

**WLS Board – Strategic Committee
Minutes - March 15, 2021 (held via Zoom)**

In attendance:

Karen Zevin (District 1)
Jonathon Marshall (District 2)
Susan Morduch (District 6), Board President
Julie Mills-Worthey (District 13)
Francis Okelo (District 14), Committee Chair
Terry Kirchner, WLS Executive Director

Meeting began at 6:05 PM.

Francis Okelo, Chair of the Strategy Committee, provided a brief overview on the general operational aspects of the committee:

- Frequency of meetings will be every other month starting Monday, April 12, at 6 PM. The frequency will be adjusted as needed.
- The overall charge of the committee is to provide guidance on strategic directions and broad policy recommendations that will help WLS to support the member libraries and the Westchester community.
- WLS staff and PLDA representatives will be invited to attend the meetings and to provide input when topics in their area of practice are to be discussed.

Terry Kirchner provided a brief update on the status of the Free Direct Access Plan, the WLS Plan of Service and the Central Library Plan of Service documents. All three documents are in the process of being reviewed and updated for the 2022-2026 time period.

Mr. Okelo requested that every committee member review the WLS Strategy Proposal document (attached). This is the guiding document used by WLS staff.

- Mr. Kirchner has been asked to provide the committee at the next meeting with an overview of how the WLS Strategy Proposal has been or has not been helpful in supporting strategic initiatives.
- Committee members are encouraged to scan for potential trends or elements that could impact the future operations and effectiveness of the member libraries and WLS.

Potential ideas and questions to explore in more detail in the future were discussed. These included:

- What are other public library systems in NYS and elsewhere doing?
- Does WLS need to more clearly reflect a shift to community engagement as well as the activities that support the member libraries?

- To what extent does (and should) WLS protect its tangible and intangible assets?
- What strategies would best allow for the protection and promotion of the ILS?
- How should WLS provide support in the hybrid environment going forward?
- What types of services and technology to the member libraries will WLS be able to fully support going forward?
- Is it realistic for WLS to provide best of breed solutions and processes as outlined in the WLS Strategy Proposal?

The next scheduled meeting is Monday, April 12, 2021, at 6 PM.

The meeting adjourned at 6:55 PM.

Meeting notes submitted by Terry Kirchner