

Attendance:

Natalie Hurteau (UHLS), Anne Pitlyk (UHLS), Joe Burke (ALTM), Catherine Snow (EGRN), Jennifer Ward (APLB), Gordon Noble (BETH), Jane Chirgwin (RENS), Sue Hoadley (WSTR), Rebekah Jarvis-Girtler (COLN), Ann Wemple-Person (GUIL), Julia Pinto-Martin (APLD), Alex Bernat (APLW), Tracey Pause (VOOR), Amy McLaughlin (APL), Michelle Conte (RCSC)

Introductions

N. Hurteau introduced herself as the new Manager of Adult and Outreach Services at UHLS.

Adult Library Kits

Attendees were asked to give ideas for potential adult programming kits.

- Button maker
- Tablets
- Cri-cut
- Oral history/podcasting recording equipment
- Sewing machines
- Craft kit with basic craft supplies like pinking shears
- Portable cook top/instant pot
- Jewelry making tools
- Ukuleles

Resources at Other Libraries

J. Chirgwin asked if there was a way to search the catalog for existing equipment that other libraries own. G. Noble suggested a keyword search for "equipment" and N. Hurteau suggested that everyone use the 500 tag "library of things."

N. Hurteau then asked if there would be any value to member libraries if UHLS compiled a list of all equipment that libraries own and would be willing to share with other libraries. There was a brief discussion about whether members should catalog everything or if UHLS should post these things on the website. It was decided that N. Hurteau will look into creating this list and finding a home for it on the website.

N. Hurteau gave some updates on the UHLS facebook, including the new library spotlights. She encouraged all members to share other libraries' programs and to contact her if anyone would like UHLS to market an event.

Book Club Kits

In an effort to lend a little value to the book club collection at UHLS, A. Pitlyk volunteered to create some book club kits around titles with similar themes or books with the same author. Kits

will include copies of the books, article suggestions for further reading, and links to author interviews.

A. McLaughlin asked if a future meeting could cover community engagement with adult book clubs and if anyone present had any tips.

- J. Burke has two successful book clubs at ALTM. He offered that the book choices are almost beside the point for his groups, that his library just has the audience for them.
- C. Snow suggested a morning book club. The one at EGRN is almost always at capacity.
- G. Noble said that his afternoon book club was so popular (around 25 attendees) that he's split it into two sections and they both fill up.
- J. Ward runs three book clubs. Her longstanding nonfiction group meets in the evening and brings about 14 regulars. Her fiction book club meets in the afternoon and has been very popular. She recently started a cookbook club in which patrons bring in recipes as well as discuss the book. R. Jarvis-Girtler said that COLN has something similar that has also been very popular.

R. Jarvis-Girtler asked about the possibility of a future CE on how to lead discussions.

N. Hurteau asked if most book clubs are staff-led or if anyone used volunteers. Most libraries' book discussion groups were staff-led. COLN has one very successful mystery book group that is volunteer-led.

S. Hoadley shared that WSTR has a group of about 4-6 people who get together to discuss whatever it is they're reading, there isn't an assigned book.

Adult Literacy Grant

N. Hurteau gave an update on this year's Adult Literacy Grant, "Libraries Mean Business." It will be similar to the last grant, with Rebekah Jarvis-Girtler replacing Sarah McFadden as a trainer. Cypress Resume will be discontinued after October 2019 due to low use. HVCC will provide public notary trainings with the goal being to get a notary at every library.

S. Hoadley asked if it will still include books. It will!

Upcoming Workshops

N. Hurteau went over upcoming workshops, encouraging all to attend.

- Program Swap | 4/16/19, 9:30AM-11:30AM | Town of Ballston Community Library
- So, you wanna be a Passport Acceptance Facility? | 4/17/19, 9:00AM-10:00AM | UHLS
- The Customer Experience | 4/25/19, 9:30-12:30 | Guilderland Public Library
- Friends of the Library: How to Get Started | 5/31/19 | UHLS
 - N. Hurteau also noted that the friends group council will be restarted at some point in the future, in conjunction with this meeting.

Adult Winter Reading Challenge

N. Hurteau introduced the idea of an Adult Winter Reading Challenge. Based on the program run by the [Mid-Continent Public Library](#), it would be a combination of the 36er challenge and summer reading.

R. Jarvis-Girtler asked when the program would start. N. Hurteau is aiming for January – March, 2020 with a rollout planned for January 15th.

N. Hurteau asked for volunteers for a committee to organize the event. J. Chirgwin, T. Pause, A. McLaughlin, and R. Jarvis-Girtler, and J. Ward all volunteered. N. Hurteau will organize a committee meeting soon.

Comments? Updates?

J. Burke asked if anyone would be interested in working on a system-wide trivia tournament to raise money for a cancer charity in honor of Alex Trebek. There was a great deal of interest in a tournament!

J. Chirgwin asked if anyone had any ideas on who to work with on senior computer classes now that Sarah McFadden is no longer able to do it.

- It was suggested that she reach out to HVCC or the Albany Guardians Society.
- J. Ward mentioned that she has a computer class for seniors that is taught by senior volunteers who are more computer savvy than their peers. Some volunteers from Verizon have also been helping out, since their company has a community service requirement.
- A. Wemple-Person pointed out that local high school students might also need community service hours for honor society credit.

G. Noble gave an update on the new seed library at BETH. In just three weeks, 600 seed packets have been taken. He gave a shout out to VOOR for help with establishing the seed library.

Next Meeting

Next month is the Customer Service CE, so the next regular ASAC meeting will be May 23rd at 9:30AM. Carrie Painter, Director of Center Brunswick Services, will join us to provide guidance on service to adult patrons who have autism spectrum disorders.