

**MID-HUDSON LIBRARY SYSTEM
MINUTES
of the
ANNUAL MEETING
Friday, October 5, 2007**

Marie F. Smith, President, convened the 48th Annual Meeting of the Board of Trustees at 9:45 a.m. in the Danny Kaye Theater at the Culinary Institute of America, Hyde Park, New York.

I. ROLL CALL

Trustees Present: Steve Benson, William Conine, Geralynn Demarest, Jennifer Lange; Martin Miller, Patricia Miller, Michael Minor, Roland Patterson; Caroline Profera, Marie Smith, Camilla von Bergen

Trustees Absent: Margaret Feldman, Peter Hoffmann, Janet Schnitzer, Jim Tuttle

Liaisons: James Cosgrove, Director Marlboro Free Library

Staff Present: List attached to official file

Others Present: List attached to official file

II. WELCOME

President Smith welcomed attendees to the 48th Annual Meeting of the Mid-Hudson Library System, and introduced MHLS Board members, System staff and special guest NYLA Executive Director, Michael Borges, to the meeting.

*President
opens meeting*

III. ELECTION OF TRUSTEES

At this point, President Smith turned the meeting over to Mr. Conine, Chair of the Elections and Nominating Committee, who conducted the election of three trustees to the MHLS Board.

*Conine
conducts
election*

From Dutchess County:

John Bickford was nominated to a first five-year term by Susan Genova, Millbrook Library trustee, and seconded by Steven Prioletti, Beekman Library trustee.

*Bickford
nominated*

From Putnam County:

Jean Ehnebuske was nominated for a first five-year term by Judy Ferraro, Patterson Library trustee, and seconded by Alice Walsh, Mahopac Library trustee.

*Ehnebuske
nominated*

Minutes, MHLS Board of Trustees Annual Meeting, Friday, October 5, 2007 p.2

From Ulster County:

Jennifer Lange was nominated for a first five-year term by Barbara Hardgrave, Elting Memorial Library trustee, and seconded by Sally Colclough, Saugerties Public Library trustee.

*Lange
nominated*

There being no additional candidates for any of the three positions, Mr. Conine called for a motion to direct the secretary to cast a single ballot. Mr. Conine moved and Ms. von Bergen seconded THAT A SINGLE BALLOT BE CAST FOR EACH OF THE THREE POSITIONS. **The motion carried.**

*Single Ballot
cast for three
positions*

IV. PRESENTATION OF SERVICE AWARDS

A. STAFF AWARDS

Mr. Cohen presented employee service awards to the following employees: Karen O'Brien (15 yrs.); Laurie Shedrick (5 yrs.). The Executive Director informed the audience that he has completed 20 years of service.

*Service
awards
presented*

V. RECOGNITION OF RETIRING BOARD MEMBERS

President Smith presented retiring Mid-Hudson trustees, Margaret Feldman (not in attendance) and Camilla von Bergen with parting gifts. She thanked them for their valuable contributions and service to the Board.

*Feldman/von
Bergen
recognized*

VI. DIRECTOR'S COMMENTS

A. THE FUTURE OF THE SYSTEM

The Executive Director highlighted the charge and accomplishments of each of the System's four Advisory Committees. He briefly demonstrated a few new electronic databases and the newly redesigned Kids Online Public Access Catalog (OPAC). He emphasized the System's desire to encourage library patronage by continuing to provide resources and services that meet the diverse needs of different segments of the population.

*Advisory
Committees
praised*

B. RECOGNITION OF DIRECTORS ASSOCIATION STEERING COMMITTEE AND ADVISORY COMMITTEE CHAIRS

Mr. Cohen then introduced and thanked the Steering Committee and Advisory Committee Chairs of the Directors Association for their dedication and service in 2007. Certificates of appreciation will be sent to members of the, **Steering Committee:** Chair: Bruce George, Kingston Library; Vice Chair: Steven Cook, Rhinebeck Library; Secretary: Greta Boeringer, Hudson Area Association Library; Debra Kamecke, Cairo Public Library; and Patricia Kaufman, Mahopac Library, and to: **Advisory Committee Chairs:** Central Library/Collection Development: Patti Haar, Patterson Library
Continuing Education/Professional Development: Linda Deubert, Heermance Memorial Library (Coxsackie)
Marketing and Program: Barbara Flack, Greenville Public Library and Midge Quick, NorthEast Millerton Library
Resource Sharing: Julie Kelsall-Dempsey, Highland Public Library

*D.A. leaders
recognized*

VII. COUNTY SUCCESS STORY AWARDS

*Trustees
honored*

Jennifer Lange, Chair of the Trustee Services Committee, presented plaques to the County Trustee Success Story winners and commended them for their dedication and service to their libraries.

