
Executive Director's Report

February 2017

(covering time period of January 20-March 1, 2017)

Budget Update

WLS Trustees Dave Donelson and Sean Ryan and Ed Falcone, Director, Yonkers Public Library, testified at the Westchester Delegation's Public Forum, held at the Greenburgh Public Library, regarding Governor Cuomo's proposed 2017-2018 New York State Executive Budget and its impact to Library Aid and Library Construction Aid. Also in attendance lending support were Sue Neale, WLS Trustee, and Harrison Public Library Trustees, Joseph Toplyn and LoAn Austin. The testimonies presented by Mr. Donelson, Mr. Ryan, and Mr. Falcone clearly demonstrated how the current cuts to Library Aid and Library Construction Aid could negatively impact communities and residents throughout Westchester County. Having a strong representation at the hearing highlighted how important public libraries are to their communities.

Similar budget hearings were also hosted by Assemblymember Shelley Mayer (90th District), Senator Andrea Stewart-Cousins (35th District) and Assemblymember Gary Pretlow (89th District) at the Yonkers Public Library-Riverfront Library—where Susan Thaler, Deputy Director of the Yonkers Public Library, testified—and by Senator George Latimer (37th District) and Assemblymember Mayer at the Yonkers Public Library-Grinton I. Will Branch Library—where Christian Zabriskie, Branch Administrator of the Grinton I. Will Branch Library, testified.

I thank all involved for taking the time to step up and speak out for library funding.

Library Advocacy Day

WLS has rented a 24-passenger bus for the trip to Albany for Library Advocacy Day sponsored by New York Library Association (NYLA) on March 1st. The bus was just about full, and several others made the trip separately, with a total of 25 participants for Westchester County. All 14 Legislative offices of the Westchester Delegation were visited as well as the Chair of the Assembly's Committee on Libraries and Education Technology, Dan Quart (73rd District). The appointment list and talking points are posted on the [WLS website](#); and a more detailed report will be available shortly.

In addition, the Public Library Directors Association (PLDA) agreed to support an advocacy campaign at the libraries during the week of February 22-28 to encourage library users to contact their legislators via email or phone regarding the importance of increasing library aid. Flyers were made up for each library to make available at their circulation desks and/or public access computers. The goal was to have more library users (not only staff members) be in direct contact with the legislators. Although this campaign was time-oriented, we learned during Advocacy Day that there is still time to contact your legislators regarding increasing Library Aid

and Public Library Construction Aid. So the libraries will be asked to continue this campaign for another week.

WLS Trustee Training

WLS has three Trustee Institutes scheduled for this year (see below). These sessions are designed to help trustees learn more about library issues, trends and best practices and also to provide an opportunity for trustees to network with their peers from other libraries throughout the County. The Trustee Institutes are held in the evenings (usually from 6-8 p.m.) and start off with a light dinner followed by the topic presentation. Detailed invitations will be sent out via email approximately 4 weeks prior to each event.

Date	Topic	Location
April 27	Financial Statements	WLS Headquarters New Location: 570 Taxter Road, Elmsford, NY
June 7	Board Meeting Minutes	Katonah Village Library 26 Bedford Road, Katonah, NY
October 3	Effective Board Meetings	Eastchester Public Library 11 Oakridge Place, Eastchester, NY

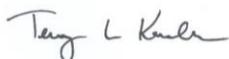
WLS Trustees are encouraged to remind the library boards in their district of these upcoming Trustee Institutes. In addition to these activities, WLS staff are available to meet with individual library boards to provide overviews of board roles and responsibilities, assist with long range planning, facilitate board retreats or customize a program as needed.

Trustees who attend WLS Trustee Institutes are eligible to participate in the Library Trustees Association (LTA) of New York State's STAR Program. In the STAR (Successful Trustees Achieve Recognition) Program, participants receive credits for their efforts to participate, advocate, learn and serve in their role as a library trustee. The STAR Program enrollment form as well as many other resources for library trustees can be found on the [LTA website](#). WLS Trustee Edris Scherer represents WLS on the LTA Board.

Future Events

- April 6 WLS Multi-Language Book Fair – WLS Headquarters, Elmsford, NY
- April 7 WLS Celebrating Westchester Libraries Event – Doral Arrowwood, Rye Brook, NY
- May 5 2017 LARC (Library Association of Rockland County)-WLA (Westchester Library Association) Joint Conference – HNA Palisades Premier Conference Center, Palisades, NY

Respectfully submitted,



Terry L. Kirchner
Executive Director

LIST OF VISITS AND MEETINGS ATTENDED
January 21 – March 1, 2017

JANUARY

- 23 Donvil Collins, President & CEO, VeeKast; Pat Brigham, Director of Development
Elise Burke, Executive Assistant
- 24 Rob Caluori, Director of Information Technology (IT)
- 25 WLA Mid-Winter Conference, Ossining Public Library
Joanna Straub, Executive Director, NonProfit Westchester (NPW)
- 26 Pat Brigham, Director of Development
- 30 Elise Burke, Executive Assistant
- 31 NYS Attorney Charities Bureau Panel, Yonkers Public Library-Riverfront Library
Mainstreaming Open Access Monographs
Rob Caluori, Director of IT
WLS Board

FEBRUARY

- 1 Pat Brigham, Director of Development
Hui Sheng, Manager, eContent & Resource Sharing
Community Conversations Meeting
Hoopla Conference Call
- 2 Sirsi Operations Conference Call
Douglas Wray, Manager, Cataloging Services
Bernie Margolis, NYS Librarian
- 3 Westchester Delegation Public Hearing re NYS Budget, Greenburgh Public Library
- 6 Elise Burke, Executive Assistant
- 7 Rob Caluori, Director of IT
Public Library System Directors (PULISDO) and NYS Library Division of Library Development
Conference Call
- 8 Pat Brigham, Director of Development
Nishan Stepak, Collection Development Librarian II, Mount Vernon Public Library
Webinar: *Employee Classification and Compensable Time: What You Don't Know Can Hurt You*
- 9-20 Vacation
- 22 NPW Executive Committee
Pat Brigham, Director of Development
Aleida M. Frederico, Senior Relationship Manager, VP, Commercial Lending, TD Bank; Doreen
LoBalbo, VP, Treasury Management Officer, Treasury Management Services, TD Bank; Fran
Feurman, CFO, WLS
- 23 Naomi Marrow, Community Relations, United Way of Westchester/Putnam
WLS Strategic Working Group
- 24 NPW Strategic Meeting
Conference Call: Regan Dewey, Business Development Manager & Donald Jannazzo, Business
Development Manager, bibliotheca; Rob Caluori, Director of IT
- 27 James Alperin, Financial Advisor, Morgan Stanley; Brian P. Scanlon, First Vice President, Senior
Portfolio Manager, Corporate Retirement Director, Morgan Stanley; Jay Fenster, Partner,
Danziger & Markhoff, LLP; Pat Brigham, Director of Development
Maker Program: Getting Started with 3D Printing
- 28 PULISDO Meeting – Albany, NY
New York Alliance of Library Systems (NYALS) Meeting – Albany, NY
New Yorkers for Better Libraries PAC Dinner – Albany, NY

MARCH

- 1 New York Library Association (NYLA) Library Advocacy Day – Albany, NY