WESTCHESTER LIBRARY ASSOCIATION

Minutes of the Board of Directors Meeting Friday, March 22, 2024 Remote Meeting on Zoom – 1:00 pm

Present: Lisa Dettling, Giovanna Fiorino-Iannace, Dan Glauber, Krishna Horrigan, Martha Iwan, Deborah Nelson, Kathy Palovick, Elaine Provenzano, Renee Rauch, Anthony Reda, Gillian Rothchild, Miriam Saphra

The meeting was called to order at 1:09 pm. The November meeting minutes were approved by Martha Iwan and seconded by Kathy Palovick.

President's Report

- Renee Rauch provided an update on the latest developments with WLA's non-profit status and thanked everyone for their help and support.
- Gillian Rothchild has been in contact with O'Connor Davies, and the executive board met with Garrett Higgins to discuss the best solution. We are currently waiting for a letter of engagement from the accountants to proceed.
- Renee has been invited by the Public Library Directors Association (PLDA) to speak about the professional development opportunities WLA offers to members.

Vice President Report

- Gillian has been coordinating talks with O'Connor Davis and was able to locate old records with the assistance of various board members. New paperwork will be filed with NY State, after which WLA should regain its non-profit status within a few weeks.
- Gillian will inquire about having the Professional Development Awards given out this year, due to the association's limbo status as a non-profit organization.

Treasurer's Report

- Krishna Horrigan reported the current WLA checking account balance is \$27,253. Expenses the past month included a service fee of \$15 and the fee due to Constant Contact (\$52). There have been few expenses in March thus far, for renewals to subscriptions for the website, Bluehost, Zoom, and CNA Insurance.
- Ellen Tannenbaum and Z. Baird reached out to Krishna regarding funding for the Anne Izzard book awards.
 - Elaine Provenzano explained there is a budget line allotted for the AI awards. The AI Committee will need to supply receipts for reimbursement and will pay the difference for any expenses that exceed the funds supplied by WLA.
 - The budget for this year needs to be established and approved.
- Krishna mentioned the importance of building up the value of WLA, especially with regard to the Professional Development Award. WLA can consider applying for grants to help raise more funds.
 - Gilian recommended short events, such as Lightning Rounds which focus on specific topics of interest, to appeal to new and younger members.

- Martha Iwan indicated leadership course offerings would be ideal, and Giovanna Florino-Iannace recommended Steve Hargadon's Library 2.0 courses as possible PD webinar workshop offerings in the future.
- Elaine noted the importance of involving students to share the latest trends in librarianship.

Section/Committee Updates

Youth Services – Lisa Dettling

No report

Academic & Special Libraries - Mayra Cabrera / Anthony Reda

No report

Professional Development – Deborah Nelson / Krishna Horrigan

- It was suggested that we host this year's Annual Business Meeting in June, instead of May.
 - The proposed date is Friday, June 7, from 9 am to 12 pm at WLS headquarters in Elmsford.
- Likewise, instead of holding a luncheon in June for board members, it was suggested we meet for a fall luncheon.
- Possibilities for another Meet & Greet event were mentioned, including one at the Harrison Library in June and a picnic in the fall (locations to be determined).
- Elaine recommended a "Get Ahead with WLA" program for members to sign up for new head shots.
 - Last year Christopher Pope Photography was interested in taking the photos at WLA headquarters.

Legislation Committee – Dana Hysell

No report

Website - Dan Glauber

- Any updates to the WLA website can be sent to Dan Glauber.
- Krishna mentioned that Google Drive can be used to save WLA documents and unlisted videos of events. There is 100 GB of space there. There is not much space on the WLA website.
- Dan inquired about managing the YouTube account and if there is a limit to the number of videos WLA can post. Krishna replied there is no limit, however private videos, such as board meetings, should be stored safely. Privacy is an issue. Giovanna asked how NYLA stores its meeting recordings. Perhaps WLA can follow the same protocol NYLA follows.

Membership - Renee Rauch

• The Membership Campaign is on hold at the moment.

Newsletter – Elaine Provenzano and Miriam Saphra

• Elaine has been working on the newsletter with Miriam and requested write-ups about the Annual Business Meeting (May 2023), the Professional Development Awards, and the Bonnie Katz Award. A draft will be prepared in April.

WLA Archives – Elaine Provenzano, Giovanna Fiorino-Iannace, & Krishna Horrigan

- Krishna visited the Westchester Historical Society to access the WLA Archives and located some helpful documents.
- The digitization of WLA's archives has been discussed in the past. This would be an ideal project for an intern to handle.

New Business

• For the time being, WLA will hold off on new ventures until its non-profit status is secured.

Meeting adjourned at 2:02 pm.

Respectfully Submitted, Giovanna Fiorino-Iannace

Upcoming Board Meetings: Friday, April 26 @ 1 pm via Zoom