**Attendees:**

Jo-Ann Benedetti (UHLS), Tim Burke (UHLS), Maureen Brown (BETH), Judy Felsten (RCSC), Suzanne Fisher (VOOR), Margaret Lanoue (GUIL), Lois Papp (EGRN), Judy Petrosillo (BERN), Pat Sahr (NASS), Damon Vorce (TROY)

The attendees introduced themselves to Tim Burke.

**Databases**

T. Burke explained the budget and the process of distributing Central Library monies.

J. Benedetti provided pricing on several databases under consideration. *Ancestry/HeritageQuest* is in use in many libraries. M. Lanoue mentioned that people often come in just to use *Ancestry*. M. Brown said that of all databases, this one is heavily and consistently asked for and used. J. Petrosillo said her patrons would use this. S. Fisher thinks this is a lot of money for databases in one narrow topic area and that we should pick one or the other, not both. P. Sahr said the she gets requests for it. M. Lanoue wondered if we could get a better price because Proquest usually "throws in" *HeritageQuest* for free. J. Benedetti will followup with Ancestry/HeritageQuest on a better package pricing.

The group agreed that *Reference USA* stats don't make sense, but it also does not make sense to continue this product because the use does not justify the cost. The Small Business Development Center is available for business research if people are using Reference USA for their small business to generate lists.

*Newsbank* would be used for genealogy research, but it is a lot of money to "just get obits." J. Benedetti will see how much it would cost to get online access to the *Schenectady Gazette* through the *Gazette* directly.

*Mango* database stats are not high, but everyone loves it. It is interactive, can be used remotely at the users' convenience and one does not have a limited loan period as with CDs. M. Lanoue observes that patrons often walk into the library to request *Rosetta Stone*. She then shows them *Mango* and they like it a great deal. M. Brown says people at Bethlehem are looking at it. D. Vorce said that TROY markets it to the high school and they see good use in Spanish, French, German and Italian – the languages offered at schools.

Recommendation for J. Benedetti:
Negotiate *Ancestry/HeritageQuest*
Check if we can get the *Gazette* individually
Negotiate *Mango languages*

**Overdrive**

M. Brown stated that Bethlehem intends to purchase the "Overdrive Advantage Program", enabling them to purchase content that would be limited to use by Bethlehem Public Library patrons only. Guilderland intends to do the same thing. This will shorten the waiting time for their patrons to check out titles. J. Benedetti expressed concern that when the System first offered downloadable content, the purpose was to share and thereby enhance everyone's collection. For each library to limit access to content for its own patrons would work against the purpose of a shared collection. M. Brown said BETH would only buy extra

copies of titles already available to the System, so it would not affect anyone since a copy would already be in the System's holdings.  M. Lanoue said GUIL would do the same before the end of the month.

M. Lanoue mentioned that APLM could buy Max Access titles with the monies set aside for Overdrive.  J. Benedetti explained that the problem with Max Access orders is getting them out of the catalog once the items expire, and then re-purchasing the records if we re-subscribed.  A solution would be to not put them into the catalog.  J. Benedetti then explained that we are on the list to receive all of the Project Gutenberg titles and that once these are available, they will not be put into Horizon because of the cost.  (There are 33,000 titles in Project Gutenberg).  J. Benedetti suggested perhaps we could do this with max access titles. M. Lanoue suggested that perhaps all of the Overdrive titles could be removed from Horizon and sole access to these titles could be from the Overdrive page.  If UHLS could put a link to the Overdrive home page (digitalcollection.uhls.org) from the catalog, we could have a separate page for Overdrive content.  J. Benedetti said that many libraries actually do this, but this is something to be discussed at Resource Sharing and/or ASC.  M. Brown also suggested that UHLS put a link to Overdrive on the top of the UHLS homepage, rather than having people scroll down to find it.  J. Benedetti agreed that this was a good idea.

J. Benedetti announced that UHLS plans to buy several devices so that UHLS staff and member library staff can become more familiar with the Overdrive download process.  M. Lanoue said that GUIL has already purchased several devices and plans to have training on this in November which will be open to all.  J. Benedetti said that she would like to have a hands-on workshop at UHLS as well.  Many agreed that people need handholding when downloading books.  It was agreed to hold an Adult Services meeting in November and have an Overdrive workshop as part of this.

**Coordinated Outreach Minigrants**

UHLS will have about $9,000 for minigrants.  The budget is not yet set, but that is our guesstimate.  This year, UHLS will offer two grant-writing workshops (one at EGRN, one at GUIL) and **all who are applying for a minigrant must attend one of these sessions**.  The reason we want all applicants to attend is so that we can improve the skill set of member library staff, and increase the chance of everyone getting an award.

Applications will become available on December 1st of 2010, the deadline will be in January, and grant review and announcements will be made in February 2011.

**Other**

There was a brief discussion of popular adult programming suitable for a small public library.