

**Westchester Library System**  
**Annual Meeting**  
**November 15, 2018 – Approval Pending – DRAFT**

The 59<sup>th</sup> Annual Meeting of the Westchester Library System (WLS) was held on Thursday, November 15, 2018, at WLS's Headquarters at 570 Taxter Road, Elmsford, NY.

There were 69 directors, trustees, and guests representing WLS and 36 of its member libraries. Executive Director Terry Kirchner welcomed all and introduced the government officials in attendance: Westchester County Executive George Latimer; Assembly members Steven Otis [91<sup>st</sup> District]; and Alyssa Jacobs for Thomas Abinanti [92<sup>nd</sup> District].

Dr. Kirchner introduced special guest speaker New York Secretary of State Rossana Rosado, who spoke of her role as the first woman to serve as Editor & Publisher of El Diario and the journey to her current position and involvement with community re-entry for those returning from prison. Secretary Rosado realizes that the library's mission as a gateway to knowledge is closely aligned to the needs of those re-entering society and how this connection can build a stronger society. She also spoke of her rebellious spirit and love of reading and her experiences with libraries as a space to learn, grow and reflect on one's own identity. In her role as a professor at [City University of New York] CUNY's John Jay College of Criminal Justice, she encourages her students to explore literature and resources available at libraries that foster better understanding of oneself and greater compassion for others—and even shared her own book list of personal favorites. Libraries are a place to find humanity.

WLS President Sean Ryan welcomed all and opened the WLS Business portion of the Meeting\* to order at 9:35 a.m. by consensus; introduced the WLS Trustees in attendance; and thanked outgoing WLS Trustees Dr. LaRuth Gray and Sue Neale for their combined 40+ years of dedicated service.

**MINUTES OF THE 2017 ANNUAL MEETING:** The minutes of the 2017 Annual Meeting were approved on a motion made by Edris Scherer and seconded by Dr. Susan Morduch. The motion passed unanimously.

**ELECTION OF NEW TRUSTEES:** Dr. Morduch, 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 XIV [New Rochelle]

Francis Okelo (to a full term ending December 31, 2023)

District VIII [Larchmont, Mamaroneck, Scarsdale]

Maureen LeBlanc (to a full term ending December 31, 2023)

District IV [Lewisboro (South Salem), North Salem, Somers]

Edris Scherer (to a full term ending December 31, 2023)

There being no nominations from the floor, the above Trustees were elected to the WLS Board of Trustees on a motion by Edris Scherer and seconded by Bernie Seiler. The motion passed unanimously.

The business portion of the meeting was adjourned at 9:40 a.m. by consensus.

Established in November of 1958, WLS is happy to celebrate 60 years of service. There have been many accomplishments, shared successes and numerous changes over the past six decades that will be highlighted throughout the coming year. In addition to a new website and email newsletter, an

Anniversary Campaign will be launched. WLS's newest corporate sponsor was introduced—The Westchester Bank represented by Patricia Cappelletti—and long-standing sponsor TD Bank was represented by Alé Federico. A [video](#) was shown about the impact of libraries on Ms. Federico's life. Dr. Kirchner summarized the 2019 WLS Budget in light of three strategic priorities identified in 2018:

- *Expand WLS's competency as an incubator of solutions and services* – WLS will build on opportunities that allow the member libraries to share and cooperate with programs such as the Resilience Coalition, the migration to a new open source Integrated Library System (ILS), preparation for the 2020 Census and expanded growth in downloadable content and online services and the launch of Tutor.com.
- *Encourage and promote best practices across the member libraries* – Showing how to effectively tell success stories, the impact of libraries and the lessons learned.
- *Provide additional support for professional development for library staff and trustees* – With a focus on technology, people skills and board governance.

All were thanked for coming and encouraged to tell our stories—especially to those who will share them with others.

Respectfully submitted,

Elise Burke  
*Recording Secretary*

\*WLS Trustees in attendance: Dave Donelson, Cathy Draper, Karen Kelley, Jonathan Marshall, Julie Mills-Worthey, Susan Morduch, Sue Neale, Sean Ryan, Edris Scherer, Bernie Seiler, Karen Zevin