

## Directors' Association

Upper Hudson Library System

Friday, September 24, 2004

**Attending:** Jeff Cannell (APLM); Ginny LaJuene (ALTM); Nancy Pieri (BETH); Darlene Miller (CAST); D. Hobert (EGRN); Barbara Nichols Randall (GUIL); Lenny Zapala (MEND); Pat Sahr (NASS); Judy Felsten (RCSC); Rebecca Lubin (RVLL); Jane Minotti (SNLK); Barbara Kubli (STEP); Paul Hicok (TROY); Phil Ritter (UHLS); Gail Sacco (VOOR); Barbara Schoen (WTVT)

**Visitors:** Jo-Ann Benedetti (UHLS), Mary Fellows (UHLS)

**Meeting convened at 9:04AM**

### Minutes:

**Motion:** Pieri/Cannell to approve August 6, 2004 minutes. Carried.

**UHLS:** Phil Ritter

- Two gift books were passed around the table for libraries to take if desired.
- Proposed Applications for LSTA Grants 2005-2007. Based on the responses to four possible LSTA grant projects put forth by UHLS staff, the following options were discussed:
  - Mary Fellows will proceed to write a grant for the project “Cooking the Books: Families, Food, Libraries & Literacy,” which was the clear choice determined by e-mail response. Jeff suggested considering a change to the project’s title. Several alternative titles suggested.
  - Jo-Ann Benedetti reviewed the two ideas put forth as possibilities for the adult service population, “The Regional Library Technology Center” and “Upper Hudson Reads!” In e-mail responses from interested libraries, the technology center received only one more vote than “Upper Hudson Reads”. A third suggestion was brought forth for the purchase of e-books. This generated much enthusiastic discussion. Barbara Nichols Randall volunteered to assist Jo-Ann with writing a proposal for introducing e-books to UHLS libraries.

**Motion:** Sacco moved that an LSTA grant proposal be developed concentrating on the purchase of “e-books”. Seconded by Hicok. Amended by Pieri to “Proceed with all due speed.” “Ayes” (13), “Nay’s” (0), Abstentions (2). Motion Passed.
  - A preliminary draft of a proposed statewide grant developed by SALS was distributed. Entitled “Growing a Reader: It’s Never Too Early”, this project focuses on emergent literacy. A signed commitment was needed by SALS in order for UHLS libraries to participate if this project is funded.

**Motion:** Hicok/Cannell. UHLS will participate in the LSTA 2005-2007 grant proposal written by SALS entitled “Growing a Reader: It’s Never Too Early.” Motion Passed.
- Proposed 2005 UHLS Budget. Phil distributed the Upper Hudson Library System- 2005 Proposed Budget and summarized this document. Income is based on full funding by NYS. If a 5% cut is ultimately enacted, a 5% cut to libraries is very possible. Phil pointed out where cuts had already been made, particularly in the areas of pool collection materials and professional development, which includes conferences, staff training and travel. If the library system loses \$50,000 from its NYS funding, Phil warned that personnel would be most vulnerable. The proposed budget will be discussed at the October UHLS Board meeting, and voted on at the November Board meeting.

- Proposed UHLAN Contract 2006-2008. Phil distributed a spread sheet showing the estimated charges for each library for 2006, 2007, and 2008, based on 2003 calendar year circulation and accession figures. The Directors Association recommended no additional changes in the Proposed Contract for UHLAN Services.  
**Motion:** Sacco/Hobert: At the September 24, 2004 meeting, the Directors Association endorsed the proposed changes in the UHLAN contract. Motion Passed.
- Status of Courier Contract. The lack of stability in the delivery service with Velocity continues to present extreme problems. UHLS staff have been required to try to keep it functioning. SALS and MVLA have both contracted with the courier company, CDNL. UHLS will work out the remainder of its agreement with Velocity within the restrictions of the contract, and then switch to CDNL, estimated to be at the end of December.
- Newsletter Distribution and Mailing List: Heidi has requested that directors review the number of copies that they are receiving, and inform her of any changes desired in the quantity of newsletters and how they are distributed. Each library receives copies through the courier for their trustees to be distributed by the method chosen by the library. The relative merit of mailing the newsletters to Town supervisors and county legislators was discussed.
- New UHLS Board Members. Phil reported that the three vacant positions have been filled:
  - Rachel Baum, BETH, has been appointed and approved.
  - Mary Muller, TROY, is a new trustee who will serve as the new UHLS representative. Approval pending.
  - Cris Blanchard, SNLK, will represent medium-sized libraries in Rensselaer County. Approval pending.
- Miscellaneous Announcements: none.

**Administration Committee Report:** N. Pieri

No report

**Services Committee Report:** R. Jaquay

No report

**Finance Committee:** J. Cannell

No report

**UHLS Board:** J. Cannell

No report

**Central Library Committee:** P. Hicok

Committee met in August and voted to extend the “Learn-a-Test” subscription through December, 2004. The Central Library will pay for this. The next meeting will be held October 7 at APLM; recommendations from the Adult Services Committee for data bases for next year will be discussed.

**Old Business:** Ginny reminded directors to register for the Directors Association Conference next Friday, October 1, at the Quality Inn. Cost is \$45 to Heidi ASAP.

**New Business:** Gail asked about the status of the Advocacy Committee; it was agreed that in light of today’s editorial in the “Times Union,” (*“Not very subtle”*), that there is a definite need for this group to be re-activated.

**Motion:** Sacco/ Zapala to approve that UH Directors Association write a letter to the NYLA Legislative Committee requesting them to make it a priority that library funding be made a part of the core budget. Motion passed. Gail has agreed to work on the letter with contributions from others.

**Nuts & Bolts:**

- RCSC : Judy announced that RCSC's Tenth Anniversary Celebration will be held October 10.
- GUIL: Barbara announced that children's author/illustrator Gregory McGuire will be a guest reader at GUIL on Friday, October 15 at 7:30 PM. The program is free and the public is invited.
- SNLK: Jane shared that the SNLK held a successful deer hunting and tracking workshop on September 21.

**Motion:** (Hobert/Sacco) to adjourn at 11 AM. Next meeting November 5 at 9 AM.

Submitted by,

Jane Minotti  
October 4, 2004