Westchester Library System
Annual Meeting
November 16, 2017 – Approval Pending – DRAFT

The 58th Annual Meeting of the Westchester Library System (WLS) was held on Thursday, November 16, 2017, at WLS’s Headquarters at 570 Taxter Road, Elmsford, NY.

There were 65 directors, trustees, and guests representing WLS and 33 of its member libraries. Executive Director Terry Kirchner welcomed all and introduced the NYS legislators in attendance: Assembly members Shelley Mayer [90th District]; Steven Otis [91st District]; Thomas Abinanti [92nd District]; Sandy Galef [95th District]; and Senator George Latimer [37th District].

A video was shown that was produced in 2017 as an overview of WLS services, featuring the WLS Delivery, Westchester Seniors Out Speaking (WSOS), HSE (High School Equivalency) Connect!, and WEBS programs. Dr. Kirchner noted that 2017 was a time for review of strategic directions including an assessment of the Central Library program. One new initiative included Hoopla, an online database of e-books, videos and other content available 24/7 with over 40,000 titles downloaded. As content formats continue to evolve, it will be important to focus on user-centric services around people, place and platform to bring about successful sustainability.

WLS President Cathy Draper welcomed all and opened the WLS Business portion of the Meeting.

CALL TO ORDER: President Cathy Draper called the Business Meeting to order at 9:55 a.m.; introduced the WLS Trustees in attendance; and thanked the outgoing WLS Trustees Norman Jacknis and Barbara Hickernell for their 20+ years of dedicated service.

MINUTES OF THE 2016 ANNUAL MEETING: The minutes of the 2016 Annual Meeting were approved on a motion made by Edris Scherer and seconded by Julie Mills-Worthey. The motion passed unanimously.

ELECTION OF NEW TRUSTEES: Sue Neale, Chair of the WLS Nominating Committee, proposed the following slate of trustees who were nominated by their represented libraries and are willing to serve:

   District II [Briarcliff Manor, Ossining, Tarrytown]
   Jonathan Marshall (to a full term ending December 31, 2022)

   District IX [Bronxville, Eastchester, Pelham, Tuckahoe]
   Catherine Draper (to a full term ending December 31, 2022)

   District XII [Peekskill]
   Karen Kelley (to a full term ending December 31, 2022)

There being no nominations from the floor, the above Trustees were elected to the WLS Board of Trustees on a motion by Sue Neale and seconded by Karen Zevin. The motion passed unanimously.

The business portion of the meeting was adjourned at 10:02 a.m. on a motion made by Sue Neale and seconded by Edris Scherer. The motion passed unanimously.

Dr. Kirchner introduced New York State Regent Judith Johnson and State Librarian & Assistant Commissioner for Libraries Bernard A. Margolis, who engaged in a panel discussion that addressed creating public libraries’ future. Ms. Johnson highlighted how schools and libraries can look at encouraging civic values and skills for successful citizenship. Mr. Margolis focused on three major
themes of equity; what makes libraries unique; and the use of more flexible planning strategies that will allow for change and growth. Just as the methods of delivering service in the classrooms and in libraries have changed, so must schools and libraries look at ways to transform their service to reflect the 21st century. An informative question & answer period followed.

Dr. Kirchner thanked all for coming and for their support of WLS over the past year.

Respectfully submitted,

Elise Burke
Recording Secretary