



UPPER HUDSON LIBRARY SYSTEM

Together. For Better Libraries.

OFFICERS:

President: Tara Ricard
Vice-President: Antonio Booth
Treasurer: Fred Wobrock, Jr.
Secretary: Sarah Goff

Board of Trustees February 13, 2019

PRESENT: Antonio Booth; Jill Dugas Hughes; Matthew Finn; Sarah Goff; Evelyn Greenstein; Herb Hennings; Susan Keitel; Michael Poost; Lisa Scoons; Yvette Terplak; Fred Wobrock, Jr.
EXCUSED: Janet Ivory; Jackie Marino; Tara Ricard
UHLS Staff: Tim Burke; Jona Favreau; Natalie Hurteau

4:43 PM – Meeting called to order by A. Booth, Vice-President.

I. MINUTES

MOTION: M. Poost moved to approve the January 2019 Minutes. Y.
Terplak seconded. Unanimous.

II. DIRECTOR'S REPORT (full report attached)

T. Burke highlighted the following in his written report:

- Construction Grant Update: \$22k in additional aid was awarded to the System today from unused money from other systems across the state. There is also the possibility that VOOR could be returning some grant money to UHLS, which would also need to be redistributed to other libraries with unmet need. Services Committee met this afternoon and will present their recommendation shortly. J. Dugas Hughes asked approximately how much VOOR could be giving back to UHLS. T. Burke reported that it will not be six figures but it would definitely help bump up APL and RCSC to meet full need.
- Census 2020 Meeting with NYSED: Last week T. Burke was invited to participate in a meeting with a leadership group from NYSED and the NYS Division of Budget to discuss both the role of libraries in the 2020 US Census and the impact on libraries. The group was very interested to hear our perspectives and he thinks they now better understand the critical role that libraries, and especially public libraries, will be playing in the upcoming census. The group talked extensively about a statewide funding request to NYS to help support libraries in the census. Many states including CA and OH are allocating millions of dollars toward this project, but NY has hinted zero support. S. Keitel asked if NY understands that our census ask is in addition to what we typically ask for during advocacy. T. Burke stated that yes, they are aware that there is additional ask on the table.
- UHLS Staffing Update: N. Hurteau is not only joining us this evening as the DA representative to the Services Committee, but she has also accepted the position as Manager, Adult and Outreach Services here at UHLS. Welcome to the team, Natalie!

III. COMMITTEE REPORTS

Finance Committee

Committee members reviewed the January Treasurer's Report. F. Wobrock Jr. noted that expenses were higher than they were this time last year because the Bullet Aid was received in late December and then the checks were cut to each member library in January. He noted that if UHLS had received the check in 2019, the transactions would have negated or offset one another.

The Committee members reviewed the January Purchase Journal which had been sent out to all trustees in advance of the meeting. F. Wobrock Jr. noted that in January there were a couple large, annual payments made. UHLS paid TBS, the HVAC servicer, for its annual \$10k maintenance contract and almost \$81k for the annual Sierra subscription. February was a regular 2-paycheck month.

MOTION: The Finance Committee moved to adopt the January Treasurer's Reports and Purchase Journals. M. Poost seconded. Unanimous.

Services Committee: S. Goff reported that the committee met to determine how to distribute the additional Construction Grant aid totaling \$22,115. After some discussion, the Services Committee has the following recommendation:

Part 1

East Greenbush \$545 – which brings them up to their maximum eligible award

Part 2

Albany, Colonie, Guilderland, RCS, Troy, and Voorheesville \$3,595 – awarded to each

MOTION: The Services Committee moved to award the additional construction grant funds to the applying member libraries as outlined above. Y. Terplak seconded. No opposing. Unanimous.

Administration Committee: No meeting.

IV. OLD BUSINESS

T. Burke reported that after a NYLA phone call earlier this week, it is very likely that Bullet Aid is not going to exist in 2019. This has not been officially confirmed but please let your libraries now know for planning / budgeting purposes; probably better to assume these funds will not be received.

V. NEW BUSINESS**VI. TRUSTEE REPORTS**

Y. Terplak (ALTM): The Annual Gala was a success! Since going fine-free for children's material as of January 2019, the library has seen an increase in circulation for those materials AND for the parents. T. Burke encouraged the group to keep those statistics so that they

can be used to help and inform other member libraries during this decision making process.

A. Booth (RCSC):

The Children's Town is officially open! There were a number of pre-school activities that Saturday afternoon during the opening and they too have seen a spike in circulation for children's material. T. Burke shared that the space is a nice nod to local history. A Booth shared that there's going to be a book discussion on 2/23 at 2PM at the library with James Lipscomb – which has gained attention of the community.

S. Goff (COLN):

The front entrance is finally open! Looks great and patrons are happy, but important to note that construction is still happening.

J. Dugas Hughes (EGRN):

On 2/23 the 5th annual Film Festival is happening! Many showings are sold out already but the library is looking for volunteers (food, usher, will call) – please reach out if you'd like to help out.

S. Keitel (WSTR):

There's a new art exhibit in the community room. They will be advertising at the next monthly breakfast / coffee hour at the local Fire House meeting.

MOTION: Y. Terplak moved to adjourn. M. Poost seconded. Unanimous.

Meeting adjourned at 5:27 PM.

03/06/19 J. Favreau