

SLCP Meetup #22 Recap

News and Announcements

New Certification: Paula Michalak, District librarian, Silver Creek Central School District

New Enrollments: Curtis Memorial Library in Brunswick, ME (our first in Maine) and Plainedge Public Library in N Massapequa, NY (our first in Nassau County, NY)

Introductions

Attendees introduced themselves and stated where they are in the certification program. As usual, there was a mix of members who are certified, those who are in the middle of certification, and some who are just beginning.

Claudia Depkin (Haverstraw King's Daughters Public Library, NY) They are very close to submitting the revisions they were asked to make after completing their Certification Benchmarks.

Debbie Englehardt (Comsewogue Public Library, NY) shared her library's No Mow May lawn (read more about it in the piece she wrote for our [newsletter](#)), they are coordinating with the town to be a stop on the Town's schedule of mobile shredding events. They are installing EV Car chargers.

Gretchen Chandra - (RCLS, NY) - Just starting the certification program for their library system.

Susan Matthews, Linda Meglio, and Mary Johnson - (Harborfields Library, NY) are starting their community garden, a Little Free Pantry, and Recycling VHS tape. They are making efforts in reducing single-use plastics.

Jennifer Esser (Richmond Free Library, VT) just starting the SLCP, excited about collaborating with other organizations in their community for educational programming.

Jen Ferriss (Saratoga Springs Public Library, NY) shared a GREAT video that was made to highlight the sustainability efforts at their library:

<https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=n7FXOthA6Kw>

Jeri Cohen (Patchogue-Medford Library, NY) reported that Pat-Med is continuously finding ways to expand its recycling efforts. They are now accepting baby clothes for Carters through their partnership with TerraCycle for a [free baby clothes recycling program](#). They are also starting a library-wide equity audit.

Joanna Goldfarb (RCLS, NY) getting started, early in the process

Marc Horowitz (North Babylon Public Library, NY) suggested that libraries could try leaving recycling on the curb following the local guideline. Even if your municipality doesn't allow for pickup from commercial establishments, they may still pick it up. The library purchased a paper shredder, located in the library's vestibule, that operates 12 hours a day that the community has access to. This was more cost-effective than paying for the shredding truck to come several times a year. He also mentioned a [Consumer Reports article](#) that gave a dismal view of what percentage of plastics are actually recycled.

Melissa Negrin (Lindenhurst Memorial Library, NY) They are collecting plastic for the TREX Community Recycling Program. This program is helpful in addressing the small percentage of plastic that is actually recycled, because after collecting enough plastic, Trex gives you a bench. It is helpful to have a useful finished product to show a recycling success. Melissa asked if anyone has a vendor resource for plant nameplates in a garden.

Michele Lipson (Plainedge Public Library, NY) Just signed up, Plainedge has a building project in the planning stage.

Nancy Evans (West Babylon Public Library, NY) - in the beginning of the SLCP, concentrating on one item at a time. The library has a community garden, seed library, and are taking a look at summer reading club prizes and EV Chargers.

Equity Audit Discussion

Jeri stated that they are starting with the facilities to ensure accessibility. Collections remain a more touchy subject. PML's team is weighing the merits of 2 existing tools, the [Wisconsin Library Services Assessment Guide](#) and the ALA Equity Audit tool. The Wisconsin Tool is more of a checklist and ALA's is more open-ended. Jeri will report back with what they decided to go with and their progress. Debbie stressed the importance of stressing the 'why' behind your efforts and building momentum as you go.

Trex Community Recycling

This program was discussed in the [May SLI Newsletter](#) and is listed on the SLI website's [Vendor List](#). It has been successful in several libraries already. You can sign up for the Community Challenge and collect plastic film at your library. Trex partners with several large national chains where you can drop off the plastic. When you have collected enough and logged it on their website, they will send you a bench.

Other recycling resources

[Terracycle](#) has both free and paid options for recycling
Lowes and Home Depot will take plant pots back.
Home Depot will take Keurig pods back.

