



UPPER HUDSON LIBRARY SYSTEM

Together. For Better Libraries.

OFFICERS:

President:	Susan Keitel
Vice-President:	Jackie Marino
Treasurer:	Fred Wobrock, Jr.
Secretary:	Yvette Terplak

Board of Trustees October 12, 2022

PRESENT: Fred Wobrock, Jr.; Evelyn Greenstein; Yvette Terplak; Lisa Scoons; Scott Wyner; Susan Keitel; Arlene Way; Joe Burke; Corie Dugas; Tara Ricard; Antonio Booth, Camille Engel

Absent: Jackie Marino, Marcy Savage

UHLS Staff: Tim Burke; Judith Wines

UHY LLP: Mike Zovistoski

4:36 PM - Meeting called to order by S. Keitel, President

I. Minutes

Motion: A. Way moved to approve the September 8, 2022 meeting minutes. Y. Terplak seconded. Motion carried unanimously.

II. Mike Zovistoski from UHY gave the CPA's financial review report. The primary conclusion is that UHY is not aware of any material modifications that need to be made to the financial statements.

Motion: T. Ricard moved to accept the draft Financial Review Report as presented. C. Dugas seconded. Motion carried unanimously.

T. Burke reminded the Board that they had a few days to submit any follow up questions on the report after which the draft report will become the final report.

III. Director's report

- T. Burke reported that UHLS has signed another 3 yr. contract with Arnoff for delivery services. The approximate 8.5% increase reflects significant negotiations. Arnoff was not willing to negotiate on the fuel surcharge.
- The UHLAN fee and the accompanying 3 yr. agreement is in the hands of member libraries, awaiting board approval. Four boards have returned signed agreements already.

- All 10 UHLS member construction aid applications were submitted to DLD on time.
- NYLA conference will take place in Saratoga Springs the first week of November.
- NYS Assembly Member John McDonald organized a press event at the Troy Library to celebrate the 2022 construction aid awards to Troy, Cohoes, and UHLS.
- ALA has a new initiative: Unite Against Book Bans. It is meant as a counterweight to efforts to ban materials. He will send out more information on it and will ask the board to consider joining (at no cost) as a supporting organization at the November UHLS Board meeting.

IV. Committee Reports

Finance Committee

F. Wobrock explained that the Finance Committee reviewed the financial reports. He noted that the September Treasurer's Reports showed that we are \$93,600 in the red. This is earlier in the year than is typical, but he cited some possible causes, including ebooks, the parking lot repair expense (50% of which will come back to UHLS from the construction grant), and the lack of tenants in the two rental spaces. The purchase journal reflects mostly typical operating expenses, but did also include the "pass through" of the NYS Central Library Aid to Albany PL.

Motion: The Finance Committee moved to accept the September 2022 Financial Reports. A. Booth seconded. Motion carried unanimously.

The Finance Committee reviewed the draft 2023 budget. The full board will review the budget at the November meeting.

Services Committee

Services Committee reviewed the proposed 2023 central library budget. The budget is similar in content to last year's budget, but did reflect some changes in the law at the state level. All of the central library aid is now combined into one fund, making the budget a simpler document to present. And the central library funds can now be used for all age level material and can also be used for fiction material.

Motion: The Services Committee moved that the proposed 2023 central library budget approved. J. Burke seconded the motion. Motion carried unanimously.

A brief history of the central library structure in NYS was discussed.

V. Old Business

The board picked up its continuing discussion of the role of UHLS representative trustees.

Contact information for all of the UHLS member library board presidents and directors was shared. A wide ranging discussion of possible specific steps of the initiative ensued. A. Way suggested a menu of system services that UHLS trustees could bring to member library boards. F. Wobrock suggested that it would be helpful for UHLS staff to create introductions between UHLS trustees and member library boards before any visits happen. Trustees were encouraged to think about this and send thoughts and suggestions to S. Keitel.

VII. Trustee Reports & Recommendations

BETH: L. Scoons reported that Bethlehem is holding a one-hour trustees luncheon “mini-retreat” to focus on board communication.

APLM: A. Way reported that APL is starting strategic training, and is planning a board retreat. Discussion ensued about retreats and time spent with committees.

STEP: S. Wyner reported that an architect has been retained and estimates for facilities improvements have been examined.

AAC: Joe Burke reported on the UHLS Automation Advisory Committee recommendations to the Directors Association for standardized loan periods and library card application forms for all of the member libraries.

WSTR: S. Keitel recommended the book *Read Dangerously: The Subversive Power of Literature in Troubled Times* by Azar Nasifi

Motion: J. Burke moved to adjourn. F. Wobrock seconded. Motion carried unanimously. Meeting Adjourned 6:15 p.m.

J. Wines
10/12/22