The following five trustees were awarded \$200 checks for their libraries:

Columbia County:

Perry honored

Matthew Perry, trustee, *Philmont Public Library*

Since joining the board, Matthew has:

- been instrumental in promoting the library in the local community and in society in general;
- updated, managed and maintained the library's Website, Philmont.org;
- written press releases and articles on library activities for publication on the Web and in newspapers;
- run the library's projector on Movie Night; handled the cash box at the Farm Stand; participated in most library activities;

used his presence on the local Zoning Board of Appeals, the Signage Committee and the Main Street Committee to ensure that the library remains one of the best in Columbia County.

Dutchess County:

*Decker
honored*

Carol A. Decker, trustee, *NorthEast Millerton Library*

- Carol served as board Treasurer for several years before being elected President, a position she held for 14 years.
- During her tenure, her greatest achievement was working with the board on the extensive renovations to the library building and grounds. The renovations initially included the addition of a ramp for the handicapped and elderly, as well as a handicap-accessible bathroom. From these grew the realization of the dream to renovate the parking area and driveway, install improved lighting and create and design memorial gardens for the front and rear of the library. She oversaw every detail of the project – including finding three architects from which the board could select one; sending out bids for construction, plumbing and paving, and spearheading all legal notices and contacts.
- Carol used the experience she gained from running her own successful appliance business and serving as board Treasurer to keep track of all bills and funds received from donations, tag and bake sales, annual appeals, book sales, grants and private gifts.
- In addition, Carol suggested an on-going fundraiser for the library – a faux bookcase “The Recognition Bookcase” with engraved book spines for patrons who make significant donations to the library.
- Carol continues to serve as a trustee on the library's Board and has taken on the job of Treasurer of the Library.

Greene County:

*Monahan
honored*

Fran Monahan, trustee Cairo Public Library

- Fran has served as Secretary, Vice President and President (a position she retained until 2005).
- As President, Fran was instrumental in revising the library's policy and procedures manual as well as its mission statement.
- She is always supportive of library staff, especially in the area of continuing education.

Fran's additional contributions to the library include:

- volunteering her time as creator, leader and co-teacher of the "Babes in Bookland" program;
- serving as a Literacy Volunteer Trainer;

membership for 30 years on the Monday Council Club, an organization that helped to create Cairo's first public library

Putnam County:

*Walsh
honored*

Alice Walsh, trustee Mahopac Library

Ms. Walsh's dedication and commitment has helped to redefine the physical structure, internal policies, and public perception of the Mahopac Library.

Before joining the board, in 2004, as a member of the Major Gifts Committee, she spearheaded a 2-year fundraising campaign that raised over \$700,000 in pledges and gifts for the library.

Since joining the board in 2004, she has Chaired the Bylaws Committee and worked with the members of that committee and the library director to rewrite and adopt the library's current set of Bylaws.

As Chair of the Advancement and Public Relations Committee, Alice has:

- produced a 7-minute DVD about the library with Victor Moore, a video production professional;
- encouraged another trustee, Kris Bunyea, to develop a PowerPoint orientation for new trustees, which has been added to the *Trustee Resources* section of Mid-Hudson's website;
- established a committee of teens to create podcasts on specific library events and activities for the library's website;
- coordinated a "campaign" to generate a positive outcome when putting this year's annual library budget to a re-vote.

Alice is the current Vice President of the Board and in July 2007 will accept the nomination to serve as President.

She has encouraged community members to become involved with the library and has been instrumental in recruiting several new board members and,

continues to seek ways to advance the mission and goals of the library and to empower others to do the same.

Ulster County:

*Ahlstrom
honored*

Albert Ahlstrom, trustee Kingston Library

Al was a member of the Kingston Library Board from 2002-2006. During his tenure on the Board, he was instrumental in:

