

WESTCHESTER LIBRARY ASSOCIATION
Minutes of the Board of Directors Meeting
November 10, 2016
Ossining Public Library

Present:

Liz Anastasi, Alex Gaete, Dan Glauber, Martha Iwan, Bonnie Katz, Diana Lennon, Mallory Marinaro, Kathy Palovick, Sara Rodgers, James Trapasso

Excused:

Zahra Baird, Maxine Grandison, Terry Kirchner, Joseph Manozzi, Elaine Provenzano, Sharon Rothman, Linda Surovich, John Torres

The meeting was called to order at 10: 07. Diana Lennon made a motion to accept the minutes of the October 2016 meeting, pending several minor changes; Liz Anastasi seconded. The motion was passed and the minutes were accepted.

President's Report:

- Battle of the Books was a success in October. We had offered to purchase refreshments—Sara purchased nutritious breakfast bars and they were very well received. The cost was only \$75. Liz expressed thanks on behalf of the Battle of the Books board.
- We conducted an electronic vote on whether or not to partner with LARC for the annual conferences in 2017 and 2018. By a margin of 10-5, board members agreed to move ahead with the LARC partnership.
 - Mallory Marinaro moved to accept the results of this electronic election.
 - James Trapasso seconded.
 - The motion passed and the vote was officially ratified.

Further discussion of LARC will follow under New Business.

- Sara received a summary from Donna Pesce regarding the results of the Ad-Hoc survey. Most respondents want a full-day conference, but many were interested in a half-day conference as well, as it's easier for some to get out of work for a half day. Respondents seem to like the different tracks that WLA offers.
- James moved that, in light of the Mid-Winter Conference taking place in January, we not have a January board meeting.
 - Dan Glauber seconded
 - The motion passed.

Treasurer's Report:

- Sharon was unable to attend the meeting but will email the Treasurer's Report to the board and post on the wiki.

Web Administration

- Dan confirmed that we do not already have a pre-existing WLA email for tech purposes.
- When he creates a tech email, he will give the login information to the executive board.
- Dan will put Mid-Winter information on the website.
- Diana asked if Dan could upload the Professional Development flier, application and instructions to the website.
- Diana also noted that the annual reports posted on the website only go through 2013 and that the Annual Conference reports only go through 2012.

Professional Development and Scholarship Committee:

- The flier, application and instructions will be posted to the website.
- We will be formally announcing the winner of last year's award, Suzy Zavarella, at the Mid-Winter conference. We will also be reminding attendees to apply for the 2017 award.
- Dan suggested offering more professional development workshops throughout the year. Martha said it would keep WLA viable and in people's minds. Martha said she has an idea for a workshop—she will send to Dan, Diana, and Elaine. We discussed that this was a great idea and there are many workshops we can offer—if we start to plan, we can have fliers for these events at Mid-Winter. Martha suggested the American Libraries Webinar taking place on Nov. 18th—on management success in changing times, it would be a good topic for a workshop; it was suggested that Terry would be a good contact for this. Dan suggested his wife, who runs the highly popular Learning Lab at the Mahopac Library. Diana suggested a workshop on Civil Service. This subcommittee will be in contact. We decided to aim for two workshops in the spring and two in the fall.

Reference Committee:

- No report

Academic and Special Libraries Committee:

- No report

Youth Services Committee:

- We need chairs for this committee.

Legislation Committee:

- Kathy signed up for the Library of Congress legislation listserv and talked to Donna about her time as chair of this committee.
- We agreed to invite legislators to the Mid-Winter conference and build their appearance into the networking breakfast (we can advertise it as “Breakfast With Your Legislators”)—this way, they can mingle with librarians and vice versa, and we don't need to worry about carving in time to speak and worry about people talking for too long. Kathy will reach out to their offices.

Support Staff Committee:

- No report.

Conference Committee:

- Mid-Winter will be discussed under New Business.

Vendor Report

- Martha wonders what her role will be in light of the LARC partnership; we will discuss under New Business.

Public Relations Committee:

- Alex took the WLS Canva class. She will make a Save-the-Date for the Mid-Winter Conference. The goal is to have it out before Thanksgiving. We agreed to highlight the fact that Erica is a Library Journal “Mover and Shaker”.

Membership Report:

- No report.

New Business:

- 2017 Annual Conference with LARC
 - Bonnie and Liz will be working with Jessica Bowen. LARC is meeting to approve the agreement today.
 - WLA wants to focus on (1) Location—LARC has agreed to hold the conference closer to the Tappan Zee bridge; (2) Targeting all of our sections (i.e. special libraries, etc.). There can be communication between our sections and their sections in terms of planning conference workshops.
 - Some people worry about losing WLA members at the conference, since this will require crossing the bridge and traveling further—Liz pointed out that Mid-Hudson covers a huge geographical area and people have to make very long trips to attend programs and conferences. We can frame it in a positive way—just think of all the new people you can network with!
 - Martha is concerned about the work needed to give her network to LARC—she said that the vendors do seem excited about having a new market. She asked that the Conference Committee chairs send her the details of the conference as they become available. Liz, Bonnie and Jessica will discuss the vendors and if Martha is still coordinating.
 - Dan asked about BOCES representation at WLA and the conference. It's hard for teachers to get to meetings and the conference. Liz has an active school librarian in Greenburgh that she can reach out to. LARC has a strong youth services section. When we offer our professional development workshops, we will make sure to offer them at evening and after school hours so that school district members can attend. We could also ask BOCES to do one of the workshops.
 - Please keep an open mind about this partnership and let's work together. This is the first time we're doing this!
 - Martha wondered what WLA is getting out of this partnership, since it's not a financial savings. It does take the pressure off of planning a conference and worrying about a budget.
 - LARC has a different financial model than we do; they get money from the county.
 - When we host, we need to look into another venue; the Doubletree is very expensive.
- Funding Initiative
 - Bonnie and Liz discussed reaching out to Dr. Marsha Gordon to approach her for ideas on how to reach out to Westchester businesses for WLA funding and ask for her advice. Terry could potentially introduce them to her. Sara will work with Bonnie on coordinating a meeting.
- Performer's Showcase
 - The WLS Performer's Showcase will be held at the Ossining Library on November 15. In the past, WLA has partnered with WLS on hosting this. WLA is still mentioned in all of the literature for the event. In light of this, Mallory proposed sponsoring the breakfast for the event, up to \$300.
 - Dan made a motion to vote on providing WLS with up to \$300 for breakfast for the Performer's Showcase.
 - Liz seconded.
 - All were in favor and the motion passed. Mallory will follow up with WLS
 - Mallory will set up a WLA table at the Performer's Showcase with membership forms, Save-the-Date for Mid-Winter and the professional development flier.

WLA Mid-Winter Conference

- We will be doing online registration this year. We will make sure to mention that in the Save-the-Date. The registration form will include First Name, Last Name, Library, Email, Phone Number. Sharon will need to set up the PayPal.
- The price will be \$5 for members and \$10 for non-members.

A motion to adjourn was made by Diana at 11:32; Kathy seconded and the meeting was adjourned.

Respectfully Submitted,
Mallory Marinaro

Upcoming Meetings:

December 8, 2016: Greenburgh Library

February 9, 2017: Location TBD

March 9, 2017: Location TBD