

WESTCHESTER LIBRARY SYSTEM
Trustee Meeting
March 31, 2015 – Approved April 28, 2015

ORGANIZATION MEETING

The annual Organization Meeting of the Westchester Library System was called to order by Chris Hansen, President, at 6:02 p.m. at WLS Headquarters. The quorum requirement was met with the following people in attendance at both the Organizational and Regular Meetings of the WLS Board of Trustees:

Board Members present: Dave Donelson, Catherine Draper, LaRuth Gray, Chris Hansen, Barbara Hickernell, Naseem Jamali, Sue Neale, Edris Scherer, Luke Vander Linden

Board Members absent: Mary Amato, Deborah Fay, Patricia Fontanella, Hope Furth, Norman Jacknis

Also present from WLS were: Terry Kirchner, Patricia Braja, Francine Feuerman

Public Library Directors Association (PLDA) Representative: Beth Bermel, Director, Scarsdale Public Library

Sue Neale, Chair of the Nominating Committee, reported that the following trustees have agreed to run again for office as noted. With no nominations from the floor, the following slate was presented:

President: Chris Hansen
Vice-President: Catherine Draper
Secretary: Mary Amato

Ms. Scherer was appointed as Treasurer. The slate of officers was approved on a motion by Ms. Neale and seconded by Mr. Vander Linden. The motion passed unanimously.

The Oath of Office required by New York State for public library system trustees was administered to Mr. Donelson, who was re-elected at the WLS Annual Meeting in November as trustee for WLS District VII [Harrison, Purchase].

Ms. Neale noted that a representative is being sought to fill the vacant term for WLS District X [Port Chester, Rye Brook, Rye City, Rye Town] expiring 12/31/2015 and Ms. Amato has noted that she would like to step down as the WLS District XV Representative [Yonkers] but will continue to serve until another candidate is found.

There being no further business, the organizational meeting adjourned at 6:10 p.m. by consensus.

REGULAR MEETING

The Regular Meeting of the Westchester Library System was called to order by President Hansen at 6:11 p.m.

MINUTES

The minutes of the meeting of November 25, 2014, and February 24, 2015, were accepted as submitted by consensus.

FINANCIAL REPORTS

The financial reports for January and February 2015 were presented by Ms. Scherer and were accepted as submitted by consensus.

ACTION ITEMS

Acceptance of the WLS System Annual Report to New York State: An Annual Report for Library Systems must be submitted each year to New York State's Division of Library Development. The report covers operational and financial statistics and includes a section to document the accomplishments made throughout the year. The Report, which was distributed prior to the meeting, was reviewed and discussed. Elise Burke was thanked for her efforts in completing the Report.

The Board accepted the WLS System Annual Report 2014 as submitted on a motion by Ms. Hickernell and seconded by Ms. Draper. The motion passed unanimously.

PRESIDENT'S REPORT

Mr. Hansen noted that Dr. Jacknis heard from the State Library about other possible alternatives regarding the filtering requirement for the e-rate funds. A meeting with the State Librarian is being scheduled to discuss the matter.

COMMITTEE REPORTS

Audit Committee: Ms. Hickernell, Chair, noted that the Committee is scheduled to meet on April 6th at 5:30 p.m. to go over the 2014 WLS Audit.

EXECUTIVE DIRECTOR'S REPORT

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

Dr. Kirchner noted the Article 78 Waiver regarding the Maintenance of Effort for Mount Vernon Public Library's FY2011-12 was denied and an appeal was filed. Mount Vernon Public Library needs to supply information for submission of the FY2012-13 Waiver. The Mount Vernon Public Library did approve the Central Library Development Aid 2014-15 Budget, which had been approved by PLDA in December 2014.

The Purchase Library sued their landlord, the Purchase Community House (PCH), for trying to evict them. The eviction has been pushed back and a meeting is scheduled for 4/29/15 to vote on overthrowing the PCH board and their decision. WLS has been available to the library staff and board during this process in an informational role.

New York State Librarian Bernie Margolis and the Division of Library Development have agreed to review an online high school program that could be an important resource for adults seeking their graduate equivalency diploma. WLS will explore the possibilities of this resource in relation to the TASC Connect! program.

Dr. Kirchner discussed recent e-rate and broadband initiatives introduced by New York State.

The process of filling the Technology Trainer position related to the SirsiDynix renewal approved in 2014 is underway. This two-year program will help the libraries to reach their capacity with the new enhancements in the SirsiDynix system and support digital literacy initiatives throughout the County.

There are Library Director positions open at the following member libraries: North Castle Public Library, Ossining Public Library, Somers Library, and Yonkers Public Library.

DEVELOPMENT REPORT

Ms. Braja reported on the progress of the *Celebrating Westchester's Libraries: Breakfast with Bruni* event on April 15th. There has been a good response in ticket sales, and newly appointed Regent Judith Johnson is planning to attend. So far, thirteen libraries have taken out a special *Unlimited Possibilities!* library page in the Journal. H.W. Wilson Foundation has given \$10,000, and along with funds from Entergy and Con Edison, a mini-grant program will be supported to help Westchester libraries present impactful public programs.

Other grant submissions have been made to Impact 100 for the TASC Connect! program and to Westchester Community Foundation to build marketing of libraries through storytelling.

Future strategies for marketing and special events were discussed.

PLDA REPRESENTATIVE

Ms. Bermel was welcomed to her first WLS Board Meeting as the PLDA Representative. There were no formal action items voted on at the March PLDA Meeting. The Technology Committee is undergoing changes and will focus more on strategic planning and how technology supports the mission of libraries' long- and short-term goals. Nancy Coradin spoke about the importance of foreign language collections in libraries and encouraged all to attend the 5th Annual WLS Multi-Language Book Fair will be held on April 7th at the Ossining Public Library.

OTHER

University of Fashion online learning tool was discussed. WLS is the beta site for this unique tool that covers typical fashion related subjects such as draping, sewing, pattern making, as well as other fashion related subjects such as the creation of student portfolios, business connections and product development. This tool is well suited for libraries with or considering Makerspaces.

ADJOURNMENT

Having completed its agenda, the Board adjourned its meeting at 7:00 p.m. by consensus.

Respectfully submitted,



Elise Burke
Recording Secretary