

**WESTCHESTER LIBRARY ASSOCIATION**  
**Minutes of the Board of Directors Meeting**  
**December 8, 2011**  
**Scarsdale Public Library**

**Present:** Carol Angert, Mary Ayers, Diane Batemarco, Ann-Marie Cutul, Alexandra Gaete, Dan Glauber, Bonnie Katz, Terry Kirchner, Towanda Mathurin, Donna Pesce, Srivalli Rao, Sharon Rothman, Jessica Tagliaferro, and Susan Thaler

**Excused:** Tim Baird, Zahra M. Baird, Cheryl Berent, Tata Canuelas, K. DeLuca, Ed Falcone, Maxine Grandison, Valerie Herman, and Diana Matson

The meeting was called to order at 10:15. Motion (Ayers/Glauber) to approve the Minutes from November 10, passed with two minor corrections.

**President's Report:**

- Tagliaferro introduced the new Public Relations Committee Chair, Alex Gaete from the Hastings Public Library and Public Relations Committee member Carol Angert from the Greenburgh Public Library.
- During the month of November WLA co-sponsored two METRO events with WLS. The Youth Services Section also had the Performers Showcase, and the Away from the Desk Committee arranged the Ping Pong Event in Pleasantville.
- Tagliaferro has sent a letter with a check to Ryan Jackson as thanks for setting up the new website. She will post the letter on the WLA Wiki.

**Treasurer's Report:**

- Thaler reported for Falcone who was excused. As of November 30, 2011, WLA had \$14,647.30 in the Checking Account and \$24,033.12 in the Savings Account with a combined balance of \$38,680.42.
- Income from the Table Tennis Event was \$330. The expenses were \$225 for the venue and \$328.86 for the refreshments with a total cost to WLA of \$223.86.

**Web Administration Committee:**

- Glauber and Tagliaferro are still working on the new website. Glauber urged everyone to check his/her listing for accuracy before the switchover.

**Membership Report:**

- Rao reported that WLA currently has 51 members. She will send out a membership renewal reminder in January and February and a final reminder before the Annual Conference.
- Kirchner suggested we hand out WLA membership brochures at WLS sponsored workshops and events, such as the upcoming African-American Writers Literary Tea. We currently do not have a brochure, but Gaete offered to create one.
- Rao will be away for four weeks as of December 9.

### **Reference Committee:**

- Ayers reported that she has sent the speaker's agreement form to Christopher Platt. Platt has also agreed to be on the Panel of speakers discussing the future of libraries at the Conference.
- Ayers also mentioned another possible speaker, Maxine Bleiweis. Bleiweis, was a presenter at the ALA webinar "Confronting the Future" and was named Outstanding Librarian of the Year by the Connecticut Library Association. Kirchner commented that he thought she would be a good speaker.

### **College Section:**

- Batemarco reported that Kathy Mannino will do a workshop at the Annual Conference on current technology assisting students with disabilities.
- Batemarco has also invited Jeff Carroll from Columbia to do a workshop on e-books, but he is still unconfirmed.

### **Youth Services Section:**

- Thaler reported for Z. M. Baird who was excused. The 2011 *Performers' Showcase* at the White Plains Library on November 15 was well attended with positive feedback.
- *Best Books of 2011* is an event planned for January 9, 2012, also at the White Plains Library. Participants will network over salad/pizza dinner and continue with breakout sessions.
- The Section has secured a speaker for the Annual Conference, Jennifer Hubert Swan, author of the online blog, READING RANTS. Swan is prepared to discuss a variety of topics and is particularly great at speaking about Reluctant Readers and Blogging.
- The second Conference session is still in the planning stages. It will focus on "hands on ready to roll programming ideas for both Children's and Young Adult librarians."
- Section members are planning other events. The *2012 Spring or Fall Book Preview* is in the works where publishers will present their forthcoming titles. *Not Just for Young Adults Book Group* is in the planning stages. There is also interest among some librarians to charter a bus or carpool to *The 7<sup>th</sup> Annual Greater Rochester Teen Book Festival*.

### **Support Staff Section:**

- Grandison was excused. Tagliaferro reported that Grandison had forwarded an email from confirmed Conference speaker Marzena Ermler. Ermler suggested different topics for discussion and also mentioned that her colleague would be willing to do an additional workshop. Tagliaferro will circulate the email to Board members.

### **Legislation Committee:**

- Pesce reported that NYLA had two legislative alerts on December 6, covering two issues. Legislation is being considered that would exempt small businesses and all

schools from paying the MTA payroll tax. Also proposed “is an initiative to utilize pension funds or other designated funds to support infrastructure projects throughout the state to spur economic growth.

- An ALA alert dated November 17 stated “As the calendar year is winding down, the pressure to finish the FY 2012 federal appropriations bills is heating up...” The alert also requested that recipients ask their representatives to maintain the same funding for the Library Services and Technology Act in FY 2012 as FY 2011.
- Kirchner pointed out that Lobby Day will be March 6 in 2012. WLS is considering putting emphasis on local meetings instead of sponsoring a bus to Albany.

**Away for the Desk Committee:**

- Rothman reported that 22 people attended the very successful Ping Pong Event.
- The Committee has been busy investigating other venues such as walkathons, author events, dinner cruises, go cart racing, scavenger hunts, and hiking programs.

**Annual Conference:**

*Schedule:*

- Mathurin distributed the revised Conference schedule. It was approved with minor revisions. It was decided to keep the number of workshops flexible.

*Panel Discussion:*

- Board members discussed the format for the panel and agreed that panelists should start off with a short bio of themselves and their core beliefs in the future of libraries. It was suggested we solicit questions ahead of time from Conference goers when they registered and then add some of our own. Kirchner suggested we invite Michael Borges as a speaker. Section chairs should also be consulted before the panel is finalized.

The meeting was adjourned (Thaler/Rothman) at 12 Noon.

Respectfully submitted by Ann-Marie Cutul

**Upcoming Meeting:**

**Date: January 12, 2012**

**Time: 10 A.M. – 12 NOON**

**Place: Scarsdale Public Library**