

**WESTCHESTER LIBRARY ASSOCIATION**  
**Minutes of the Board of Directors Meeting**  
**Wednesday, April 14, 2021**  
**Remote Meeting on Zoom - 9:30 am**

**Present:** Giovanna Fiorino-Iannace, Diana Lennon, Elaine Provenzano, Joanna Rooney, Kim Stucko, Krishna Horrigan, Susanne Markgren, Kathy Palovick, Terry Kirchner, Lisa Dettling, Allison Robbins, Mayra Cabrera, Anthony Reda, , Kathryn Feeley, Christa O'Sullivan

**Excused:** Z. Baird, Dan Glauber, Eleanor Friedman, Maxine Grandison, Joseph Mannozi, Oz Coto-Chang, Kathy Beirne, Martha Iwan, Catherine Riedel

**Meeting was called to order at 9:36 am.** Anthony Reda made the motion to pass the March 2021 Meeting Minutes, and Mayra Cabrera seconded the motion.

**President's Report**

- **Election Roster** for 2021-2022 Executive Board has been announced in the latest WLA newsletter.
  - Kim Stucko- President
  - Kathy Palovick - Vice President
  - Allison Robbins- Treasurer
  - Melissa Victoria- Secretary
  - E-blast with Ballot is going out next week through Election Buddy. Position open for Legislative Committee Chair.
- **The NYLA Petition for WLA to become a Round Table** organization has been created.
  - 25 signatures are required to advance the petition to the NYLA Council members. Jayne announced we have received 42 signatures at this time. The petition will be presented to the NYLA Council on May 6th.
  - We received feedback from 2 directors and 1 assistant director. One concern was the fee for organizations and individuals. Jayne explained that first time NYLA members will only cost \$25 for the first year and the WLA round table membership will cost an additional \$10.
  - It was also mentioned that if membership drops significantly we could reevaluate the round table. We plan to make as many WLA events free for members since our overhead will be reduced.
  - Also discussed the sliding salary scale to membership fees.
- **Bylaws Ad Hoc Committee (WLA Past & Present Presidents)**. Bylaws revisions are forthcoming with restructuring of board member roles.
  - Creating an ad hoc committee for writing the bylaws.
  - The Pro bono attorneys will help us and NYLA also offered to help.
  - Will be archiving committees that are no longer active. Jayne said the structure of the board will change.
  - The bylaws will be up to date and in tandem with the nonprofit status.

## **Vice President Report (Kim)**

**Annual Conference & Business Meeting on Friday, May 7** (as of today there are 25-26 people registered).

- Books just went out in the last week for the speakers to each library in the Westchester System.
- Elena from WLS - Doing Breath and Body workshop
- Sponsors are in the works and we are waiting to hear back from them.
- Free giveaways (books)- Use a drawing from exit survey (good way to get feedback)
- Only conflict is the Urban Librarians' conference on the same day.
- Jayne shared her screen with the agenda for the day: Brief highlights are as follows:
- The WLA Business Meeting will be the first part of the day.
  - There will be 10 Legislators about 2 minutes each to speak. Kathy has the list.
  - The Poet Laureate is after the legislators.
  - The Panel Discussion will be 15-20 minutes for each speaker.
  - During the lunch break Elena's will conduct the program, Breath, Body & Mind. ( possible zoom breakout room for those who want to participate).
  - Vendors Gallery? Debating what is happening. Jayne will create a banner to highlight sponsors.
  - The afternoon there are two guest speakers with time for questions. Short break in between speakers.
  - Professional Development Award and Closing comments. Krishna and Terry both offered to do the introductions of the speakers.
  - Jayne has created a shared list of bios.
  - Susanne received a bio from the Poet Laureate BK Fischer.
- Conference Planning Committee Meetings - meeting every other Monday. We need a program agreement sent to presenters to make sure we have permission from speakers to record their session.
- Thank you to WLS and Waldo for their generous donations for the annual conference. Sponsors include Field Goods, Village Bookstores, Westchester Periodontists, and few other vendors are still in the works.
- The Exit Survey will be reworded to find out what people want to see with the organization.
- We should address the benefits of joining NYLA.
  - Do we need to address questions during the business meeting or is there a better time?
  - Elaine and Jayne will put together a Q&A one page iteration of why we are joining NYLA.
  - Elaine suggested putting contact information in chat or on the sheets for questions.
  - Terry suggested scheduling a time to have a discussion the following week to have a short briefing on the topic.
  - Allison suggested asking members what would make it beneficial to you and get live feedback.

