

**MID-HUDSON LIBRARY SYSTEM
MINUTES
of the
ANNUAL MEMBERSHIP MEETING
Friday, October 24, 2014**

1. ROLL CALL

Trustees Present: John Bickford, Lisa Baker Brill, John Dax, Stephen Mac Nish, Michele Ment, Regina Morini, Roland Patterson, Lynne Ridgeway, David Rolfe, Myrna Sameth, Janet Schnitzer, Camilla W. von Bergen, Mark Wilson

Trustees Absent: Caroline Profera (e)

Liaisons: Tom Lawrence, Director, Poughkeepsie Public Library District, Frank Rees, Director, Kent Public Library

Staff Present: Merribeth Advocate, Isaac Barbee, Robert Drake, Joan Kay, Tom Sloan, Rebekkah Smith Aldrich, Linda Vittone, Peggy Winn

Others Present: List attached to official file

2. WELCOME AND CALL TO ORDER

At 9:45a.m., President Patterson convened the 55th Annual Meeting of the Board of Trustees in the Terrace Ballroom of the Poughkeepsie Grand Hotel Banquet and Conference Center.

President opens meeting

3. INTRODUCTIONS

President Patterson introduced System Board representatives and Board Liaisons, and turned the meeting over to Mr. Sloan who introduced staff, library trustees, library directors and special guests.

Introductions

Mr. Sloan thanked elected officials in attendance, Didi Barrett and Terry Gipson, for their commitment to libraries and their ongoing advocacy for increased funding for libraries. The legislators spoke briefly of their appreciation for libraries and ongoing commitment to advocate for increased funding.

Representatives from Assemblyman Kevin Cahill's office were asked to extend the System's gratitude for his support of libraries and his role in securing a \$25,000 grant for the Summer Reading Programs at 17 libraries, and a \$50,000 grant to renovate the Phoenicia Library, following a fire that destroyed the facility.

4. ELECTION OF TRUSTEES

President Patterson introduced Lisa Baker Brill, Chair of the Nominations and Elections Committee, who conducted the election of three trustees to the MHLS Board.

Elections of trustees

From Columbia County

Mark Wilson was nominated for a first five-year term by AnnaLee Giraldo, Director of the Kinderhook Memorial Library/ Chair of the Columbia County Library Association, and seconded by Gary Spielmann, President of the Board of Trustees of the Kinderhook Memorial Library.

*Wilson
nominated*

From Greene County

Dean Lavin was nominated for a first five-year term by Susan Ray, Director of the Catskill Public Library/ Chair of the Greene County Library Association, and seconded by Dorothy True, a trustee of the Cairo Public Library.

Lavin nominated

From Dutchess County

Richard Swierat was nominated for a first five-year term by Carol Rodriguez, Director of the Beekman Library/Chair of the Dutchess County Library Association, and seconded by Maryelise Blundell, a trustee of the Red Hook Public Library.

*Swierat
nominated*

Ms. Brill welcomed each candidate and asked them to introduce themselves and address the audience briefly regarding their qualifications and interest in serving as a Mid-Hudson trustee.

Candidates speak

There being only one candidate nominated from each county, Ms. Brill, as Chair of Elections, declared the election of: Mark Wilson for a 5-year term, Dean Lavin for a 5-year term, and Richard Swierat for 5-year term, commencing January 1, 2015.

*Candidates
elected*

5. ADOPTION OF BYLAWS AMENDMENTS

Mr. Patterson introduced Ms. Schnitzer, Chair of the Bylaws, Policy & Procedures Committee, who referred to the handout of proposed changes to the System's Bylaws, and called for a motion from a representative of a member library to approve the proposed changes to the System's Bylaws (appended to file). Gary Spielmann, trustee of the Kinderhook Memorial Library made the motion to approve and Prue Posner, trustee from the Howland Library (Beacon) seconded the motion. There being no further discussion regarding the motion, Ms. Schnitzer called for a vote, and receiving a majority of consent, declared the Bylaws amended, as presented.

Bylaws amended

6. REPORT OF BOARD PRESIDENT

Board President, Patterson, reported on a number of issues addressed by the Mid-Hudson Board in 2014 (appended to file), and thanked and recognized library trustees and System staff for helping to insure the well-being of the Mid-Hudson Library System and its 66 member libraries.

*President's report
presented*

7. STAFF SERVICE AWARDS

Mr. Sloan presented employee service awards to Robert Drake, Technology Operations Manager (5 years), and Isaac Barbee Tech Support Specialist (5 years), in recognition of their outstanding service and dedication to member libraries.

*Staff service
awards presented*

8. REPORT OF BOARD TREASURER

Board Treasurer, Morini, reported on the success of the 2013 Audit of the System's financial statements, performed by Nugent & Haeussler, Certified Public Accounts, and the System's total revenues and expenses, (appended to file).

Treasurer's report presented

9. REPORT OF THE EXECUTIVE DIRECTOR

State of MHLS and Summary Statistical Report

In his report, the Executive Director, presented an overview of the state of the System with a summary statistical report on System-wide shared services, including: circulation; delivery; professional development & continuing education; and consulting & development (appended to file).

E.D. report presented

9. RECOGNITION OF EXCELLENT & OUTSTANDING ACCOMPLISHMENTS

Ms. Advocate, Outreach & Education Coordinator, congratulated the following libraries for being recipients of the 2013 Library Journal "American's Star Libraries Awards", and informed the audience that this prestigious award has earned these libraries and the System national recognition:

Star Award recipients honored

- Julia L. Butterfield Memorial Library (Cold Spring)
- Philmont Public Library
- Red Hook Public Library
- Tivoli Free Library
- Windham Public Library

Engraved trophies were presented to Gillian Thorpe, Director of the Julia L. Butterfield Memorial Library, Maryelise Blundell, trustee of the Red Hook Public Library, and Bonnie Corrado, Director of the Tivoli Free Library.

Ms. Smith Aldrich, Coordinator for Library Sustainability, recognized the:

- Reed Memorial Library (Carmel), and the Grinnell Library Association (Wappingers Falls), for winning referendums to become Special District Libraries;
- Hurley Library for the approval of the its building referendum; and,
- Mountain Top Library, Tannersville, for the grand opening of its spacious new facility.

Libraries recognized

Engraved trophies were presented to Laura Stein, Director of the Grinnell Library Association, and Ellen Manfredi and Cathy Penna, trustees of the Mountain Top Library, Tannersville.

10. ADJOURNMENT OF ANNUAL MEMBERSHIP MEETING

At 10:45 a.m., President Patterson adjourned the business portion of the Annual Membership Meeting.

Business Meeting closed

11. KEYNOTE SPEAKER

A. Introduction

Mr. Sloan introduced Joseph Luzzi, Associate Professor, at Bard

Author speaks

