

MID-HUDSON LIBRARY SYSTEM
MINUTES of the ANNUAL MEMBERSHIP MEETING
Friday, November 2, 2018

President Wilson called the meeting to order at 9:00 A.M., in the West Gallery of Locust Grove, Historic Estate-Museum-Nature Preserve, Poughkeepsie, NY.

1. ROLL CALL AND APPROVAL OF AGENDA

Trustees Present:	Stuart Auchincloss, Lisa Baker Brill, Robert Culp, Sharon Davis, , Kenneth Goldberg, Rajene Hardeman, Michele Ment, Barry Ramage, Lynne Ridgeway, Richard Swierat, Mark Wilson
Trustees Absent:	John Dax (e), Debra Klein (e), Mary Linda Todd (e)
Staff Present:	Merribeth Advocate, Gerry Formby, Joan Kay, Rebekkah Smith Aldrich, Laurie Shedrick, Tara Stohr, Linda Vittone, Peggy Winn
Others Present:	<i>List Attached to File</i>

2. WELCOME AND CALL TO ORDER

At 9:00 AM, President Wilson convened the 59 th Annual Membership Meeting of the Board of Trustees, and introduced Kenneth Snodgrass, Events Coordinator, at Locust Grove Estate, who welcomed attendees, provided a brief history of the facility and encouraged guests to tour the grounds and visit the Samuel B. Morse and Transverse Art Galleries and gift shop.	<i>President opens meeting</i>
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3. INTRODUCTION OF MHLS BOARD MEMBERS AND LIAISONS

President Wilson introduced System Board representatives, 2018 Board Liaisons, and Chairs of System Advisory Committees, and turned the meeting over to Ms. Smith Aldrich who introduced staff, library trustees, library directors and special guests.	<i>Introductions</i>
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INTRODUCTION OF AND REMARKS BY LEGISLATORS

Ms. Smith Aldrich stressed the important role our elected state legislators play in advocating for funding for MHLS and all public library systems, state aid to public libraries, and public library construction projects, and thanked legislators for the increase in funding for NYS Construction Grant Projects and for Special Legislative Grants for member libraries.	<i>Legislators recognized</i>
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SENATOR SERINO SPEAKS

Senator Sue Serino (<i>Senate District 41</i>), was introduced and invited to address the audience. Senator Serino: congratulated Ms. Smith Aldrich on her recent appointment as Executive Director; presented a New York State Proclamation to the Clinton Community Library for having been granted a NYS Absolute Charter; spoke briefly of her appreciation for libraries and recognized the important role libraries play in communities; stated that the distribution of Special Legislative Aid to libraries in Senate District 41 will remain a top priority for her; and, pledged to continue to advocate for increased funding to support library services.	<i>Senator Serino speaks</i>
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ASSEMBLYMEMBER BARRETT SPEAKS

Assemblymember Didi Barrett, was introduced and invited to address the audience. Assemblymember Barrett (<i>Assembly District 106</i>): congratulated Ms. Smith Aldrich on her new leadership role as Executive Director; thanked Ms. Aldrich for working alongside of her on the New York Assembly's Committee on Libraries and Education Technology to identify issues facing libraries and lobby on behalf of increased funding; thanked MHLS for continuing to work	<i>Assemblymember Barrett speaks</i>
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Minutes, MHLS Board of Trustees Annual Membership Meeting, Friday, November 2, 2018

collaboratively with herself and her staff on the “Women’s History Project; and, emphasized that libraries are an integral part of a communities infrastructure and provide invaluable services to their patrons.

4. ELECTION OF BOARD MEMBERS

President Wilson 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:

Janet Schnitzer was nominated for a first five-year term by Julie DeLisle, Director of the Chatham Public Library/Chair Columbia County Directors Association, and seconded by AnnaLee Giraldo, Director of the Kinderhook Memorial Library.

Columbia candidate nominated

From Putnam County:

Michele Ment was nominated for a second five-year term by Carol Donick, Director of the Kent Public Library, and seconded by Gina LoPrinzo, Director of the Brewster Public Library.

Putnam candidates nominated

From Ulster County:

Stuart Auchincloss was nominated for a first five-year term by Margie Menard, Director of the Kingston Library/Chair of the Ulster County Directors Association, and seconded by Julie Kelsall-Dempsey, Director of the Highland Public Library.

Ulster candidate nominated

Ms. Brill welcomed the candidates, asked them to introduce themselves, and invited them to address the audience briefly regarding their qualifications and interest in serving as Mid-Hudson trustees.

Candidates speak

There being no additional candidates nominated, Ms. Brill, Chair of the Nominations and Elections Committee, declared the election of Janet Schnitzer for a 5-year term, Michele Ment for a 5-year term, and Stuart Auchincloss for a 5-year term, commencing January 1, 2019.

