



UPPER HUDSON LIBRARY SYSTEM

Together. For Better Libraries.

Board of Trustees March 13, 2013

PRESENT: Judy Brown, Evelyn Butrico, LouAnne Lundgren, Jeremy Martelle, Mary Alice Molgard, Mary Muller, James Reilly, Tara Ricard, Natalie Schipano

EXCUSED: Phil Erlich, Brian Hartson, Janet Ivory,

ABSENT: Rosemary Armao

UHLS Staff: Tim Burke, Heidi Fuge

4:30 PM – Meeting called to order by M. Muller.

I. MINUTES

MOTION: L. Lundgren moved to accept the February 13th Minutes as presented. M. Molgard seconded. Unanimous.

II. EXECUTIVE DIRECTOR'S REPORT

T. Burke added the following to his written report:

- ADVOCACY DAY: there was a good response from the legislators. The meeting with Assemblyman Santa Barbara had to be cancelled but was re-scheduled for March 15th. A photo of the group with Assemblyman Steve McLaughlin was posted on both his Facebook page and the UHLS Facebook page.
- BUDGET UPDATE: the Senate and Assembly released their budget drafts. The Senate proposed an increase in library aid, the Assembly proposed flat funding.
- ANNUAL REPORT: the online report is open and libraries have started working on it. The Report was opened later than usual and DLD has given a deadline of April 16th.
- ILS EXPLORATION: the ASC requested that T. Burke draft a framework for an Ad Hoc ILS Investigation Committee.
- RECENT HORIZON UPGRADE: kudos to J. Thornton and the Automation staff for a flawless upgrade. UHLS is one of very few clients that SirsiDynix allows to perform the upgrades with our own staff. We are very proud of their work.
- DIGIPALOOZA: J. Benedetti has been asked to make a presentation at Digipalooza, Overdrive's international conference in Cleveland. It is an honor to be invited to speak.
- STEPHENTOWN VOTE: the vote on a Special Legislative District will be held on Tuesday, March 19th. We all wish them good luck.

III. TREASURER'S REPORT

Presented by M. Molgard. She noted that the financial situation is normal for this time of year.

MOTION: J. Brown moved to accept the Treasurer's Report for the months ending February 2013. E. Butrico seconded. Unanimous.

IV. COMMITTEE REPORTS

Finance Committee

Report by M. Molgard, Chair. The Committee reviewed and approved the February Payroll and Purchase Journal totaling \$109,302.15

The Annual Financial Review will begin the week of April 22nd and it is anticipated that the reviewers will present their report at the May Board meeting.

The photocopier purchase that was discussed at the previous meetings has been made and the new copier was delivered.

Several projects in the building will be done using the account designated for typical maintenance: new lights with National Grid and new flooring in the front entryway with Classic Custom, a contractor we have used on several projects.

Services Committee

Report by L. Lundgren, Chair. Committee members met to discuss a response to the letter from the East Greenbush Board of Trustees and have authorized T. Burke to draft a response.

Automated Services Committee

Report by T. Burke, Chair. He will be working on drafting a structure and charge for an Ad Hoc ILS Investigation Committee.

Administration Committee

No meeting. No report.

V. NEW BUSINESS/TRUSTEE REPORTS

J. Martelle reported that the BETH Board received a letter from an organization called the Freedom from Religion Foundation in regard to some holiday exhibits in the library at the end of 2012 that included a Menorah and other religious items. This organization is based in Wisconsin and seems to be looking for issues/situations. The Board response will be that the library protects the rights and freedom of speech in the community that they serve. The Library has policies regarding this and reviews them on a regular basis. T. Burke noted that any response to an organization such as this should simply address the points that they raise and then move on. He noted that libraries should take this as an opportunity to work on updating their policies including use of their meeting rooms.

E. Butrico reported that the State Comptrollers Office has started its review at EGRN and is primarily reviewing the NYS Retirement System information. A Review is a preliminary visit to determine if an audit is necessary. EGRN is the first library in UHLS to participate in a Comptrollers review and this is possibly due to the tax cap legislation.

L. Lundgren reported that POES held a very successful "Hug Around the Library" event. In addition, many volunteers came in to clean and paint the middle room in the Library. There were new people and new energy brought into the library with a new leader in the Friends Group.

M. Muller reported that the TROY Friends Group signed up with the new NYLA program that will do all of the administrative tasks for the Group at a \$25 per person fee. The Friends Group felt that this was a very worthwhile investment because it would allow them to concentrate on fundraising. During the discussion, it was noted that if a Friends Group raises over \$10,000 on an annual basis, they should apply for a 501(c) 3 designation. This would also make them eligible to participate in the NYLA program.

M. Molgard reported that it is the goal of the BERN library to be moved into their new building by the end of the Summer. The library is printing a newsletter that is distributed to over 1500 families in the service area.

N. Schipano reported that at ALTM, circulation is up by 118%. The recent gala was very successful and raised \$18,000.

L. Lundgren asked about the RCS Library situation. T. Burke responded that the trustees have found a building that would make a good site for the library and recently signed a lease for that building. There are still negotiations going on between the Village Board and the Library Board regarding the eviction notice given to the Library. It is possible that the Library will have to find a temporary location until their new building is ready.

T. Burke noted that the May 8th meeting of the Board and Committees will be held at the Rensselaer Library. Further information will be sent out with the usual Board email.

MOTION: L. Lundgren moved to adjourn. M. Molgard seconded. Unanimous.
Meeting adjourned at 5:30 PM.

NEXT MEETING: Wednesday, April 10th

Heidi A. Fuge
3/18/13