

**Directors' Association
Upper Hudson Library System
Friday, April 5, 2013 at UHLS**

Attending:

Judith Wines (ALTM)
Carol Nersinger (APLM)
Judy Petrosillo (BERN)
Geoffrey Kirkpatrick (BETH)
Amy Peker (CAST)
Richard Naylor (COLN)
Stephanie Preston (GRAF)
Barbara Nichols Randall (GUIL)
Lenny Zapala (MEND)
Katherine Chansky (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 9:10 AM

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

UHLS News: Tim Burke- distributed copies of his report

Advocacy: Our Hard Work Pays Off - For the third consecutive year the NYS budget was finalized and approved before the April 1 deadline and there is good news for libraries in the budget. Library Aid will be increased by \$4 million, which represents an increase of approximately 5% over the 2012 level. In the budget negotiations, the Senate had put forth the \$4 million increase for libraries, which the Assembly supported in the negotiation of the final budget. The budget also includes level funding for the NYS Public Library Construction Grant program at \$14 million. While it is not the restoration to full formula funding that we had been seeking, this still represents a significant success for library advocacy and should encourage the library community to keep delivering the message that New York's Libraries and Library Systems are a smart investment of taxpayer dollars.

UHLS Annual Awards Sponsorship - Taking advantage of the relationships we fostered through the Riverway Storytelling Festival, we have been able to secure corporate sponsorship for the UHLS Annual Awards Program. This means that for the first time in several years the winner of each award (Program of the Year - Urban/Suburban, Program of the Year - Rural, Trustee of the Year, Volunteer of the Year, and Advocate of the Year) will receive a check for \$250, in addition to the framed award certificate (along with a hearty round of applause at the annual dinner!). I am very happy to be able to once again offer a tangible reward to recognize the great work that goes on in our libraries every day. **Please be sure to submit your nominations for all of these awards on or before the April 19 deadline.** Nominations should be sent to the attention of Heidi Fuge at UHLS.

OverDrive Digital Bookmobile - We have been contacted by OverDrive to see whether we are interested in once again hosting the digital bookmobile somewhere in our system service area. You'll remember that last summer the bus made day long appearances at COLN and EGRN with support from staff of several member libraries. These visits generated some media coverage and were generally very positive events. Jo-Ann is the point person for this effort, so please share with her any ideas or suggestions you have about possible sites, venues, events, programming ideas, etc. that we may want to consider for the bus. As you think about this, please remember that OverDrive has some very specific requirements for site visits by the bookmobile and, based on our experience last year, these are non-negotiable:

- The bus (which is actually a tractor trailer) has a 100' x 40' footprint

- The bus needs a 30' turning radius. (i.e. a driveway 20' wide turning off a 2-lane road will work)
- The bus needs a 14' overhead clearance
- The access and parking surfaces for the bus must be able to support a minimum of 40 tons.
- OverDrive does not allow retail sites to be used as locations for bus visits (i.e. shopping malls, retail plazas, etc.)

Book Discussion Group Project - UHLS now has approximately 61 Book Discussion Group sets available for request to all member libraries and library users. We have established the procedure for cataloging, processing, storing, and delivering these sets. Thanks very much to those libraries who contributed sets to get this project started. We do have space for quite a few more sets, so if you have more to donate, please contact Jo-Ann and let her know.

Workforce Development Grants - This year's NYS Literacy Grant is focused on workforce development. UHLS will be re-granting this money in the form of minigrants, supplemented by the funds UHLS receives for Coordinated Outreach services. Jo-Ann sent the application and guidelines for these grants out earlier this week and **the application deadline is Wednesday May 1**. Member libraries can apply for \$500 - \$3,000 for projects focused on Workforce Development. The target audience must be "persons over the age of 16 who are not enrolled in school" and since NYS rules are very specific with this grant, we strongly urge you to call Jo-Ann to discuss your project ideas to ensure that the project fits within the rubric of the grant.

SRP Teen/Tween Minigrant Update - UHLS awarded a total of \$10,000 to 10 member libraries to support teen/tween technology-based programming as part of their summer reading activities. The recipients are listed below with a very brief program description for each.

APLM:	Technology camp for girls
BERN:	Solarbot, magnet, and money programs
BETH:	Instagram photo lesson, framing/matting lesson, art show; technology scavenger hunt
COLN:	Science-based workshops paired with book discussions
EGRN:	Creative writing, Cosplay, and crafting programs
PTRB:	Photography workshops, matting/framing workshop, art show
RCSC:	Digital illustration, robotics, and nanotechnology workshops
RVLL:	Online trivia tour guide of Rensselaerville
TROY:	Video game design workshops
VOOR:	Stop Motion Animated Movie Making technology camp

ILS Exploration - At the March 1 ASC meeting, I was asked to create a draft ad hoc committee structure (establishment, charge, composition, appointment, etc.) for review by the ACS at their next meeting, which is immediately following the April 5 DA meeting. I tried to suggest a structure that would provide equitable representation from our different libraries as well as including a significant line-staff perspective as well. Once the ASC approves a framework for the committee we'll get started filling the seats.

