

WESTCHESTER LIBRARY ASSOCIATION
Minutes of the Board of Directors Meeting
August 11, 2011
Ossining Public Library

Present: Mary Ayers, Zahra M. Baird, Cheryl Berent, Tata Canuelas, Aurora Cruz, Ann-Marie Cutul, Ed Falcone, Dan Glauber, Maxine Grandison, Bonnie Katz, Terry Kirchner, Donna Pesce, Srivalli Rao, Carolyn Reznick, Jessica Tagliaferro, and Susan Thaler

Excused: Tim Baird, Diane Batemarco, K. DeLuca, and Valerie Herman

The meeting came to order at 10:15. Motion (Z. M. Baird/ Glauber) to approve the Minutes from June 23, 2011, passed.

President's Report:

- Incoming president Tagliaferro welcomed the new Legislation Committee Chair, Donna Pesce from the Baychester Public Library. She also mentioned further changes to the Board. Judy Ashby, John Monahan's successor, will be the new BOCES representative. Tata Canuelas will be a member of the Youth Services Committee.
- Tagliaferro will meet with Falcone to become bank signatory.

Treasurer's Report:

- Falcone reported that WLA had \$15,999.32 in the checking account and \$24,029.08 in the Savings account with a combined balance of \$40,028.40

Membership Report:

- Rao reported that WLA has 207 members for 2011. 164 renewals were by check, 43 by PayPal. 66 members did not renew from 2010. All 2009 members have been deleted. Persons joining after 5/11/2011 have been entered as 2012 members. WLA has 3 members for 2012.
- Rao will send out membership renewal notices via email in October offering PayPal as a payment option. We will keep the \$1 charge to renew via PayPal.

Web Administration Committee:

- Tagliaferro reported for Tim Baird who was excused. Ryan Jackson from the White Plains Library has constructed a test site for a new WLA home page using a content management system. Comments were solicited from the Board and dealt mostly with organization and color scheme. Jackson is working right now on adding a calendar.
- Tagliaferro will ask Jackson to come to our next meeting to demonstrate the page and answer questions about its uploading and maintenance.

Reference Section:

- Tagliaferro noted that Cathy Paulsen has resigned.

Youth Services Section:

- Z. M. Baird reported that she and Iamonico are still looking for Co-Chairs. In the meantime Z. M. Baird will serve as interim Youth Services Section Chair.

- Currently, the following Youth Services events are being planned:

Performers' Showcase – Tee Cotter is chair with committee members Tata Canuelas, Marci Dressler, Robin Osborne and Z. M. Baird. The Showcase will be held November 15, 2011, at the White Plains Public Library. Z. M. Baird also mentioned that WLA members will be able to attend the Westchester Recreation Department's Showcase in Spring of 2012 for free.

Mock Awards/BUZZ – This event will be held in January, 2012, at the White Plains Public Library, co-chaired by Iamónico and Z. M. Baird.

Publishers Showcase – This is a tentative program planned for Spring, 2012. A budget of \$250 for the event was unanimously approved by the Board.

Anne Izard Storytellers' Choice Award – The award is given out every two years. The event was previously sponsored and partly arranged by WLS. After discussion among Board members it was agreed that WLA will be the future sponsor of the Award, and a budget of \$1000 (\$500 per year) was unanimously approved by the Board.

Support Staff Section:

- Grandison is exploring ideas for a Support Staff workshop for the 2012 Annual Conference. Board members suggested she attend the next Circulation meeting at WLS.
- Grandison will check if Wu is still available to serve as a Committee member.

Public Relations Committee:

- Committee member Reznick urged Board members to email her news of events for the WLA Newsletter.
- The Public Relations Chair position is vacant. Board members suggested splitting up duties among several people to make recruiting easier. Glauber has someone in mind for creating graphics and flyers. A suggestion was also made to recruit a library school student as a PR intern for the year.
- Board members suggested we send flyers about WLA events to all public libraries together with membership applications. We could also send postcards to members announcing various events. We need a complete mailing list.

Legislation Committee:

- Pesce reported on NYLA Legislative priorities. NYLA is asking for support to amend the proposed tax cap legislation so library taxes are subject to their own cap, not considered in the cap placed on the municipality or school district collecting the tax. NYLA is also asking for support for a bill authorizing BOCES to contract with public libraries or library systems for higher speed and more cost effective Internet service.
- Glauber suggested we plan a workshop on the tax cap at our Annual Conference with Jerry Nichols as a speaker.
- Pesce also mentioned an article in *American Libraries* discussing the impact of the passing of the Budget Control Act of 2011.

Professional Development Committee:

- Tagliaferro will contact Diana Matson to see if she will be willing to fill the Chair position. She will also ask Judy Ashby from BOCES to handle the School-Library partnership award.

Non-Conference Event Planning Committee:

- Ayers will no longer be part of the committee. Kirchner volunteered his services.

Other Committee reports:

- Kirchner, WLS director and WLS representative on the Board, announced that WLS is working with METRO on two workshops which would be free to WLS members. He invited WLA to be a co-sponsor of the events. The topic for one program will be raising the bar of customer service. The other workshop will be for managers dealing with problem solving. The programs will be held in NY City and Westchester, possibly in October.

Annual Conference 2012:

Keynote Speaker:

- Z.M. Baird reported on her communication with *Unshelved*. The Board determined the fee to be too high and decided to look elsewhere.

Vendor fees:

- Board members voted to keep the current \$250 charge per vendor.

Theme:

- A Board member suggested the theme *Sustainability*.

WLA Logo:

- Tagliaferro reported that DeLuca no longer favored the Headless Horseman as a logo.
- Board members suggested we employ a professional designer.

Upcoming Meetings:

- Tagliaferro proposed the second Thursday of each month as the date for future Board meetings.

The meeting was adjourned (Z. M. Baird/Grandison) at 12 Noon

Respectfully submitted by Ann-Marie Cutul

Upcoming Meetings:

September 8, 2011 at White Plains Public Library

October 13, 2011 at Scarsdale Public Library

November 10, 2011 TBA

December 8, 2011 at Scarsdale Public Library

January 12, 2012 TBA