

WESTCHESTER LIBRARY ASSOCIATION

Minutes of the Board of Directors Meeting

Friday, January 24, 2025

Remote Meeting on Zoom – 1:30 pm

Present: Krishna Brodigan, Mayra Cabrera, Lisa Dettling, Giovanna Fiorino-Iannace, Dan Glauber, Elaine Provenzano, Renee Rauch, Anthony Reda, Gillian Rothchild, and Miriam Saphra

Not Present: Jen Cannell, Daniel Frett, Martha Iwan, Terry Kirchner, Joseph Mannoizzi, Deborah Nelson, and Kathy Palovick

The meeting was called to order at 1:40 pm.

The motion to approve the December 2024 meeting minutes was made by Krishna Brodigan and seconded by Renee Rauch.

President's Report

- Gillian Rothchild reported that she (virtual) and Renee (on site) spoke with the Public Library Directors Association this month. Jessie Montero, the director of the Yonkers Libraries, inquired about submitting membership payment for his staff.
- Gilian mentioned the membership email was emailed to the public library directors.
 - Dan Glauber recommended pushing membership using a Google form. Krishna will update the membership form that is linked to the WLA website.
 - The organizational membership includes 5 memberships.
 - Giovanna Fiorino-Iannace reminded everyone about the MoneyMinder database Allison Robbins had been using when she was WLA Treasurer. The database keeps track of the budget and expenses, and can be used to maintain membership lists.
 - Krishna brought up the issue of old email addresses on file now that each library is using their own library address as opposed to the WLSmail accounts.
- The theme for the 2025 Mid-Winter was chosen – “Overcoming Adversity: Taking the Lead in Libraries.”
 - Guest speakers will include someone from the Scarsdale Library to address the Kirk Cameron Storytime program, Melissa Iamónico from the Tuckahoe School District Library, and Anthony Reda of Westchester Community College.
 - Giovanna will create the flyer for the conference for distribution.
 - A QR code can be created for registration
 - Kathy Paolovick reported earlier that several legislators will be attending the conference, including Shelley Mayer, Dana Levenberg, and Amy Paulen, who will be sending a video.
 - The agenda for the conference is as follows
 - 9 am: Networking Breakfast
 - 9:30 am: Opening Remarks - President and Vice President
 - 9:45 am: Legislator Remarks
 - 10 am: Keynote Speaker & Q&A - Nate Hill
 - 10:45 am: Break - 15 minutes
 - 11 am: Panelists discussing how they overcame adversity at their libraries
 - 12 pm: Closing Remarks - President

- Hosting an annual conference was briefly discussed. Anthony Reda will check with Alexandra Giusto at the WCC to inquire about hosting the conference at The Gateway. He will also check on having a tour of the library and native plant garden.
 - Two possible dates are Friday, June 6, and Friday, June 13.
 - Dan Glauber mentioned it might be ambitious to plan the annual conference.
 - In any event, WLA will need to hold an Annual Business Meeting.
- The next WLA program - "When Your Emotional Well Being is Running Low" - will be held on Tuesday, February 12, from 6 to 7 pm, on Zoom and on site at WLS Headquarters. Giovanna will create a flyer for circulation.

Vice President Report - Renee Rauch

- Renee Rauch recapped the PLDA meeting discussion about WLA.

Treasurer's Report - Krishna Brodigan

Krishna will work on updating the Membership Form and roster and will also look into WLA's MoneyMinder account. In the meantime, a Google Groups file can be created.

Section/Committee Updates

Youth Services – Lisa Dettling

- Battle of the Books (BOB) is collecting book nominations.
- On a personal note, Lisa will be taking Maternity Leave in March.

Academic & Special Libraries - Mayra Cabrera / Anthony Reda

- Anthony Reda had previously reached out to Alexandra Giusto and will follow up with her after this meeting.

Archives - Giovanna Fiorino-Iannace / Elaine Provenzano

- Giovanna is searching for a Deed of Gift template to prepare for the donation of WLA meeting minutes to the Westchester Historical Society. A Finding Aid will be created by the WHS once the files are donated.

Professional Development – Deborah Nelson / Daniel Frett (Not Present)

No report

BOCES - Joe Mannozi (Not Present)

No Report

Legislation Committee – Kathy Palovick (Sent Report)

- Kathy Palovick has been preparing for Library Advocacy Day on Wednesday, February 5, and has invited several legislators to speak at the Mid-Winter Conference on Friday, February 28.

Website - Dan Glauber

- Dan Glauber noted that we are still missing WLA meeting minutes from 2022 and most of 2023. Gillian will check what she has in her files.
- Dan spoke with Z. Baird about the Washington Irving Awards, which is planning to resume this year.
- As Lisa Dettling will be on Maternity Leave soon, Gillian will ask Z. if she would like to join the Youth Services Committee.

Membership - Krishna Brodigan

- Gillian, Renee, and Krishna are working on the Membership Committee.

Newsletter – Elaine Provenzano / Miriam Saphra

- Elaine Provenzano will send an eBlast containing the flyers for the upcoming WLA events as soon as she receives them.

Vendors/Conference - Martha Iwan (Not Present)

No report

New Business

- Giovanna will be stepping down as WLA Secretary at the end of June.
- Applications for the Bonnie Katz Award and Professional Development Award need to be updated and circulated. The award-winners are announced at the Annual Business Meeting.

The meeting was turned over to Renee Rauch at 2:48 pm, and adjourned at 2:58 pm.

Respectfully Submitted,
Giovanna Fiorino-Iannace

Upcoming Meetings: Friday, February 14, at 1:30 pm on Zoom
Friday, February 28, at 9:30 am, Mid-Winter Conference,
Ossining Public Library