Lyn Swafford called the meeting to order at 10:31 A.M.

**Attendance:** Dennis Eickhoff, Colton, Emily Owen, NCLS, Penny Kerfien, Fulton, Carol Ferlito, Oswego, Vicky Brothers, Norfolk, Wayne Miller, Ogdensburg, Linda McCullough, Carthage, Paul Schaffer, Massena, Pat Musante, Potsdam, Linda Voorhees, Cape Vincent, Barbara Wheeler, Watertown, Ginger Tebo, Watertown, Nicole Spencer, Harrisville, Tracy Tanner, Philadelphia, Andrea Arquette, Cranberry Lake, Alice Barton, Clayton, Sandy Lamb, Black River, Stella Todd, Heuvelton, Steve Bolton, NCLS, Charlie Garofalo, Gouverneur, Cheryl Shutt. Henderson, Lyn Swafford, Canton

Minutes from the October meeting were read and approved.

**Committee Reports**

**Central Library Advisory Committee** - Steve Bolton reported that the central library advisory committee consists of Sandy Lamb, Carlo Ferlito, Stella Todd, and Sally Brown. The committee will be meeting soon.

**NCLS Liaison Committee** - Barbara Wheeler sought clarification for the role of the Liaison Committee. Since Steve Bolton is so good at keeping us all up to date on NCLS business, is it still necessary to have a liaison committee? The consensus was that the committee was still desirable if for no other reason than to report Directors Organization business to the NCLS Board.

**Old Business**

**Gates Online Opportunity Phase II Grant Update** - Steve Bolton reported that Dell has released the state contract prices for the grant. Jerry Schell will configure a new model this year, and then Dell will send one to him to make sure that it will be acceptable for our use. After that we can place our orders.

Steve reminded everyone to check the warranty of any printers that were purchased with Gates funds. The warranty can be renewed if it is done before the original expiration date. Check on the Gates website for warranty info (there is a link to it from the NCLS site).

**NYLA Rural Roundtable News** - Charlie Garofalo informed us that the officers will be meeting in Lake Placid on 5/16 and she will report to us at our meeting in June. She reminded us that membership is only $5 and it would behoove us all to join.

**New Business**

NCLS Director’s remarks –

Dept. of Labor Survey - Steve Bolton commented on the Department of Labor survey that we all received. Apparently the state is looking into maybe placing “one stop” job centers at some libraries. There has been no mention of funding as of this date.

State budget cuts and effects on NCLS services - The NYS budget ended up cutting funding by 8% (along with the 2.88% that was cut last August) for a total
of $127,000. Although 1 ½ positions will be lost at NCLS our system is actually in fairly good shape. Some systems have had to resort to borrowing money every year to tide them over! Funding to the New York State Library will be cut by approximately $1,000,000 in 2009-2010 and this could have an impact on NOVEL.

Youth Services Organization- Ginger Tebo, Nicci Spenser, and Emily Owen informed us of the formation of the Youth Services Organization (aka YSO) which will serve to connect and inform all the staff in member libraries who deal with youth programming. Each library will have one voting member, but anyone can attend the meetings. The first meeting will be in August after summer reading program activities have ended.

Internet usage- Charlie Garafalo broached the subject of staff response to “unacceptable” internet usage. Discussion followed with many opinions given for how different individuals deal with such situations as pornographic sites, bomb-making sites, etc. Although there was great diversity in approach, it was generally agreed that all libraries need internet use policies that define acceptable usage, and that the staff should have the authority to deal with problems as they arise.

Lead in children’s books issue- Emily and Lyn reported that ALA is working on this issue and that we should all contact Senator McHugh about the fact that children’s books are not a threat for lead content. For further information and updates on this topic see the ALA website.

Web based circulation systems- Pat Musante asked about web based circulation systems. Steve Bolton stated the NCLS was investigating them, and would inform us further after they had more information. It appears they may be cheaper than SIRSI, but it is unclear if they are better.

24/7 reference service- Steve reminded us that there is a link on all NCLS template webpages; all other libraries can call Joan Pellikka to have it added to their pages.

The next meeting will be Tuesday, June 9th @ NCLS at 10:30 AM.

The meeting was adjourned at 12:40.