

**Directors' Association  
Upper Hudson Library System  
Friday, February 1, 2013 at UHLS**

**Attending:**

Judy Petrosillo (BERN)  
Geoffrey Kirkpatrick (BETH)  
Julie Zelman (BRUN)  
Amy Peker (CAST)  
Richard Naylor (COLN)  
Barbara Nichols Randall (GUIL)  
Carol Gaillard (HOOF)  
Lenny Zapala (MEND)  
Pat Sahr (NASS)

Margie Morris (POES)  
Judy Felsten (RCSC)  
Kim Graff (RVLL)  
Mindy Fowler (SNLK)  
Laurenne Teachout (STEP)  
Paul Hicok (TROY)  
Tim Burke(UHLS)  
Gail Sacco (VOOR)  
Sue Hoadley (WSTL)

**Minutes:**

Meeting convened at 9:08am

**Motion: (Nichols Randall/Kirkpatrick)** To approve minutes of January 4, 2013 meeting. **Motion carried.**

**UHLS News: Tim Burke – distributed the following notes**

**NYS Budget Update** - On January 22 the Governor released his 2013 NYS budget proposal. The news was positive for libraries in that the budget called for state library aid to be set at \$81.62 million, which matches to final allocation in the 2012 enacted budget. In addition, \$14 million in capital funding is once again included for public library construction projects. Level funding in the Governor's budget from the previous year means that the NY library community can concentrate its efforts on advocating for an aid increase with the Senate and the Assembly as they debate a final budget. As of this writing the 2013 NYLA funding priority seeks full restoration of Library Aid to the statutory level of \$102 million. The NYLA Legislative Committee, which I serve on, will be meeting on February 14 to finalize the statewide library advocacy message. I will keep you updated on that process.

**Advocacy: Legislative Visits** - After the last DA meeting I consulted with a number of PULISDO members about their experience hosting legislative breakfasts, lunches, etc. The clear message from them is that from early in the year until the budget is passed the legislators are too busy for us to ensure a successful legislative group event. They suggested holding an event in fall between Labor Day and Election Day, when the legislators are motivated by seeing their constituents before the upcoming vote...even if they aren't up for election themselves.

Based on that advice, I'm planning to put our immediate energy into office visits with each of the legislators in the UHLS area so we can connect with them before we visit them again on Library Advocacy Day. At these initial meetings UHLS staff (Mary and I) and a few directors from the district's libraries will meet with the legislator talk about why libraries are important to NYS and to their communities, what we can do for them as legislators (opportunities to connect with their constituents at library events, photo-ops, etc.) and what we need them to do for us. I think these meetings will be very effective in establishing (or reinforcing) a positive working relationship with our elected NYS officials.

I'll be contacting you over the next several weeks as these legislative appointments are scheduled.

**Advocacy: Library Advocacy Day** - Please save the date for our annual Library Advocacy Day on Tuesday March 5. This is the day in which Library advocates join together at the Capitol to meet with local legislators, voice their support for statewide library funding and, through their numbers and enthusiasm, demonstrate the strength of the library community to elected officials. All UHLS staff, trustees and library users are encouraged

to participate in this, the most important advocacy event of the year. Legislative appointments for this day are being scheduled and a draft schedule for the UHLS meetings, which are usually held in conjunction with the Capital District Library Council (CDLC), will be available very soon. I hope you, your staff, and your trustees will be joining us for Library Advocacy Day.

