



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

**Board of Trustees
July 10, 2024**

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

Excused: Lisa Scoons

UHLS Staff: T. Burke; J. Favreau

Guests: Andrea Nicolay; Nancy Gifford; Wade Abbott; Kate Clingon

I. CALL TO ORDER

S. Keitel called the meeting to order at 4:32PM.

II. OATHS OF OFFICE

S. Keitel administered the Oath of Office to Yvette Terplak (beginning her second five-year term) and Scott Wyner (beginning his second five-year term). J. Favreau will file the paperwork with the corresponding county.

III. MINUTES

MOTION: C. Engel moved to approve the May 8, 2024 Minutes. D. Carr seconded. Unanimous.

MOTION: Y. Terplak moved to approve the June 12, 2024 Minutes. J. Burke seconded. Unanimous.

IV. DIRECTOR'S REPORT

T. Burke summarized his distributed report, specifically highlighting the Annual Celebration held the previous month at the Albany Country Club. Consensus was that it was beautiful venue, food was good, but if we use this space again, many suggested having the food on both sides of the bar and raising the volume on the microphone, as it was a little difficult to hear at the back tables. In order to save a lot of work for UHLS employees, T. Burke suggested using this venue and Rev. Hall in Troy for a number of years – there were no objections as long as they stay within budget.

V. COMMITTEE REPORTS

Finance Committee

F. Wobrock thanked everyone for the recognition he received at the Annual Celebration – he was certainly surprised!

Looking at the Treasurer's Report, he noted that we're currently ahead of where we were last year but remember, we received some 2023 state aid in January 2024. On the Purchase Journal, F. Wobrock pointed out the following payment: monthly fee to LCR Consulting; the \$12k payment for CollectionHQ, which UHLS will be reimbursed by some member libraries; a mediation series collaboration with SALS; RIF books purchased from MVLS for our member libraries; the final \$8,700 payment toward the new floor in the Asian Arts space; and the payment to Albany Country Club for the food at last month's event.

D. Carr noted the large cost for delivery each week and asked how that would change should SCPL share content with UHLS. T. Burke reiterated that until SCPL became full members of our system, SCPL would pay for those additional costs in full.

MOTION: The Finance Committee moved to adopt the May and June 2024 Treasurer's Reports and Purchase Journals. C. Engel seconded. Unanimous.

VI. OLD BUSINESS

The topic of Schenectady County Public Library was put back on the table and whether or not UHLS should explore the idea of SCPL sharing the UHLS ILS. S. Keitel asked everyone around the table to speak once, and then after we've all had a chance to speak, we'll have our typical conversation.

The following questions and comments were made:

- One major concern is what will happen to MVLS if we decide to move forward in this relationship. This is being asked of us to help a set of patrons but are we causing more harm for other patrons (of other MVLS libraries and of MVLS itself) if we move forward? A review of the "library environmental impact" should be thoroughly completed.
- A number of trustees shared concern for both GUIL and COLN and the impact it may have not only on circulation but also staff and programming. How are we going to deal with this intangible if it's not in our favor? Can there be an option to reverse?
- How will our relationships change with SALS and MVLS?
- What do they bring to the table? This will help SCPL but to date, there hasn't been an obvious benefit for UHLS.
- The most recent letter from DLD is very contingent on receiving approval from them. What if we let this play out and then they blow up our process and say no – that will be a huge waste of time.
- Have we or will we consult with our attorney? Maybe they could look over the communications we've received from DLD and interpret whether or not we should be looking at next steps.
- If SCPL only borrows 7% of their total circulation from outside of the SCPL collection, could they not stand on their own and invest more on the content that is lacking?

As the DA Representative, J. Burke stated that at this morning's meeting there was uncertainty

from the group as to what was being voted on this evening; the directors have not seen T. Burke's recommendation. There was a recommendation from eCAC to not include the digital content in a temporary resources sharing agreement. He described the overall sentiment of the DA was to take this process slowly.

After the trustees' discussion, two guests of the meeting addressed the board with their opinions regarding the question at hand.

MOTION: M. Savage moved to table the SCPL question until their next meeting in September, cancelling the scheduled August meeting. Y. Terplak seconded. *Yes:* E. Greenstein; F. Wobrock, Jr.; J. Marino; S. Wyner; J. Burke; C. Engel; Y. Terplak; D. Carr; M. Savage; T. Ricard. *No:* C. Dugas. Passed.

S. Keitel urged all to spend time on this issue. Y. Terplak asked if the UHLS Board could write a letter to DLD to tell them that we (UHLS) want to make an informed decision and we see them as a leader and need their guidance – please step up with us. It was asked if Charity Thorne of SCPL could come to the next meeting.

T. Burke relayed that SCPL and MVLS are meeting together with DLD the week of July 22. Many in the room agreed that there's nothing further to discuss until that meeting happens and we get the State Library's opinion.

VII. NEW BUSINESS

MOTION: S. Wyner moved to authorize T. Burke to prepare a construction aid application to include the replacement of the inner front door and frame and also adding automatic door hardware to the two doors at the side entrance with the final cost to be reported to the board prior to submission. Y. Terplak seconded. Unanimous.

MOTION: C. Engel moved to adjourn. M. Savage seconded. Unanimous.

Meeting adjourned at 6:31 PM.

07/29/2024 JF