New Library Director at the Nassau Free Library - Katherine Chansky was named as the new Library Director at the Nassau Free Library, taking over from retiring library director, Pat Sahr. Katherine's most recent job was as Special Collections Reference Librarian for the Rhode Island Historical Society in Providence where she worked with historic manuscripts and rare books. She also has public library experience with the Saratoga Springs Public Library and the Crandall Public Library in Glens Falls. Katherine began work at Nassau in mid-March and Mary Fellows, Jo-Ann Benedetti, and I have already visited her for our UHLS New Director's Orientation and Rob Carle from the UHLS Automation team has been working with her on the automation services training we provide for all new Directors. Please join me in welcoming Katherine to UHLS.

NYS Annual Reports - Heidi asked me to pass along to you how pleased she was to have gotten so many of your annual reports submitted on or before the System deadline. She is working through them one by one and when she finishes her review of your report she'll be in touch with you if she has any questions or concerns. If you are one of the few who has not yet submitted their report please do so asap, so UHLS can meet the NYS deadline for report

submissions. Heidi is just a phone call or an e-mail away if you or any of your staff need assistance getting your report finished up. Please take advantage of this valuable support service.

UHLS Annual Report - Heidi also asked me to remind you that your library's submission for the UHLS Annual Report is due to her on or before April 30th. Please limit it to approximately 500 words, celebrating your library's accomplishments in 2012. Photos and other graphics are VERY welcome, but PLEASE send them as a separate file not embedded in the written report.

At the meeting: Tim reminded directors to send pictures of library events to representatives, on a regular basis, to remind them of what libraries are doing.

UHLS Board & Finance Committee: ~~E-Butrieo~~ T Burke

Board – routine business

Finance – scheduled audit for 4/22

UHLS Administration: ~~J-Zelman~~ T Burke

No meeting

Services Committee: R. Naylor

Committee received a letter from EGRN regarding Free Direct Access. EGRN asked to have the amount raised from 20% to 30%. The Services Committee felt that 20% was an appropriate figure. No changes recommended.

Central Library: L Zapala

No meeting

e-Content Advisory: J Wines

- Judith distributed a spreadsheet for current/recommended 2013 contributions for ebooks, and also strategies for ebook collection development. She explained the information provided and shared the ratios for when requested ebooks should be ordered.

- Jo-Ann will do a presentation at our next meeting on ebooks. She will also discuss a trial of video content for Overdrive. Jo-Ann is always available for help when ordering.

- Gail would like Jo-Ann to look into UHLS having Advantage ordering so everyone can have the newest titles.

- Laurene asked about magazines. Tim said the platform would cost \$40,000. That does not include content – it is too expensive. There was discussion regarding how to get this system-wide and maybe including other systems. Questions asked were: “Who is reading the current magazines?” “Will younger people read what we are buying?” It is felt that magazines are for an older generation use.

-Richard stated that the MacMillan 1-2 year limit is a concern. Will it be like a backlist system?

Old Business:

None

New Business:

Barbara – Geoff, Evelyn, and Barbara have decided on a new way to loan items to the homebound. Anyone interested, please let her know. They will put together sets by genre. The program will start this month.

Katherine – Pat Sahr's retirement open house will be April 14th from 2 – 5 PM.

Open Forum:

BERN: Their project has gone out to bid. The bids will be opened on April 15th.

STEP: Held a great kite program. Free program put on by NY Kite Enthusiasts. Laurene found them by googling. NYLA Executive Director Jeremy Johannesen is a member. Also reported that the library district vote was lost by 12 votes. The Board will meet next Thursday to decide what to do next. Laurene shared the attitudes of voters, good and bad, and follow-up comments.

ALTM: Held a skateboard program. Judith explained how the program got started. Albany County District Attorney David Soares gave the library \$3,000 to purchase boards and components. Over 50 kids participated. More programs are planned.

VOOR: Received good press for the Tonko program. He answered all questions about the health care program. The audience was mostly retired people and business owners. Barbara said that GUIIL would also be holding a health care program. There was discussion about the need for this presentation at all libraries. Gail also shared that the Albany county Sheriff evaluated the library for safety. They will be doing a program for the staff and public.

GUIIL: Will be holding harassment training for staff. Gail would like to see this as a program through UHLS.

RCSC: They hope to move to their new location on May 1st.

Adjournment

Motion: (Nichols Randall/Zapala) To adjourn meeting. **Motion carried.** Meeting adjourned at 10:30 AM. Next meeting is ~~May 3, 2013~~ June 7, 2013 at 9 AM at UHLS.

Submitted by,
Margie Morris