



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 February 8, 2023

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

Excused: Antonio Booth

UHLS Staff: Tim Burke; Jona Favreau

4:34 PM – Meeting called to order by S. Keitel, President.

I. MINUTES

MOTION: Y. Terplak moved to approve the January 11, 2023 Minutes. T. Ricard seconded. Unanimous.

II. DIRECTOR'S REPORT

T. Burke highlighted the following in his written report:

- 2023 NYS Budget: Gov. Hochul put out an initial budget and we are back to where we started at the beginning of last year. T. Burke did share a sneak peak of the Advocacy Day schedule. J. Marino asked if she's expected to speak on the 28th – no. T. Burke will be sending out a message later this week and if you'd like to speak, you're more than welcome to, or you can observe and be a supporting body in the room. S. Keitel stressed the importance of being an advocate – make a personal human relationship, invite them to library, take their photos etc. E. Greenstein asked if everyone was going to be invited into the offices per usual or limited with COVID – no more than 12ish people.
- CORE Leadership Training is back! T. Burke provided a summary of a successful training event.
- Trustee Training: This requirement for all public library trustees is effective January 1 and UHLS has responded by adding a webpage to their site. Shout out to M. Fellows who is a treasure at UHLS and is excellent at everything she does, including training.

L. Scoons brought up the loan rules standardization in the managers reports – what was that? J. Burke explained that the AAC brought a recommendation to the DA and it passed unanimously without question to standardize loan rules among all of our member libraries. This will help our patrons in the long run. T. Burke gave a shout out to J. Dugas Hughes who ushered this in smoothly.

III. COMMITTEE REPORTS

Finance Committee

Coming next month! F. Wobrock shared that next month he'll be giving a brief explanation of the Treasurer's Report on the projector – get your questions ready!

F. Wobrock noted total expenses and income on the Treasurer's Report. He also noted the total dollar amounts in all accounts, including the restricted accounts, which can only be used with board approval. On the Purchase Journal, \$27k was expensed for insurance which is a one time annual expense, \$24k was paid to Midwest for eContent, and Special Legislative Grant money from Senators Breslin and Ashby passed through the system and was distributed to 6 of our member libraries. J. Burke asked what the auto coverage entails – if a UHLS staff member drives over to ALTM and gets in an accident, we are partially covered.

MOTION: The Finance Committee moved to adopt the January 2023 Treasurer's Reports and Purchase Journals. C. Engel seconded. Unanimous.

IV. OLD BUSINESS

C. Engel asked if board committee meetings fall under the new open meetings law – yes, depending on the type of library (municipal and district, yes). If a library elects to allow virtual presentation under extraordinary circumstances they have to approve a resolution and a policy. Please contact T. Burke for more information.

L. Scoons asked if UHLS has put together a suggested list of policies and procedures a member library should have. T. Burke explained that no, we haven't, only because there are many different types of libraries and it may overwhelm some directors because the list would be long. J. Burke noted that a board shouldn't put many new policies into place all at once because they should be reviewed annually and you don't want to overwhelm one committee. T. Burke suggested looking at what other (bigger) member libraries are doing and note that the eye of an attorney will be needed for a number of them. But he will send her something from the Trustee Handbook.

The conversation re how to maximize our participation in the Expedition as a board was discussed. T. Burke suggested holding this meeting at different locations each month. Trustees could travel together to visit a cluster of libraries and get to know each other on the drive/along the way. L. Scoons noted that BETH did it together as a board and as many people participated as possible.

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

T. Ricard (COHS): T. Ricard asked if there are any updates re rental space here at UHLS – no. Our contract with the agent ends soon and we are going to try to find someone new. T. Burke has had a conversation with the NYLA ED because she doesn't enjoy being a

“homeowner” but nothing further has come of it. UHLS has had a conversation with NELLCO as well.

S. Keitel (WSTR):

If you’d like ALA advocacy updates as they happen, text 716-271-2182. Two books to add to your reading lists: *Graceland, At Last* by Margaret Renkl and *South to America* by Imani Perry.

A. Way (APL):

M. Fellows and T. Burke came to a board meeting earlier this week and the training was invaluable. There have been some clashing personalities on the board but they’ve reminded us that we are all working together for the same mission. We’d like them to come back for further team building – highly recommend.

C. Engel (EGRN):

EGRN has hired a firm (Maxine with Blaise) to help them start with their upcoming strategic plan. They’re also sending out a survey to the board as a “get to know each other” since completing the racial equity training.

J. Burke (ALTM):

He noted that they are wrapping up their strategic planning and they’ve really enjoyed the process, including the community feedback collection aspect.

MOTION: T. Ricard moved to adjourn. C. Engel seconded. Unanimous.

Meeting adjourned at 6:24 PM.

01/24/23 J. Favreau