

WESTCHESTER LIBRARY ASSOCIATION
Minutes of the Board of Directors Meeting
Ossining Public Library
September 12, 2013

Present: Mary Ayers, Pam Berger, Tata Canuelas, Ann-Marie Cutul, Ed Falcone, Debbie Fletcher, Alexandra Gaete, Dan Glauber, Maxine Grandison, Bonnie Katz, Kathleen Mannino, Joseph Mannozi, Donna Pesce, Sara Rodgers, John Torres, and Augusta Turner

Excused: Tim Baird, Zahra M. Baird, Gina Bell, Valerie Herman, Martha Iwan, Terry Kirchner, Leah Massar, Towanda Mathurin, Srivalli Rao, Carolyn Reznick, and Jessica Tagliaferro,

The meeting came to order at 10:20. Motion (Glauber/Gaete) to approve the Minutes from April 11, 2013, passed, and motion (Turner/Canuelas) to approve the Minutes from June 13, 2013, also passed.

President's Report:

- Incoming President Katz welcomed all Board members and asked them to introduce themselves since there are many changes to the Board. Kathleen Mannino is now Vice President/President Elect. Augusta Turner will assist Ayers on the Reference Committee. Joseph Mannozi is the new Northern BOCES representative, replacing Judy Ashby. John Torres is the new Raffle Chair, taking over from Carol Angert. Sara Rodgers is the new Conference Chair and will be trained by outgoing Chair Mathurin. Sharon Rothman will replace Diana Matson on the Professional Development Committee. Thornton has resigned from the Directory Committee. Glauber indicated his interest in taking over from her and will get in touch with the other Committee member Carolyn Reznick. The description of any vacant Board position will be posted to the WLA website.
- Katz announced that the Mid-Winter Conference will be held January 6, 2014, at WCC's Gateway Center with a snow date for January 13. Katz has also signed the contract for the 2014 Annual Conference at the Doubletree Hotel in Tarrytown. President Katz aims to further the involvement of academic and school libraries in WLA and wants to resurrect the School- Public Library Cooperation Award.

Treasurer's Report:

- Falcone reported that as of August 31, 2013, WLA had \$7,603.05 in the Checking Account and \$27, 718.72 in the Savings Account with a combined balance of \$35,321.77.

Web Administration Committee:

- Glauber will post the changes to the Board on the website. He will also ask Herman to make him an administrator for the Facebook account. Katz suggested that several Board members be made administrators to facilitate postings and help out Herman. Mannino mentioned Google + and Google Hangout as other social media that WLA could make use of.

Reference Section:

- Ayers welcomed new member Augusta Turner to work with her on programing for the Conferences.

Youth Services Section:

- Fletcher announced that a survey was sent out to youth services librarians at WLS and Northern and Southern Westchester BOCES on 9/9/13. 54 people have responded so far, and they prefer a morning program in Central Westchester, i.e. White Plains.
- Program ideas include the *Mock Caldecott, Newbery and Printz Awards* in January, 2014, and a *Spring into Books/Galley Gala* in March. Section Chairs would like to know the theme for the Annual Conference so they can start planning. A tentative *Back to School Bash* is suggested for September and the *Performer's Showcase* is planned for October at the White Plains Public Library and will no longer be a Spring event. The *Not Just for YA Book Club*, co-chaired by Anne Quick and Z.M. Baird is ongoing. There are photos on the website. There has also been a discussion to add another group, *Not Just for Kids*, next year.

Support Staff:

- Grandison suggested Carla Harris, a managing director at Morgan Stanley, and author of *Expect to Win*, to be keynote speaker at the Annual Conference. Grandison has approached Harris who is available and interested. Board members expressed their enthusiasm. The Conference Committee will discuss the matter and make a final decision.

Legislation Committee:

- Pesce reported that for the third consecutive year, the Legislature and Governor agreed on an on time State Budget. The Budget included \$4 million in additional Library Aid as well as \$1.3 million in funding to those libraries impacted by the MTA Payroll tax, and \$14 million in Library Construction Aid. In addition, the Senate distributed \$2.5 M in Education Bullet Aid to 367 public libraries across the state.
- The final FY 2013-14 NYS Budget Library Aid is \$81.6M (Executive Budget) and + \$4M (Legislative Restoration), totaling \$85.6M.
- Several items were signed into law: Library Card information to be distributed to students, Library/BOCES Contracts for High-Speed Internet, and Digital Literacy to be taught in schools rather than Internet safety.
- Area legislators who were thanked for their support are Assemblywoman Sandy Galef and Assemblyman Steven Otis.
- Library Advocacy Day 2014 will be Thursday, February 27, 2014.

Old Business:

Annual Conference Survey:

- Katz asked Glauber to send the link to the Survey Monkey Conference results to Cutul who in turn will email it to Board members. Currently, without a subscription, anyone wanting to see the results has to create a login and a password. Berger interjected that BOCES has a subscription to Survey Monkey. She will check if you can share it or only subscribe a month at a time.

- There were comments in the survey results about a mildew smell at Doubletree. Katz checked with the hotel and was told it had been taken care of. She will also negotiate for a more palatable vegetarian dish as there were negative comments about the pasta.

Logo:

- Board members agreed to stay with the current, enhanced logo, which can be copied off the server.

Mission statement:

- Katz mentioned that WLA's basic mission is to put on an Annual Conference. Rodgers offered to look into updating and enhancing the statement.

Away from the Desk Committee:

- Katz will contact Rothman to see if she is planning any activities. Rodgers expressed interest in joining the committee.

New Business:

WLA Mid-Winter Conference:

- The theme is *Distance Learning, encompassing Open Access and Fair Use*. Katz suggested we have morning sessions only to keep the fees low.
- Berger mentioned that ALA president Barbara Stripling has recently unveiled the *Declaration for the Right to Libraries*, and Berger would like to bring promotional material to the Conference.

Annual Conference:

- The theme will be *Learning Accommodation*, including Low Vision, Autism and Asperger's.

Web Access:

- Katz will have access to the website in addition to Glauber and Tim Baird .

The meeting was adjourned (Turner/Rodgers) at 12 Noon.

Respectfully submitted by Ann-Marie Cutul

Upcoming Meetings:

Thursday, October 10, 2013, at the White Plains Public Library

Thursday, November 14, 2013 at the College of New Rochelle.

Thursday, December 12, 2013. Meeting location T.B.A.

Mid-Winter Conference, Monday, January 6, 2014, at the Gateway Center, W.C.C.

