

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

Attending:

Judith Wines (ALTM)

Carol Nersinger (APLM)

Geoffrey Kirkpatrick (BETH)

Julie Zelman (BRUN)

Amy Peker (CAST)

Matthew Graff (COHS)

Richard Naylor (COLN)

Evelyn Butrico (EGRN)

Stephanie Preston (GRAF)

Barbara Nichols Randall (GUIL)

Carol Gaillard (HOOF)

Lenny Zapala (MEND)

Pat Sahr (NASS)

Margie Morris (POES)

Judy Felsten (RCSC)

Jane Chirgwin (RENS)

Mindy Fowler (SNLK)

Laurenne Teachout (STEP)

Paul Hicok (TROY)

Tim Burke (UHLS)

Sue Hoadley (WSTL)

Minutes:

Meeting convened at 9:14am

Motion: (Nichols Randall/Teachout) To approve minutes of February 1, 2013 meeting. **Motion carried.**

UHLS News: Tim Burke – distributed the following notes

Advocacy: Legislative Visits - We've had meetings with five of our local NYS legislators (Fahy, McDonald, Steck - Assembly and Marchione, Tkaczyk - Senate) in the last few weeks. These are all newly elected representatives, so it is particularly important that we've been able to get in front of them early in their term of office. At these initial meetings UHLS staff (Mary and I) and directors from some of the district's libraries met with the legislator to introduce ourselves, 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 were very effective in establishing a positive working relationship with our newly elected NYS representatives and I am looking forward to a strong partnership with each of them.

Advocacy: Library Advocacy Day - Next Tuesday, March 5 is the statewide Library Advocacy Day. Attached please find the schedule for the UHLS meetings. The recent redistricting has resulted in UHLS having 2 additional assembly representatives and another Senator representing our libraries, so it will be a full day! In addition to once again joining forces with CDLC, we will also be having a few joint legislative meetings with representatives from the Mohawk Valley Library System. The day will start in Meeting Room 6 off the plaza concourse and then our group will leave there to start our legislative meetings in the LOB (Legislative Office Building). I have left the 11:30am slot open to allow all UHLS participants to attend the rally which will be held in the highly visible and acoustically friendly "well" of the LOB. Please add your presence and your voice to the rally! There is a short break for lunch until 12:30pm when we are back at our meetings through early afternoon. NYLA will provide us with statewide advocacy material (see attached) for each meeting and UHLS will also be providing system information (also attached), but I encourage you to bring your library's newsletters, program fliers, bookmarks, etc. to share your library's story with your elected representatives.

Advocacy: PAC Dinner... Walk-ins Welcome!! - The New Yorkers for Better Libraries PAC is 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". You can pay at the door on Monday, so please consider attending the dinner and/or making a contribution to the PAC (which you can always do by visiting the NYFBL website at: <http://www.newyorkersforbetterlibraries.org/drupal/>).

Book Discussion Group Project - UHLS is moving forward on the project to collect and circulate book

discussion group collections provided by the member libraries. We have room for between 50 and 100 collections, and UHLS staff has met to work out the procedures for the management of this collection. The important points determined thus far include:

- the items will remain property of the member library that provides the set and that library will get the circ credit for their books;
- the location code will be changed to UHLS, so that the books will reside on our shelves;
- libraries sending items to UHLS SHOULD NOT remove barcodes, cataloging, or other identifying marks;
- when the process of establishing this collection is completed, the sets will be searchable in the catalog and listed on the UHLS website;
- UHLS will review the circulation statistics for this collection periodically and if we believe there are items that are no longer going out we will contact the owning library to determine jointly if the items should be weeded.

We'll keep the member libraries updated on this project.

ILS Exploration - As you know, Joe Thornton and I have been doing some exploration of the current ILS landscape to get a feel for the possibilities for UHLS. We've been in touch with representatives from Polaris, Sirsi Dynix, and Innovative Interfaces to talk about their products. In addition we had a conference call with several staff members from the Pioneer Library System in Canandaigua, NY to learn about their experience with the Evergreen open source product they have been using for ~3 yrs. There were no real surprises from our vendor contacts - all those proprietary ILS options meet the fundamental requirements for a library consortium like UHLS, but the real surprise was how fully-featured and robust the Evergreen system is. At its March 1st meeting, the Automated Services Committee will be asked to determine the process and timeline it would like to follow going forward.

