

## **Directors' Association**

Upper Hudson Library System  
Friday, August 5, 2005 At UHLS

**Attending:** Jeff Cannell (APLM); Judith Wines (ALTM); Nancy Pieri (BETH); Julie Zelman (BRUN); Darlene Miller (CAST); Deborah Canzano (COHS); Richard Naylor (COLN); Debbie Shoup (EGRN); Barbara Nichols Randall (GUIL); Carol Gaillard (HOOF); Lenny Zapala (MEND); Rebecca Lubin (RVLL); Jane Minotti (SNLK); Mary Jo Daly (STEP); Phil Ritter (UHLS); Gail Sacco (VOOR)

**Visitors:** Jo-Ann Benedetti, UHLS Manager, Information and Outreach Services

**Meeting convened at 9:05 AM**

### **Minutes:**

**Motion:** (Canzano/Zapala) to approve July 8, 2005 minutes. Carried.

**UHLS:** Phil Ritter

- Phil reported that new Director of STEP, Mary Jo Daley, would be attending the DA meeting, and that Barbara Schoen (WTVT) would be retiring at the end of August; this position is still open.
- **Guidelines for Construction Grants** have been sent and are due to Phil by September 2. Applications must be reviewed at the September 14 UHLS Board meeting; they must be submitted to DLD by October 14. Phil has already received an application from PTRS. The total amount available is \$25,222; Phil will be away from August 17-29. Any questions should be addressed before he leaves.
- **Coalition Against Censorship:** Phil referred to an e-mail he received from Don Parker representing the Long Island Coalition Against Censorship. A traveling exhibit on Censorship in Schools and Libraries is available for display in UHLS libraries if there is an interest. The Directors Association expressed an interest in borrowing this exhibit.
- **NEA Grant:** Jo-Ann spoke on the National Endowment for the Arts grant application for a community read project known as "The Big Read". In this pilot project phase, \$30,000 will be awarded to six communities across the country who sponsor a community-wide reading of a single book, which would be "To Kill a Mockingbird." The UHLS Board of Trustees must approve the application. The activities must take place from January to June, 2006, and involve 10 to 50 book discussions in the community as well as other events. Jo-Ann will need a letter of support from each library participating, and the commitment to hold a discussion group and/or film night at the library.  
**Motion:** (Zapala, Canzano) Jo-Ann should pursue applying for "The Big Read" grant sponsored by the National Endowment for the Arts.
- **UHLS Journal Subscriptions:** Phil distributed a list showing the usage level of current journal subscriptions, amounting to \$1577. This amount had been reduced from \$4000/ year. The current list will remain as is.
- **Welcome and Introductions** to Mary Jo Daly, new Director of Stephentown Memorial Library.

**UHLS Administration:** No meeting/ No report

**Services:** Bob Jaquay will continue to serve on Services Committee. No meeting was held.

**Finance Committee & UHLS Board:** No meeting/ No report

**Central Library:** P. Hicok

The Central Library Advisory Council met on August 2 to learn about the services provided by "Overdrive", which sells e-books and audio books to libraries. Unlike other companies, Overdrive allows a downloaded audio book to be copied on a CD or to an MP3 player. If UHLS signs a contract by the end of September to subscribe to "Overdrive" in 2006, the system can take advantage of a price reduction. The cost would be \$18,000/ year, which includes \$7,500 of titles. L. Zapala stated that this subscription "would replace the "Learn-a-Test" subscription currently paid for by UHLS. Any titles purchased by individual libraries must be

shared within the system. A demo on "Overdrive" will be held on Friday, August 12 at 9 AM at UHLS. CLAC will continue to investigate the purchase of "Overdrive."

**New Business:** None

**Old Business:**

By-Laws Update: N. Pieri presented revisions to the By-Laws of the Directors Association. After discussion, the following changes were made to the revisions: In Article VIII, the word "committee" will be inserted between "UHLS" and "representatives". Article IX will be re-inserted, with the word "Attached" to be deleted.

**Motion:** (Zapala/ Lubin) To accept the By-Laws as revised. Carried. The revised By-Laws will be posted on the intranet. Thanks to N. Pieri for her efforts.

Directors Association Conference: Barbara reported that the the Fall conference will be held at the Appel Inn in Altamont; the cost will be \$40. The morning sessions will cover speaking to the media on issues during crisis, and the afternoon session will cover resources in local Colonial and Revolutionary War history.

**Nuts & Bolts:**

- **SNLK:** Will be starting a series on heart disease, "Women Take Pride," for women 60 and over, done in conjunction with Senior Services of Albany and Northeast Health.
- **COLN:** Colonie Youth Theatre is presenting "Grease" under direction of Library in August.
- **BETH:** Chris Bohjalian will read from his latest novel on September 28 at 7 PM. There will be a reception and book signing. BETH has launched a new web site.
- **EGRN:** Budget vote will be held September 1. Proposed budget reflects 22% increase in books, and 11% increase in personnel. 3 candidates are running for 2 trustee openings.
- **HOOF:** Chris Bohjalian joined in a conference call during the Book Discussion Group.
- **CAST:** Teen Rock Concert taking place at Schodack Town Park from noon – 6 on August 6 to benefit library.
- **BRUN:** "Times Union" featured article on cramped conditions. Goal is to have Proposition 414 on November ballot.
- **COHS:** With 100+ degree temperatures, the air conditioning failed recently.
- **ALTM:** Questioned whether non-professional, part-time employees receive paid holidays. Answers varied, but generally, no. "Daily Gazette" featured story on ALTM's move.
- **RVLL:** A successful fundraiser was held July 9. Rebecca has been awarded the NYLA Annual Conference scholarship.
- **VOOR:** VOOR is experiencing the absence of 3 FT librarians. Will hold a joint staff training w/ BETH on Tourette's Syndrome. Author Archer Mayor will be a guest writer in residence September 9 and conduct a Writers Workshop. In October, book discussions exploring the Revolutionary war including a trip to the Saratoga Battlefield are scheduled.
- **APLM:** Bookmobile should be on the road in September. New North Albany branch will be opening November 1. 60 copies of the new Harry Potter book were circulated at the Midnight Madness Party held on July 15.
- **STEP:** June 14, 2007 has been announced as the date for the 60<sup>th</sup> Anniversary Fundraiser for Library.
- **GUIL:** Literary Garden ground-breaking held on August 1. For safety reasons, Mercy Lane will be changed to a Town Road. GUIL will present WWI series of lectures and exhibits including program on Old Rhinebeck Aerodrome on November 16.

**Motion:** (Cannell/ Wines) Meeting adjourned 10:43AM. Note: The Directors Association will not meet in September. The next meeting will be the DA Conference on October 7 at the Appel Inn.

Submitted by,

Jane Minotti  
August 30, 2005