ojumu, Teacher Librarian, Hutchinson Central Technical High School

**Library All-Star Award** – presented by Katherine Pizzuto, Librarian at Hilbert College

- Ayodele Ojumu, Teacher Librarian, Hutchinson Central Technical High School

**Library All-Star Award** – presented by Devon Cozad, Research and Instruction Librarian at Daemen University

- Andrea Sullivan, Head of Research and Instruction at Daemen University

Andrea Sullivan congratulated the WNYLRC Award recipients on receiving their well-deserved awards and thanked the 2023 WNYLRC Awards Recognition Task Group Members.

- Dave Schoen, Niagara University
- Melissa Langridge, Niagara University
- Bridget Baker, Niagara Falls Public Library
- Cindy Hagelberger, Genesee Community College
- Pamela Rose, University at Buffalo
- Amanda Shepp, SUNY Fredonia
- Caitlin Kenney, WNYLRC (liaison)

## **2023 Annual Meeting Attendance List**

Alicia Thompson	Buffalo School Library System
Allison Vazquez	Trocaire College
Andrea Sullivan	Daemen University
Andrew Yeager	Niagara County Community College
Andy Aquino	Niagara County Community College
Angela Stockman	Daemen University
Ann Marie Linnabery	Niagara County Historical Society
Ayodele Ojumu	Buffalo School Library System
Beth Paine	Nioga Library System
Bobbie Caswell	National Spiritualist Association of Churches
Brian Mayer	Erie 2 BOCES Chautauqua-Cattaraugus School Library System
Bridget Baker	Nioga Library System
Caitlin Kenney	Western New York Library Resources Council
Charles Lyons	SUNY Buffalo State University
Chelsey Lonberger	Buffalo and Erie County Public Library
Chloe Santangelo	Hilbert College
Christopher Hulsman	SUNY Buffalo State University
Dan Albertson	University at Buffalo Department of Information Science
Dana Prebis	Orleans-Niagara BOCES School Library System
Danielle Ptak	Buffalo and Erie County Public Library
David Schoen	Niagara University
Deborah Chiarella	University at Buffalo Libraries
Debra Porter	Western New York Library Resources Council
Devon Cozad	Daemen University
Eileen Anderson	Erie 1 BOCES School Library System
Emily Carlin	Western New York Library Resources Council
Grace Di Virgilio	Western New York Library Resources Council
Heather Gring	Burchfield Penney Art Center
Heidi Ziemer	Western New York Library Resources Council
Jacob Rachwal	Buffalo and Erie County Public Library
Jake Dion	Daemen University
Janice Dekoff	Chautauqua-Cattaraugus Library System
Jason Barone	Western New York Library Resources Council
Jean Linn	Niagara County Community College

Jenn Northup	Western New York Library Resources Council
Jennifer Crandall	Niagara County Community College
Jocelyn Swick-Jemison	University at Buffalo Libraries
Joe Riggie	SUNY Buffalo State University
John Spears	Buffalo and Erie County Public Library
Joseph Patton	University at Buffalo Libraries
Justin Cronise	SUNY Erie Community College
Justin Kennelly	Daemen University
Kara McGuire	Daemen University
Katherine Pizzuto	Buffalo and Erie County Public Library
Kathryn Leacock	Buffalo Museum of Science
Kristine Kasbohm	Canisius University
Lisa McLaughlin	University at Buffalo Libraries
Lisabeth Becker	Roswell Park Comprehensive Cancer Center
Lori Moskaluk	Orleans-Niagara BOCES School Library System
Lucy Waite	Villa Maria College
Martin Mutka	Library Consortium of Health Institutions in Buffalo
Maureen Gleason	Polish Genealogical Society of New York State
Melissa Laidman	Hilbert College
Melissa Langridge	Niagara University
Melissa Peterson	Daemen University
Paul Whiting	University at Buffalo Libraries
Reed Jones	University at Buffalo Libraries
Research Library	Buffalo History Museum
Rich Pyszcsek	Buffalo School Library System
Ryan Grimmer	Canisius University
Samantha Basile	Nioga Library System
Sarah Patton	University at Buffalo Libraries
Sheryl Knab	Western New York Library Resources Council
Stephanie Molnar	Buffalo and Erie County Public Library
Susan Cozzi	Daemen University
Terri Faut	Orleans-Niagara BOCES School Library System