President Bev Ripka (WMT) called the meeting to order at 1:30PM. The minutes of the January 14, 2014 meeting were approved with a motion from Michelle (LIS), and seconded by Mary (HEN). The motion carried. A motion to approve the agenda was made by Cindy (CSQ), seconded by Carol (OSW) and it carried.

Steve Bolton led a discussion on the SIRSI down time recently. Woodlot vines pulled the fiber optic lines. It was the only down time in 3 years except for natural disasters. Working with Westelcom, it has now been repaired and is still the best solution for the price. Other options or alternatives will be explored.

Pat (POT) reported on a disruptive patron who filed a suit through the NYS Division of Human Rights against the Potsdam Library based upon alleged discrimination in a public building. Pat’s recommendation to other libraries include: 1 – document everything and use incident reports, 2 – write every incident including what the person says and does, 3 – get witness statements, both staff and patron, 4 – be sure your behavior policy is up to date, 5 – have in place directors and operators insurance (general liability) with deductible, 6 – get a lawyer with experience in this area. In their efforts to prove the patron violated the behavior policy, the case was thrown out. The patron was barred from the library, but not library services. Sandy (BLR) had another incident where the patron had an obsession with the Hulk. Patron cut pictures out of many books including those received on ILL. The Civil Liberties Union would not allow banning patron from the library because of the obsession. BLR had to locate all the books in order for mom to pay replacements costs. Mom wants daughter to be banned from taking books, but she is allowed to use the computer and the library.

Steve Bolton announced that Fulton became a school district public library in their latest referendum. PHI and ANT received 87% approval from their voters. Direct deposit for all checks from NCLS is being recommended to all the libraries to save lost checks and keeping the current the receiver. There is an OverDrive challenge to the library system with a $1500 prize during the month of June. Bullet aid will be forthcoming from Senator Griffo and Senator Ritchie’s office to libraries. Remember to thank them for supporting our libraries. Jeremy Johannesen and Mike Neppl will present a continuing education workshop in September, “All the Libraries, One Voice”, based upon unifying
advocacy activities of the NYS Library community to maximize the impact on the legislative process. The NCLS annual meeting will be held on Saturday, September 27, 2014 at JCC. The budget for regional digital collections concept was mentioned since over ½ of the catalog searches are done outside the library.

Jeannie Bleuer from Staples Business Advantage spoke about business rewards for all libraries. She will make appointments to meet with individual libraries who are interested.

Marcia recapped the JAB meeting and some circulation changes being made county-wide in Lewis and Oswego Counties. Margaret (PUL) presented the county wide decisions made for Oswego County. Libraries were strongly encouraged to unify as patrons tend to travel from library to library within our county.

Sharon (CAV) announced that local author Ellen Wiseman is no long making local events, Angela (NCLS) asked that announcements of library events be sent to her to add to her blog. Bev (WMT) will host Jim McCarthy on July 14 to kick-off the summer reading program. Sharon (CAV) reported on an adult prom with two age groups sponsored by the Friends and Stella (HEU) will host a quilt show on August 30 and 31. Dawn (LOW) stated that the DEC made the storywalk permanent and “hooked on books” will be sponsored by the Elks Club. MAS will hold a wedding tea with the museum on June 21 and raffle flowers sponsored by the Elks Club. Pat (POT) spoke about grant writing workshops for not-for-profits.

The next meeting will be held after lunch at the NCLS annual meeting on Saturday, September 27, 2014.

Respectfully submitted,

Margaret Weigel, Secretary