Local Girl Makes Good - Our own Jo-Ann Benedetti has been invited to present at the 2013 Digipalooza Conference in Cleveland. Digipalooza is OverDrive's bi-annual international user group meeting on e-content in libraries. Jo-Ann will be presenting on Consortial Collection Development, specifically how we, as a consortium of independent libraries, developed an integrated e-content collection. The presentation will cover creating organizing principles, establishing guidelines, analyzing the collection, determining member library contribution matrices, etc. This very popular and respected national conference attracts librarians from all over the world and focuses solely on OverDrive downloadable books, music and videos. Hearty congratulations go to Jo-Ann for this honor...and thanks to her for allowing all of UHLS to bask in her reflected glow!!

NYS Annual Reports - As you all know by now, the NYS Annual Report software is open and available for you to input your library's information. The deadline for you to submit your report to UHLS is Friday, March 29. Please contact Heidi if you have any questions as you prepare your report. Also, on Tuesday, February 26 Heidi sent out a chart to directors outlining the information required for the financial components of the annual report. Please make sure that you get that information in the hands of the person who does the financial side of your library's annual report.

UHLS Board & Finance Committee: E Butrico

Finance – reviewed reconciled budget. Put some money back into building and retirement accounts which had been taken out for the roof repair.

Board – looking to purchase a copier – Board approved.

UHLS Administration: J Zelman

Reviewed guidelines for Trustee of the Year and Advocate of the Year – no big changes. They are looking for some sponsors to be able to award monetary amounts. Planning to ask Riverway sponsors. Notice for awards will be out soon.

Barbara asked about acknowledging trustees who are leaving off a board after completing a full term. Tim will look into that. Carol N asked about length of terms for trustees; who does three years. It is difficult to get board members and harder to get them to do two terms.

Annual Dinner – Julie reported that there will be background music at the dinner and also baskets for raffles. The basket will be donated by member libraries. The UHLS Board would like the money raised to go to the NYLA Disaster Relief Fund.

Services Committee: R. Naylor

Reviewed Library Program of the Year and Volunteer of the Year – cleaned up wording.

There is construction money that has been reallocated. It was available due to a project including landscaping in the description. Tim explained where the extra money went.

LSTA – summer reading grant was approved

Reviewed letter from East Greenbush asking the committee to look at the Direct Access Policy – it was not resolved by the committee – they will continue to review it.

Central Library: L Zapala

No meeting

e-Content Advisory: J Wines

Looked at changes to Overdrive that took place to the public view yesterday (2/28).

eContent program – presenter discussed what ratios trigger purchase of books. At a \$20 cost ratio is 4:1 at \$80 it is 20:1. The Advisor committee will share the ratios the next meeting. They will also have a content analysis.

There was a discussion of MacMillan's new program – limited checkouts and the books are removed two years after purchase. Also must be using Advantage program.

Old Business:

By-laws – new copy with changes distributed. Barbara reviewed the changes.

Motion: (Butrico/Naylor) Approve by-laws as amended. Carried.

New Business:

Good-bye to Pat Sahr who is retiring after 15 years as director in Nassau. She was very active in the Riverway Program. Best wishes to Pat.

Open Forum:

RCSC: have a lease, ordered carpeting, and received an eviction notice

STEP: Budget vote on the 19th at the library. Had a supportive public hearing. Last night was the first coffee house program. They have been scheduled through September.

HOOFF: Constance Bramer – author program. 18 people in attendance. “How Connie Got Her Rack Back”

GRAF: Have been discussing expanding the building and/or hours. They are going in a positive direction.

EGRN: Asked if anyone had experience with the Comptroller office changing information from previous entries.

ALTM: Historic Albany Preservation Award for the building. Held their 6th Annual Love MY Library event.

RENS: Literacy Volunteer of Rensselaer County – Ladies Tea as a fundraiser @ Emma Willard.

BRUN: Shared the plumbing issues that recently occurred.

Adjournment

Motion: (Butrico/Zelman) To adjourn meeting. **Motion carried.** Meeting adjourned at 10:30AM. Next meeting is April 5, 2013 at 9 AM at UHLS.

Submitted by,
Margie Morris