Three candidates elected

5. REPORT OF THE BOARD PRESIDENT

Board President, Wilson, summarized issues essential to System operations that have been addressed by the MHLS Board in 2018 (*report appended to file*), and thanked and recognized library trustees and System staff for helping to insure the well-being of the System and its member libraries.

President’s report presented

6. REPORT OF BOARD TREASURER

Board Treasurer, Ramage, reported on the success of the audit of the MHLS’ 2017 financial statements, performed by RBT, C.P.A.s, LLP, Certified Public Accountants, and briefly highlighted the System’s total revenues and expenses (*report appended to file*).

Treasurer’s report presented

7. REPORT OF THE EXECUTIVE DIRECTOR

In her report, Executive Director, Smith Aldrich:

E.D. report presented

- Presented highlights of the System’s 2018 successes in the areas of: advocacy, delivery services, technology, collection development, and research and development. (An At-a-Glance MHLS service data report was provided to attendees as a program insert).
- Summarized input received, to date, from her **Listening Tour & Stakeholder Survey Initiative** conducted at meetings held in the System’s five-county service area, to solicit data for planning the future allocation of System resources.

Minutes, MHLS Board of Trustees Annual Membership Meeting, Friday, November 2, 2018

- Presented staff service awards to: Nina Acosta, Assistant ILP Supervisor, (5 yrs.); Vincent McCombs, Material Handler, (5 yrs.); Matthew Rheinhardt, Tech Support Specialist, (5 yrs.); Merribeth Advocate, Assistant Director, (20 yrs.) – a standing ovation was given to Ms. Advocate for her outstanding contributions to the MHLS during her tenure. Board President, Wilson presented Ms. Smith Aldrich with her service award for 20 years of service to the MHLS, and congratulated her on her appointment as Executive Director.

*Staff Service
Awards
presented*

8. OUTSTANDING ACCOMPLISHMENT AWARDS

Executive Director, Rebekkah Smith Aldrich, presented **Outstanding Accomplishment Certificates** to the directors of three member libraries: Brewster Public Library, Successful Building Referendum; Clinton Community Library, Sustainable Funding Milestone; and, the Highland Public Library, Grand Opening.

*Outstanding
Accomplishment
certificates
awarded*

In addition to **the New York State Proclamation** (awarded earlier by Senator Serino), the MHLS' **Outstanding Accomplishment Award**, the Clinton Community Library was awarded a **New York State Certificate of Merit** by Assemblymember, Didi Barrett, and has been chosen as the 2018 recipient of the **Joseph L. Shubert Library Excellence Award** for its "Optimistic Aging" program, to be officially presented at the NYLA Conference in Rochester, New York.

9. SPOTLIGHT ON EMERGING TECHNOLOGY

The "Spotlight" section of the meeting focused on 14 libraries that have invested in programming, equipment or redesigned spaces to help connect patrons with information and experiences related to "emerging technologies". Libraries recognized for their forward thinking in this area were the: Beekman Library; Chatham Public Library; Julia L. Butterfield Memorial Library; Town of Esopus Library; Desmond Fish Library (Garrison); Germantown Library; Highland Public Library; Hudson Area Association Library; LaGrange Association Library; Mahopac Library; Pawling Free Library; Phoenicia Library; Poughkeepsie Public Library District; and Saugerties Public Library.

*Spotlight on
emerging
technology*

10. ADJOURNMENT OF ANNUAL MEMBERSHIP MEETING

At 10:30 A.M., President Wilson adjourned the Business portion of the 59th Annual Membership Meeting.

*Business meeting
closed*

11. KEYNOTE SPEAKER

Ms. Smith Aldrich introduced Futurist, Garry Golden. Mr. Golden's presentation, titled "**Future Focus: Getting Ahead of the Curve**" touched on how future demographic and digital trends will impact the future of library services. Mr. Golden addressed the need for public libraries to stay abreast of emerging economic and societal trends in order to continue to meet the ever-changing needs of the communities they serve. Mr. Golden encouraged the audience to contact him by email @ garrygolden@gmail.com with any specific questions or to view a pdf. of his presentation @ <http://www.garrygolden.com/November 2>.

*Keynote address
presented*

12. EXTENDED KEYNOTE SESSION

Mr. Golden's extended Keynote session provided a "deeper dive" into emerging trends and included insight on the topic of the future of learning and "experience data". Participants were given the opportunity to interact with Mr. Golden during a Q&A session, and with fellow attendees facilitated by table talk discussions.

*Extended
Keynote & Q&A
Session
presented*

Minutes, MHLS Board of Trustees Annual Membership Meeting, Friday, November 2, 2018

13. CLOSING COMMENTS

At 12:30 P.M., Ms. Smith Aldrich thanked attendees and Mr. Golden, for their participation, and ongoing support and dedication to libraries.

*Closing
Comments*

Respectfully submitted by: Michele Ment, Secretary

Approved 2018
By the MHLS Board of Trustees