

**WESTCHESTER LIBRARY ASSOCIATION**  
**Minutes of the Board of Directors Meeting**  
**December 10, 2015**  
**White Plains Public Library**

**Present:**

Alex Gaete, Mallory Harlen, Kathy Palovick, Donna Pesce, Sara Rodgers, Sarah Rodriguez, Sharon Rothman, Linda Surovich, John Torres

**Excused:**

Liz Anastasi, Tim Baird, Z.B. Baird, Elizabeth Coppola, Dan Glauber, Maxine Grandison, Martha Iwan, Bonnie Katz, Terry Kirchner, Diana Lennon, Joseph Mannozi, Maureen Petry, James Trapasso

The meeting was called to order at 10:07. Donna Pesce made a motion to accept the minutes of the November 2015 meeting as read; Sharon Rothman seconded. The motion was passed and the minutes were accepted.

**President's Report:**

- President Liz Anastasi was excused for this meeting and Vice President Sara Rodgers presided in her place. She began by introducing new Board member Kathy Palovick, who works at Ardsley, Dobbs Ferry and Mount Pleasant; Kathy will be joining us as Scholarship Chair.
- Our Mid-Winter Conference planning is well underway. We're excited to have Rebekkah Smith-Aldrich of the Mid-Hudson Library System present "Sustainable Thinking". The schedule for the day is as follows:
  - Wednesday, January 20<sup>th</sup>, 2016 from 9 a.m. to 12 p.m. at the Ossining Public Library, 53 Croton Avenue, Ossining, NY, 10562 (Snow Date: January 27<sup>th</sup>, 2016)
  - Pricing: \$5.00 for WLA members, \$10 for Non-WLA members
  - Timeline
    - 9-10:00: Check in, networking, breakfast
    - 10:00-10:15: People sit and settle, brief WLA announcements, Intro for Rebekkah
    - 10:15-11:15: Rebekkah speaks
    - 11:15-11:45: Q&A
    - 12:00-12:15: People trickle out
    - 12:30: OPL staff begin to arrive for work

More regarding Mid-Winter will be discussed as New Business.

- Diana Lennon has graciously accepted the role of Professional Development Co-Chair and will be working with Elaine Provenzano from Manhattanville.
- We still need a College Chair and a Conference Chair. Please reach out to your networks.

**Treasurer's Report:**

- Sharon reached out to Carolyn to discuss Constant Contact. We have a 1-year subscription with them.

- Sharon did receive some membership renewals at last year's pricing, but the buttons on the WLA website have been now changed to reflect the new membership rate.

### **Membership Report:**

- Linda Surovich received an email from a member of LARC wondering if his membership in one organization was good for membership in the other? LARC is invited to the WLA conference at our member rate, but there's no need for him to join both organizations. We wondered if LARC has been publicizing the conference; Sara will reach out to LARC about where we are in the conference process. Working with them could boost our attendance and get us ideas for speakers and a keynote.
- Linda will send the renewal email out again in January.
- We will have paper forms available at the Mid-Winter registration table.

### **Web Administration:**

- No report; the website is current and updated.

### **Reference Committee:**

- No report

### **College Committee:**

- No report

### **Youth Services Committee:**

- Sarah Rodriguez shared the flier for the 2016 Youth Services Mock Awards, which look great. The discussions for the mock Caldecott, Newbery, and Printz will all be moderated by two leaders: one school librarian and one public librarian. Elizabeth will be emailing this event to the Youth Services listserv this week. This is a very diverse event—not just librarians attend. Membership forms will be available at the event as well. We agreed to make a concerted effort to post fliers at our libraries.

### **Support Staff Section:**

- No report.

### **Conference Committee:**

- We still need a chair for this committee! Please email Sara if you know anyone who would be interested.
- We are tabling discussion on the annual conference until after the Mid-Winter conference is completed.

### **Public Relations Committee:**

- Alex's membership brochures look great. She will send to Mallory before the Mid-Winter conference for them to be displayed and included in registration packets.
- We discussed Constant Contact statistics: we have a list of 900 email addresses but only about 100 of the emails get opened and a lot get bounced back. John Torres and Linda will continue to work on cleaning up our bank of email addresses.

- If anyone would like anything included in the newsletter, please send it to John. He will also include a link to the WLA survey in the newsletter.

### **Legislation Committee:**

- Donna shared that WLS updated the legislature page on their website.
- She emailed Thomas Abinanti's office about the conference but hasn't heard back yet.
- She also asked that we find out what time we'll be having lunch at the conference so she can work around that when inviting the legislators. We'll table this until the January meeting and ask Martha for her input as vendor chair.

### **Professional Development Committee:**

- No report.

### **Vendor Committee:**

- No report.

### **Directory Committee:**

- This committee still needs a chair.

### **Old Business**

- The survey will be publicized at the Mid-Winter conference and we can encourage people to take it back to their library.
- Revision of Bylaws: John will take a detailed look at the bylaws and bring points of discussion to our next meeting.

### **New Business**

- Mid-Winter Conference
  - If you are interested in volunteering at the conference, please email Mallory. We'll need greeters and people to help set up breakfast and coffee.
  - Signage: Liz has the WLA banners and will coordinate hanging them with James.
  - Sharon wondered how Rebekkah is arriving: we will follow up with Liz about Rebekkah's travel arrangements.
  - James Trapasso was unable to attend the meeting but did email an update regarding breakfast catering. He shared that the Wobble Café, located in the Ossining Library, is swamped with holiday orders and won't be able to provide him with a price quote until after the New Year. He'll follow up with them. He will also let us know what paper good we will need.
  - We decided to host a fishbowl raffle—people will fill out slips with their information (name, library, phone number, email) and we'll have a raffle to offer a prize like \$25 off of the Annual Conference fee. Alex will create slips.
  - If anyone wants anything made available in the Mid-Winter packets, please email them to Mallory by January 8<sup>th</sup>.

A motion to adjourn was made by John at 11:13; Sarah seconded and the meeting was adjourned.

Respectfully Submitted,  
Mallory Harlen

**Upcoming Meetings:**  
**January 14, 2016 at the Hastings Public Library**