

WESTCHESTER LIBRARY ASSOCIATION
Minutes of the Board of Directors Meeting
December 9, 2010
Chappaqua Public Library

Present: Mary Ayers, Zahra M. Baird, Aurora Cruz, Ann-Marie Cutul, Ed Falcone, Harriet Huang, Craig McMahon, John Monahan, Cathy Paulsen, Jessica Tagliaferro, Susan Thaler, and Valerie Herman

Excused: Tim Baird, Diane Batemarco, K. DeLuca, Dan Glauber, Maxine Grandison, Melissa Iamónico, Nancy Keating, Diana Matson, Srivalli Rao, Carolyn Reznick, Sharon Rothman, Judith Rovenger, and Pam Thornton

The meeting was called to order at 10:10. Motion (Tagliaferro/Ayers) to accept the Minutes of November 15, 2010, passed.

President's Report:

- Thaler introduced Valerie Herman, librarian from Somers Public Library. Herman is the new Publicity Co-Chair. She will manage the WLA's Facebook and Twitter accounts.
- Thaler further announced that Bonnie Katz, reference librarian at Ossining Public Library, is interested in taking over the Vendor Chair position.
- Thaler announced that WLS has eliminated three positions of vital interest to WLA and Westchester public librarians. The following WLS employees have been laid off: Judith Rovenger, John Sexton and Rachel Charny. Board members discussed at length the negative impact of this action on WLA and Westchester librarians at large and suggested WLA write a letter of protest and regret. Thaler, Monahan and Baird will form a committee to compose the letter.

Treasurer's Report:

- Falcone reported that as of November 30, 2010, WLA had \$14,991.36 in the Checking Account and \$24,021.24 in the Savings Account with a combined balance of \$39,012.60.

Membership Report:

- Thaler reported for Rao who was excused. Rao has emailed membership renewal notices. She has not yet sent notices to WLA Board members since she would like to try Paypal for this group. Falcone has created a Paypal account and has sent Rao the Paypal link to embed in the membership form. Rao is working with Tim Baird on the final step to make it work.

Reference Section:

- Z.M. Baird announced that she has sent an email to prospective Conference speaker Nancy Dowd. She suggested we set up contracts with all the conference speakers. Falcone advised that a sample contract can be found on NYLA's web site.
- Rebecca Mazin was suggested as a possible speaker for a networking event in February.
- Mazin would talk about job searching.

College Section:

- Batemarco was excused. Board members were interested to know if the scheduled Conference session on Mobile Reference will be interactive or hands on.

Youth Services Committee:

- In view of the recent firings at WLS, Z. M. Baird announced a change of plans for the Awards Buzz program to be held in January of next year. The new program will focus on literacy and will be held in honor of former WLS Youth Services employees Judith Rovenger and John Sexton to celebrate their dedication and excellent service. Board members approved the change in plans and reapproved the \$400 for refreshments (Z.M. Baird/Monahan).
- Monahan also volunteered to help set up the School/Library Cooperation Award, previously administered by Rovenger in cooperation with the Youth Services Committee.

Support Staff Section:

- Grandison was excused. Board members suggested we canvas support staff employees to find the most relevant topics for the Annual Conference. Based on the feed back from last year's presentation, Board members do not feel that a chiropractor is the right kind of speaker at the Conference.

Public Relations Committee:

- McMahon will create links to our Facebook and Twitter accounts. Herman, the new Co-Chair, will manage the accounts and broaden their scope. Board members are urged to email her with appropriate postings.
- Reznick has set up Constant Contact. Board members suggested we create an invitation link on WLA's web page. We should also have a link to NYLA on our home page.

Legislation Committee:

- Glauber was excused. Monahan suggested we check the records of legislators and their votes on libraries. We should also send letters to our legislators asking them what they have done for libraries.

Washington Irving Committee:

- Thaler reported for DeLuca who was excused. The Committee would like to arrange for snacks during the Conference program and will look for a corporate sponsorship. The program will not run past 5 p.m. As a giveaway, they would like to have a lanyard and a flash drive with the WLS logo on one and the Washington Irving logo on the other. They would also like to know if we can charge a separate fee for attending the Washington Irving Program only. The Conference subcommittee will meet and brainstorm.

Miscellaneous:

- Secretary Cutul announced that from now on she will send the WLA Minutes to Tim Baird to be posted on the WLA home page after they have been approved by the Board. She will not send out notices to Board members since WLA Minutes are posted on the Wiki, and Board members get automatic notification of any postings and changes.

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

Respectfully submitted by Ann-Marie Cutul

Upcoming Meeting:

Thursday, January 13, 2011, 10 A.M. – 12 Noon

Location: TBA