## **Treasurer's Report (Allison)**

- More memberships keep coming in.
- Annual conference fees are reflected due to open registration.
- Professional Development Expenses - Interviewing workshop fee
- Midwinter Expenses total \$100 (most speakers declined the honorarium that was offered)
- Liability insurance was cleared in March (will be prorated if and when we join NYLA)

- Books were purchased for the Annual conference that will be donated to Westchester libraries - \$2,500
- Zoom upgrade to large meetings is affordable if need be.
- The balance of March 31, 2021 was \$30,371.24

### **Section/Committee Updates (information about upcoming webinars and events)**

#### **Newsletter (Diana and Elaine)**

- Jayne thanked everyone for the last newsletter. Elaine asked for reporting from the conference a blurb on each speaker for the career panel. Elaine will send an email asking for someone so it is a new perspective.

#### **Reference (Kathryn) Not available**

#### **Youth Services (Oz & Lisa)**

- Lisa Dettling gave an update on Battle of the Books for Summer 2021. There are 9 teams for the younger bracket, 8 teams for the older bracket. Lisa asked how WLA could support the libraries with this program. WLA could pay for Buzzin in Live memberships. Buzzin Live is the app libraries will be using to conduct the summer program. We do have a budget for Battle of the Books (\$500).
- Diana made a motion that we reimburse Battle of the Books \$100 for 5 subscriptions for Buzzin Live for use in the program this summer. Kathryn seconded the motion. All the members in attendance were in favor of the motion.

#### **Support Staff (Maxine) - Vacation**

#### **Academic & Special Libraries (Anthony and Mayra)**

- Westchester Community College (WCC) is on a hold pattern. They are optimistic, but cautious about students returning for the fall. WCC is offering vaccinations on campus. Manhattan College is planning 100% back in the fall.
- Anthony noted a professional development program by Young Invincibles on ending hunger in college, college transfer equity issues, and supporting college students. It is a three part series at the end of April, beginning of May. They are virtual and free, and he will share information in chat.

#### **Professional Development (Megan and Krishna)**

- Some Professional Development applications are in the works for the awards. The deadline was pushed back to April 28. The PD Committee, President and Vice President will meet a week before the annual conference to review the applicants. There is a rubric for the application to determine the eligibility. Megan wanted to know who else was making the decision.
  - Anonthy asked about increasing this award and maybe offering two awards.
  - Megan suggested a PD award offering and organizational membership to NYLA. Diana reminded us that we have been discussing a Midwinter Award in honor of Bonnie Katz. Rename the awards to scholarship and make the Bonnie Katz an award.
  - Kim suggested meeting in June to hash out some of these details.

#### **Legislation (Kathy P.)**

- There are 10 legislators planning to speak at the annual conference. They have all been contacted with the details.
- The State Budget passed that includes 94.1 million in library aid.

- New York Citizen Public Health Training free to the public.

**Public Relations (Christa) not available**

**Website (Dan) not available**

**Membership (Kathy B.) not available**

- Kathy emailed the current membership list to Jayne.

**WLA Archives (Catherine & Elaine)**

- Catherine and Elaine are working on the organizational structuring of information.

**Outreach (Kim & Martha)**

- Martha said we have the sponsor Clancy.

**WALDO (Susanne)**

- WALDO is looking for a partnership. Professional development with Lyris Learning. [www.lyris.org/leadership/pages/lyris-learning.aspx](http://www.lyris.org/leadership/pages/lyris-learning.aspx).
- Susanne will put free events in chat.

**BOCES (Eleanor & Joe) not available**

**Yonkers Public Schools (Tracey) not available**

**Social Media (Allison)**

- Allison has offered to take work on social media for WLA by creating a committee to keep information current.
- Allison asked for members to join the committee. Jayne offered to help.

**New Business**

- No meeting in May since we will have the Business Meeting at the conference on Friday, May 7.
- In June, WLA would like to have an outdoor picnic to end the season. A boxed lunch (Panera) on Wed. June 9 or 16 around noon. Jayne suggested a park in Harrison as an outdoor event. Elaine asked if WLA could pay for the luncheon as a thank you to members.
- Date will be set up for a practice session for the annual meeting.
- Date will be scheduled for reviewing PD applications.
- A potted garden with wind chimes was sent to Bonnie's partner on behalf of WLA.

**Meeting was adjourned at 11:16 am.**

Respectfully Submitted,

Joanna Rooney

**Upcoming Meeting Dates:**

**Fri, May 7 Annual Conference**

**June Outdoor Luncheon – Date TBD @ 12 pm at Harrison Public Library**