S. LeBlanc welcomed everyone and T. Mammone, *Council Chair*, called the meeting to order at 1:34 p.m.

The minutes from the SLS Council meeting held on March 5, 2019 were presented. A motion was made by J. Buzzard to approve the minutes, and it was seconded by S. Keesler. The motion carried.

**Council Member Terms**

S. LeBlanc reported that Marc Wildman’s term, which was partial due to fulfillment of a vacancy, is due to expire on June 19, 2019. Marc has agreed to stay and start a full term as of June 2019. The two year Council Chair term, currently held by Tracy Mammone, is up in June. S. LeBlanc will be sending out an email to the group to see if anyone would like to be the new Chair. J. Buzzard offered to fill the position.

**2019-2020 SLS Budget**

A proposed budget report for the School Library System for 2019-2020 was distributed and reviewed. The vote to approve and accept the Budget was tabled as there was not a quorum. S. LeBlanc will make arrangements for a vote in the next few months. The question was raised if an online vote counts; S. LeBlanc will research options and provide information as appropriate.

**Resource Sharing**

Interlibrary Loan was discussed. To keep the CIDER Union catalog clean, librarians and aides will be instructed regarding the recommended way to ILL books. To ILL a book, the procedure should be done through the ILL tab in the local OPALS catalogs. A regional User Group meeting will take place on May 16 at the OHM SLS in New Hartford, which will provide training on this topic. Also, the MO SLS will schedule training in the future to provide a refresher on the recommended approach.

**Collaborations/Grants**

S. LeBlanc asked for Council’s feedback on the potential continuation for ‘19-’20 of the “Expand Your Students’ World” grant. There were 7 grants applied for and awarded this year. Jackie Buzzard discussed the videoconference that her students experienced with this grant and how successful it was. There was unanimous approval from the Council to continue this grant.

It was noted that there seems to be a lot of local interest, including from our new Assemblyman John Salka, in “farm literacy” and local food. This might present an opportunity to work on obtaining a grant with some local partners, such as Cornell Cooperative Extension. Some Council members shared ideas of activities that are already taking place in local schools, such as a “Food of the Month” and use the farm to school concept.
**PD/Continuing Education**

S. LeBlanc asked whether we should change the morning awards schedule at this year’s Admin Breakfast; Council agreed that the awards schedule works well as it is for calendar contest winners and their parents. It was decided to keep the schedule the same as last year’s.

S. LeBlanc recently met with A. Jerome of Hamilton CSD and M. Gardner of Colgate to discuss hosting the summer Passionate Reading event on the Colgate campus. We are currently waiting to hear back about whether the Edge Cafe on campus there is available on that date, August 22. This event will be co-sponsored by CLRC. As of right now, Pernille is also tentatively on the agenda for a one hour presentation on the morning of August 22 at the Principals’ Minnowbrook training.

The Mr. Schu Reads presentation is still slated for November 21 and will probably be held at MVCC Rome Campus.

**Awareness & Advocacy**

H. Urtz discussed the NY State budget. Library aid funding at the State level will remain roughly the same as last year, but the Library Construction Aid was cut significantly. The money from the latter budget is being transferred over to support the 2020 Census, though it is less than the library community requested to support anticipated additional need for staffing and technology to support the census.

S. LeBlanc stated that once again, NYLA made the bill for a school librarian in every building an advocacy priority. There are sponsors for that bill in both the House and the Senate. The lack of a mandate for school librarians at the elementary level can manifest in consideration of those positions for cuts when a district has a budgetary shortfall, as it has locally, recently.

T. Mammone shared her school’s procedure of adding comments in each student’s report card about the skills taught in the school library that marking period to keep parents aware of what their child learns during library. It makes the school libraries so much more visible. Everyone agreed it was an excellent idea. J. Groves stated that there is a lot of education and outreach that is needed to develop the understanding that the elementary librarian, in particular, is a teacher with specific content.

For next year’s first Council meeting in early October, the preference was expressed by Council members to hold on either a Monday or a Friday.

Motion was made to adjourn by J. Groves and seconded by H. Urtz., at 3:30 p.m.