

**WESTCHESTER LIBRARY SYSTEM**  
**Trustee Meeting**  
**June 24, 2014 – Approved July 29, 2014**

**REGULAR MEETING**

The Regular Meeting of the Westchester Library System Board of Trustees was held on June 24, 2014, at the System Headquarters, 540 White Plains Road, Tarrytown, New York. The meeting was called to order by President Hansen at 6:05 p.m. The quorum requirement was met with the following people in attendance:

Board Members present: Mary Amato, Dave Donelson, Catherine Draper, Patricia Fontanella, Hope Furth, LaRuth Gray, Chris Hansen, Norman Jacknis, Naseem Jamali, Sue Neale, Edris Scherer

Board Members absent: Deborah Fay, Amanda Goodman, Barbara Hickernell, Luke Vander Linden

Also present from WLS were: Terry Kirchner, Patricia Braja, Rob Caluori, Francine Feuerman, Elena Falcone, Elaine Sozzi

Public Library Directors Association (PLDA) Representative: Laura Eckley, Director, Larchmont Public Library

**METRICS WORKING GROUP PRESENTATION**

**Elaine Sozzi, Director, WEBS:** Ms. Sozzi provided an overview of the history of how the WEBS Career & Educational Counseling program started and explained in detail the main services offered at various member libraries: 1) Multi-session career seminars; 2) Individual counseling; 3) Workshops on career-related topics; 4) Professional development programs for counselors and library staff; 5) Full-service website; and 6) Partnerships with Westchester's One Stop Employment Center, the Workforce Investment Board and the Westchester Career Counselors' Network. The fit between libraries and career counseling is a good one because the workplace has undergone dramatic change and many adults need career management skills. Information is a vital component of career development which the libraries can supply. Ms. Sozzi also spoke about the costs of and demand for the program and potential possibilities for the future.

**MINUTES**

The minutes of the meeting of May 27, 2014, were accepted as submitted by consensus. Following the meeting, a minor correction to the subject of Jerry Nichols' webinar was noted and changed from "the Roles & Responsibilities of Trustees" to the "the roles of Trustees & Directors."

**FINANCIAL REPORTS**

The financial report through May 2014 was presented by Ms. Scherer and was accepted as submitted by consensus. Ms. Feuerman noted that year-end projections were added to the financials in June in response to a request from last year's budgeting process.

## **PRESIDENT'S REPORT**

Mr. Hansen introduced and welcomed Brian Johnson, President of the Mount Vernon Public Library. All congratulated him and the library on the passing of their first budget vote.

## **COMMITTEE REPORTS**

***PLDA-WLS Integrated Library System (ILS) Committee Meeting:*** Mr. Caluori reported that two finalists gave demonstrations of their product. Innovative Interfaces came on June 17-18 with approximately 30 people on the first day and 5 on the second. Evergreen, an open Source product offered through Equinox, came on June 24 with 44 people in attendance. The differences between proprietary and open source were discussed. The ILS Committee will meet again to finalize their recommendation that will be brought before the PLDA General Membership Meeting on July 17 and PLDA's recommendation will be brought before the WLS Board Meeting at their additional meeting on July 29. A comparative spreadsheet with the different details of each option will be compiled and distributed to the WLS Trustees.

## **EXECUTIVE DIRECTOR'S REPORT**

A copy of the Executive Director's Report was mailed in advance of the meeting.

Dr. Kirchner has spoken to WLS's attorney regarding the decision of the State Education Department to deny the Mount Vernon Public Library's Maintenance of Effort Variance. With the positive outcome of the library's budget vote, the Library's governance issues have been addressed; and there is no obligation at this time to change the System's Central Library.

Dr. Kirchner and Ms. Feuerman met with TD Bank due to a fraudulent check that was written on WLS's account. A check which had previously cleared was reused and cleared again. The police were also contacted regarding the matter. At this point, the bank is expected to restore the funds to the account. Ms. Feuerman will closely monitor the account and make changes if needed.

A bill has been introduced in the U.S. Senate called the Workforce Innovation & Opportunity Act. This bill would allow public libraries to be eligible to receive reimbursement and be considered additional one-stop partners. This bill could positively enhance the workplace development roles played by WLS and the member libraries through activities such as the WEBS Career and Educational Services' programs, TASC high school equivalency test tutoring sessions, and expanded digital literacy trainings for the public.

Ms. Braja noted that planning is underway for next year's Book & Author Event, which will be a breakfast instead of lunch on April 15, 2015, and she is working with Tappan Hill as a possible location for the event.

## **PLDA REPRESENTATIVE**

Ms. Eckley reported that the June PLDA Meeting was held in Katonah with the traditional summer luncheon following the meeting. Ms. Groth spoke on behalf of the WLS-PLDA ILS Committee and let the directors know that in order to make a good decision for this important matter, they

must be more involved. Ms. Braja spoke about the WLS Trustees Award that will be presented at the WLS Annual Meeting. The Technology Committee raised a motion and the general membership approved WLS IT's installation of Wireless Printing, and a timeline of ongoing IT projects for the rest of 2014 was distributed. The Finance Committee proposed a change to the ILS Finance Model that will be incorporated into the WLS Budget Committee's 2015 budgeting process this Fall.

**ADJOURNMENT**

Having completed its agenda, the Board adjourned its meeting at 7:40 p.m. by consensus.

Respectfully submitted,

*Mary Amato*  
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Secretary