

MOHAWK VALLEY LIBRARY SYSTEM  
**ANNUAL MEETING**

River Stone Manor  
Glenville, New York  
**May 13, 2015**

**MVLS Trustees:** Sarah Beekman, Jane Borrelli, Cheryl Cufari, Patty Franco, Anthony Gaddy, Bonnie Kerr, Barbara Madonna, Rebecca Sokol

**MVLS Staff:** Lois Gordon, Kathy Insero, Sharon O'Brien, Sue Rokos, Eric Trahan

**Joint Automation Staff:** Diane Robinson

**Guests:** Barry Finley, Teresa Finley, Marion Grimes, Mike Mansion, Angelo Santabarbara, Phil Steck, Tom Tatum

**Library Trustees, Library Directors and Staff, and Friends**

**Fulton County**

**Gloversville** Betsy Batchelor, Lance Gunderson, Bonnie Howard, Christine Pesses, Patsy Suydam, Tom Suydam

**Northville** Michael Burnett

**Montgomery County**

**Fort Hunter** Eric Kass, Barbara Lampkin, Sue Summerfield

**Fort Plain** Paige Young

**Fonda** Linda Bell, Sherri Kirschman, Penny Pollock, Debby Young

**Schenectady County** Serena Butch, Leah LaFera

**Schoharie County**

**Cobleskill** Ruth Ashworth, Harriet Berard, Linda Bidwell, Devon Hedges, Melody Neary

**Middleburgh** Marian Bouck, Vicki DeGross, Anne LaMont, Terry Pavoldi, Amber Shultes, Diane Stewart

**Schoharie** Michele Borst, Cathy Caiazzo, Pat Clancy, Jody DeJong, Deb Paden, Laura Rosenthal

**Sharon Springs** Ginny Wilday

Minutes May 15, 2015

The fifty-sixth annual meeting of the Mohawk Valley Library System was held at the River Stone Manor in Glenville.

Eric Trahan, Executive Director, welcomed all and introduced Tom Tatum, representing Senator George Amedore's office, Assemblyman Phil Steck, Assemblyman Angelo Santabarbara, and Mike Mansion, representing Senator Hugh Farley's office.

Eric welcomed special guests Barry Finley and Marion Grimes, members of the Outreach Advisory Council.

Eric introduced the members of the Mohawk Valley Library System Board, MVLS staff and the Joint Automation Project staff.

Michael Burnett acknowledged member library directors from each library.

Eric provided information on upcoming events:

- Foundation Golf Tournament on June 15, 2015
- Foundation Annual Meeting on June 10, 2015 at Schenectady County Public Library featuring a presentation by Rebekkah Smith Aldrich on library funding and advocacy.
- Adult Literacy Grants due June 3, 2015
- Meraki Grants due July 1, 2015
- Construction Grant Deadlines are similar to 2014 schedule.

**Business Meeting:**

MVLS Board President Sarah Beekman called the annual meeting to order at 7:25 p.m.

She stated that 11 libraries were in attendance and recognized their trustees. She thanked the state Senators and Assemblyman for their outspoken advocacy to increase state aid for libraries.

Sarah noted copies of the 2014 MVLS Annual Report were on tables. The report highlights the activities of the past year, including statistics from each of the member libraries and the MVLS Treasurer's Report. An online version is posted on the MVLS website.

Sarah called for the report of the Nominating Committee:

Bonnie Kerr, Chair of the Nominating Committee, presented the nominations for the following seats on the MVLS Board:

Bernard Allanson, representing Schenectady County  
Sarah Beekman, representing Schoharie County  
Barbara Madonna, representing Director's Council

Sarah asked for nominations from the floor. Hearing none, she stated the minutes will reflect a single ballot for the slate.

Eric Trahan gave an overview of the planning process and the need for a new Plan of Service. A new Mission Statement was presented to those in attendance.

*The Mohawk Valley Library System educates, empowers and supports public libraries in Fulton, Montgomery, Schenectady and Schoharie Counties, helping libraries enrich their communities.*

Minutes May 15, 2015

**Motion:** To approve the Mission Statement as presented.  
Madonna/Kerr. Ayes - All. Nays - None.

Eric reviewed the Foundation for Mohawk Valley Libraries history and purpose, and explained Foundation Trustee elections. He presented the following from the Foundation Nominating Committee:

**Motion:** To approve Marion Grimes to fill a 3-year term to expire at the Foundation Annual Meeting in June 2018.

**Motion:** To approve Jon Finlan to fill a 2-year term to expire at the Foundation Annual Meeting in June 2017.

The two above motions were approved as one.

Madonna/Cufari. Ayes - All. Nays - None.

Sarah Beekman noted a staff recognition award to Valarie Catlin for her retirement after 36 years of service. Valarie was unable to accept it in person, as she is vacationing in England.

Sarah recognized Bonnie Kerr, Chair of the Awards Committee, to introduce the annual MVLS Awards. Bonnie thanked the Committee for their work on this year's awards and thanked those who submitted nominations. She introduced Anthony Gaddy who read the history for the 2015 Harold and Junice Wusterbarth Volunteer Service Award.

Anthony introduced Devon Hedges, Director of The Community Library who highlighted Harriet Berard's many accomplishments and presented her with a framed certificate to honor her with the 2015 Harold and Junice Wusterbarth Volunteer Service Award. The Community Library, (Cobleskill-Richmondville) received \$200 in her honor. Citations from Senator Hugh Farley and Assemblyman Peter Lopez were presented.

Bonnie Kerr introduced Patty Franco to present the 2015 Library Recognition Award to the Gloversville Public Library for their *Art For Kids* program. Barbara Madonna, Director, described the program and the partnership it started with the Micropolis Gallery, (a cooperative art gallery), the Gloversville Housing and Neighborhood Improvement Corp, (community garden), and the Gloversville Public Library. She noted it exposed children to a new world of art and gardening. The final artwork was matted and viewed in the gallery. Bonnie Howard, Betsy Batchelor, and Patsy Suydam organized and worked with the children. Barbara accepted the award on behalf of the library. The library was awarded \$500, a framed certificate and citations from Senator Hugh Farley, and Assemblyman Peter Lopez.

Sarah congratulated the 2015 award winners on behalf of the MVLS Board of Trustees.

There being no further business, the meeting was adjourned at 7:45 p.m.

The evening ended with the tenth annual Library Trivia contest hosted by Michael Burnett and assisted by Sue Rokos and Sharon O'Brien. Winners received coupons for books by answering book trivia questions.

Respectfully submitted,

Kathy Insero, Recorder