**Advocacy : PAC Dinner** - The New Yorkers for Better Libraries PAC will once again be holding their fundraising dinner on Monday March 4 (the day before Library Advocacy Day) at the Wolf Road Marriott Hotel. This is always a fun and festive event which supports the vital work of “our PAC”. Please consider attending the dinner and/or making a contribution to the PAC. You can do both by visiting the NYFBL website at: <http://www.newyorkersforbetterlibraries.org/drupal/>

**Book Discussion Group sets** - At the last DA meeting it was suggested that UHLS could serve as a site to store and circulate book discussion group sets which could then be loaned out to any libraries or users requesting the set, thus making the sets more of these resources accessible to all member libraries and users and eliminating the need to store the sets at member libraries. At the meeting, I said that I would look into this further to see if it was practical. This is what we came up with (further details to be determined):

We would store the sets here at UHLS (we have room for up to ~50 sets), put them in the catalog as requestable from us to any UHLS library or UHLS cardholder and we would send them out from the System office. UHLS would not be buying these sets, but they would be "donated" to UHLS by the member libraries for all UHLS member libraries and UHLS users to request. The collection would be refreshed by further donations from member libraries going forward. In addition to being responsible for adding new titles to the collection, the member libraries would assist UHLS in any weeding of the sets as needed.

If you have any book discussion group sets to donate to this collection please let me know approximately how many sets and the book title and the number of copies for each set. This information will give us an idea of what we have to work with to start this project. Please get that information to Jo-Ann by next Friday 2/8/13 if possible.

**Bins, Bins, Bins...** - UHLS just ordered 210 new delivery bins to restock our supply. While we recognize that these are to a certain degree a “consumable commodity” (ie. they wear out) we also suspect that there may be some extra bins squirreled away in various nooks and crannies of the member libraries. When you get back to your libraries this afternoon, please make it a point to see if there are any extra bins you can send back to us to make sure we keep those books moving to and from your libraries!! Thanks for your help.

*Additional information from Tim:*

**State Annual Report** – DLD has a shrinking staff – there has been no release date given for the annual report

**UHLS Board & Finance Committee: ~~E-Butrie~~ T. Burke**

Finished financial details of solar installation

**UHLS Administration: J Zelman**

No meeting

**Services Committee: R. Naylor**

No meeting

**Central Library: L Zapala**

No meeting

## **e-Content Advisory: J Wines**

- Distributed ebook statistics – discussion of stats
- UHLS e-program on 2/7 is sold out
- Gail suggested asking legislators to include library information in their newsletter, such as how constituents can save money by borrowing ebooks from the library. Tim noted that the problem is we do not have enough titles to fulfill all requests. The Advisory Committee could consider a more regional campaign to get more donations to pay for ebooks and increase awareness of costs to libraries due to publishers.

## **Old Business:**

None

## **New Business:**

Proposed changes to By-Laws – Reviewed proposed changes

1. Limit terms of officers
2. DA representative to the UHLS Board serves on any one of three Board committees.
3. Possible two-year term for committees

There was discussion of the proposed changes and recommendations were noted.

**Motion** (Petrosillo/none ) Accept by-laws as revised. No second to motion. Motion withdrawn after discussion. Consensus – Members present agreed to changes proposed and recommended further changes. A final copy will be presented and voted on at the March DA meeting.

## **Open Forum:**

**RCSC:** Judy believes they finally have a lease for the old Knights of Columbus building

**HOOF:** Jo-Ann came to the library to present on ebooks. 21 people attended; it was very well received. Also, the Friends have been talking about turning a basement room into a children's room. A contractor is donating his time to create the room. People can watch the progress on the website.

**VOOR:** Three key people at VOOR have announced retirements. Gail shared the staff responsibilities and the impact these retirements will have on the library.

**COLN:** On April 13 they will have two programs Regional Storytellers. It is similar to Riverway.

**STEP:** Starting coffee house performers – booked through July – looking for more performers. Also, the house that has been purchased by the library is reportedly haunted. Laurene would like to do something with that before the house is torn down.

**RVLL:** Festival of Writers will be August 15-18. Joan Walsh of Salon will be one of the speakers. RVLL is working with breweries to hold a beer tasting.

## **Adjournment**

**Motion:** (Zapala/Gaillard) To adjourn meeting. **Motion carried.** Meeting adjourned at 10:38 AM. Next meeting is March 1, 2013 at 9 AM at UHLS.

Submitted by,  
*Margie Morris*