

## SLCP Meetup #26 Recap

### Attendance:

- Annemarie Gordon (SLI/SCLS)
- Francesca Hembury (SLI/SCLS)
- Hazel Onsrud (Curtis Memorial, ME)
- Michele Lipson (Plainedge, NY)
- Lauren Tellerman (Northport-East Northport, NY)
- Miki Porta (New Canaan, CT)
- Danielle Colbert-Lewis (NC Central University)
- Nora Nolan (Northport-East Northport, NY)
- Margaret Woodruff (Charlotte, VT)
- Marc Horowitz (N. Babylon, NY)
- Ryan O'Rourke (Bayport-Blue Point, NY)
- Tim Sicurella (Sayville, NY)
- Barbara Ball (Windsor, VT)
- Michele Athanas (Northport-East Northport, NY)

### Announcements:

Several states are represented in this meeting today. Many libraries are beginning their certification work, making this an exciting time to start. Remember that SLI Staff, mentors, and fellow members are available to answer questions and brainstorm solutions to any problems that you encounter. As our network grows, we all benefit from having even more resources to share.

### Introductions/Updates:

**Hazel (Curtis Memorial):** Sustainability is what drew her into librarianship. Curtis Memorial has been integrating sustainable programs and practices into their operations for years.

**Lauren (Northport-East Northport):** they are just getting started, here to listen in.

**Marc (North Babylon):** Certified in 2020. It is always a good idea to remind custodians to handle paper and recyclables in a proper manner.

**Miki Porta (New Canaan):** New library building is almost completed.

**Ryan (Bayport- Blue Point):** Facilities Manager, newly renovated building, just starting the certification process.

**Tim (Sayville):** Nine months into the Certification process. Took a break for a few months and are getting going again. They are restarting regular Sustainability Group meetings, which have been very helpful. There are lots of ideas being generated and things that can be changed in their operations. They are working on reducing their lawn and planting native plants. They are working with a local organization to help plan the design and trying to obtain sponsors to help with the cost of the plants.

**Michele (Northport-East Northport):** Just beginning the certification process

**Barbara (Windsor, VT):** Also beginning the process

**Miki (New Canaan):** The library is looking for a resource for building insurance issuers whose values align with the library's commitment to sustainability.

**Hazel:** There is a Library of Things listserv that has a list of vendors, also Curtis found a local company, and their conversations about the library's work on sustainability has led to a partnership with the library that has extended beyond the insurance policy.

**Annemarie:** Look at local environmental organizations to see if any board members are insurance agents. Ask other organizations who they use and why.

**Michele (Plainedge):** Their library takes part in local street fairs and is looking for suggestions for sustainable giveaways

**Members:** Seeds from their seed library with information about the seed library and instructions for planting

**Hazel:** worm castings, from the library's worm bin, have been a popular giveaway item, coupons for free books from the library discard store, coffee samples - they partner with a local roaster that makes a library blend that is available in the library, kombucha mothers, sourdough starters

**Tim (Sayville):** Word of warning for other members, Sayville has run into problems with their geothermal system because of minerals in their well water. High levels of manganese have led to corrosion in their pipes. They may need to completely redo their HVAC and convert to natural gas.

**Question:** How do libraries organize the list of Action Items:

**Hazel:** gave SLI Log In to others and instructed them to fill in what they could. Curtis already has sustainability in its strategic goals, so there are many at the library that can contribute.

**Margaret (Charlotte):** How do you deal with items that don't apply, for example, to small libraries?

**Annemarie:** It is sufficient to write N/A for most items that don't apply. Examples are Action Items D.7, D.8, D.9, and D.10 which deal with Fleet Vehicles. These don't require any explanation if you don't have a fleet, simply mark N/A in the notes section.

**Miki (New Canaan):** Do you submit as you go or should you wait until you are done with all items in a category

**Annemarie:** Individual items can be submitted as soon as they are completed. My observation is that many libraries will leave things as 'In Progress' when they are waiting to add pictures or marking them as 'In Progress' with a note of who has been assigned to complete the task. Mentors are not alerted to individual items when they are submitted or when categories are completed. Reach out to your mentor periodically to let them know when things have been submitted so that they can take a look and provide feedback as you move through the Action Item Form.

**General Tips for filling out the Action Item Form:** When you document things, try to provide a level of detail in the information that would explain to another library how to replicate that idea or program. Think about whether the details provided are enough to give the SLI Staff the information they need to share this work with other libraries.

**Policy Information:** Members have access to a [policy resource page](#) that has sample policies. You do not need a separate policy for each Action Item, some of them can easily be combined,

with a sentence or two to meet the requirements. For example, the Sustainability Policy may include purchasing, travel, and partnership declarations.