The Regular Meeting of the Westchester Library System was begun by Terry Kirchner, Executive Director, at 6:20 pm at the WLS Headquarters.

PLEASE NOTE: Because the quorum requirement was not met, the items requiring Board approval were deferred until the March Board Meeting.

Board Members present: Mary Amato, Dave Donelson, Patricia Fontanella, Mary Ellen Forte, Naseem Jamali, Lawrence Lehman

Board Members absent: Patricia Dohrenwend, Deborah Fay, Hope Furth, LaRuth Gray, Barbara Hickernell, Norman Jacknis, Marie Grace Mutino, Sue Neale, John Sorice

Also present from WLS were: Terry Kirchner, Rob Caluori

Public Library Directors Association (PLDA) Representative: Susan Riley, Director, Mount Kisco Public Library

PRESENTATION

Rob Caluori, Assistant Information Technology (IT) Manager, gave a presentation on Sirsi—where we were, where we are, and where we’re going—speaking about Dynix and Sirsi’s Symphony, Unicorn, iBistro, eLibrary and Enterprise products. Mr. Caluori also spoke about VuFind, the system being used for the County correctional facilities, as well as the future possibility for use of Open Source products.

Mr. Caluori demonstrated the WLS IT wiki, which has grown to be a resource for statistics on OverDrive, Tumble Books and other databases; the Wireless Network usage; a reference point for system maintenance and down times; Technology Committee meeting minutes; as well as other information as needed.

EXECUTIVE DIRECTOR'S REPORT

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

Dr. Kirchner spoke about Library Lobby Day on March 2nd. He thanked the WLS Trustees who attended. Although it seemed more pessimistic than last year, the day was successful, and the legislators recognized the important role that libraries play in their communities. A few more advocacy events were announced: A NYS Senate Westchester Delegation Public Hearing on the Budget will be held on Friday, March 19th, from 9:30 a.m. to 12:30 p.m. at the Greenburgh Town Hall and the Westchester County Association Breakfast with Ken Jenkins on Friday, March 26th. Trustees interested in attending should inform Dr. Kirchner.
The Book & Author Luncheon is scheduled for Thursday, April 15th. This year’s National Library Week Recognition Award Recipient will be Dr. Marjorie Gluster, Vice President and Dean, Division of Continuing Education and Community Services of Westchester Community College. Mr. Donelson wrote a 100-word sales pitch for journal ads, which he will email to the trustees.

The next WLS Trustee Institute will be held on Wednesday, April 7th, at 6 p.m. at the WLS Headquarters. Jerry Nichols, Director of the Palmer Institute for Public Library Organization and Management, will be presenting on Trustees and Directors: Roles and Responsibilities.

Dr. Kirchner spoke about the WLS audit for FY2009. Former WLS Controller John Smith is still working with the auditors; and once completed, a meeting of the WLS Audit Committee will be called.

Lisa Areford, WLS Representative from NYS Library’s Division of Library Development, is scheduled to visit three libraries in Westchester. On March 10th, she will meet with Bronxville Public Library regarding becoming a school district library and with Mount Vernon Public Library regarding their status as a small city school district library. On March 11th, she will visit Greenburgh Public Library regarding the WLS Free Direct Access Plan.

Another upcoming event is the New York State Association of Library Boards (NYSALB) Trustee Institute on April 30-May 1 in Long Island.

PLDA REPRESENTATIVE

Ms. Riley noted that this was her first WLS board meeting as Second Vice-President and PLDA Representative and looks forward to giving a complete report at the next meeting.

ADJOURNMENT

The Board meeting was completed at 7:35 p.m.

Respectfully submitted,

Mary Ellen Forte, Secretary