**DRAFT**

Central New York Library Resources Council

Legislative Committee

December 11, 2012

3:00 p.m. conference call

**Participating:** Carole Kupelian (Retired school librarian), Chair, Mike McLane (Library Consultant and retired librarian), Wanda Bruchis (Mid-York), Christine Richie (OCPL), Matt DeLaney (Tully Free Library), Anna Dobkowski (CLRC), Debby Emerson (CLRC)

This unofficial conference call meeting was held to discuss any suggested changes in the format of

the legislative breakfast, in preparation for the December 14 event in Syracuse.

The group agreed that the Whitesboro breakfast on December 7 went very well. Assemblyman Brindisi was ill and asked his aide to attend in his place. The room was fairly full and it was noted that we may need to use larger venues in the future. There were some local library users who attended the Whitesboro breakfast and had not registered through CLRC. In the future we should make sure the room is set up with a couple extra tables, so there is a place for people to sit if they are attending without having signed up. In this case there was no place for them to go, and they ended up sitting at tables that were designated for our legislators.

Anna reported there are 77 library supporters signed up to attend the December 14 breakfast at the CNY Philanthropy Center. She will send an email with parking instructions to all those who have registered. People can park along Fayette Street on both sides, around the corner on Water Street, and at St. Joseph’s Carriage House.

The committee suggested that Debby introduce the video before starting it. At the Whitesboro breakfast we just started it up, thinking it would get peoples’ attention, but people found it confusing. We should allow slightly more time with each legislator. We were ringing the bell after five minutes, urging people to move along, but it should be more like seven to 10 minutes. We should put a sign-in sheet at each table in case the legislator wants to collect names and email addresses. This could be especially helpful when it is an aide attending the breakfast, because they would then have something to take back to the legislator.

Each library supporter attending should be given a list of the legislators, along with contact information, and encouraged to make appointments with them in their local offices. Each person should also be given a list of the NYLA Legislative Talking Points. The materials in the legislative packets should be posted on the CLRC website, and a link to the materials widely publicized.

The “speed dating” format seems to be very effective and is enjoyed by both the legislators and the library supporters in attendance. It gives everyone a chance to speak in a non-threatening environment, and there is no danger of anyone monopolizing the dialogue.

Respectfully submitted,

Debby Emerson, CLRC