



UPPER HUDSON LIBRARY SYSTEM

Together. For Better Libraries.

X	APLM – Melanie Metzger	X	NGRN – Mary Klimack
X	ALTM - Joseph Burke		PTRB – Anita Wilson
	BRLN – vacant	X	POES – Donna Riley
X	BERN – Kathy Stempel	X	RCSC - Judith Wines
X	BETH – Geoffrey Kirkpatrick	X	RENS - Jane Chirgwin
	BRUN – Sara Hopkins	X	RVLL – Heidi Carle
	CAST – Melissa Tacke	X	SNLK - Melinda Fowler
X	COHS – Christiann Gibeau		SCHG - Nick Matulis
X	COLN - Evelyn Neale	X	STEP - Kim Roppolo
X	EGRN - Jill Dugas Hughes	X	TROY - Paul Hicok
X	GRAF – Leanna Sweet	X	VAFL - Kelly Akin
X	GUIL - Tim Wiles	X	VOOR – Sarah Clark
X	HOOFF – Danny Yetto	X	WTVT – Debbie Scott
X	MEND – Laura Cernik	X	WSTR – Amy Powarzynski
X	NASS – Tracey Clague	X	UHLS - Tim Burke

Chair: Sarah Clark

Vice Chair: Mindy Fowler

Secretary: Sara Hopkins

Directors' Association

Date: January 7, 2022

Others in Attendance: J. Favreau; J. Thornton; N. Hurteau; M. Fellows

Virtual meeting called to order by S. Clark at 9:00AM.

Minutes

MOTION: K. Stempel moved to accept the December 3 minutes. T. Clague seconded. Unanimous.

Updates from UHLS

Tim

- Monthly reminder to please update and date your entry on the member library status spreadsheet.
- An email was sent out earlier this week by DLD explaining that curbside service does NOT count toward public service hours.
- Upcoming Library Leadership CE opportunities have been sent out to the group via email – 2 happening this month and both will be recorded for future reference; CORE training will be happening on Feb 2 at 6:30PM; Racial Equity Training – material was sent prior to the start of the year, options for both staff and board training – RCSC has already jumped on board!
- EGRN has asked that UHLS consider revising the Free Direct Access Plan required by NYS. T. Burke asked for volunteers for an ad hoc committee to review and make recommendations for any revisions. Please send him an email if you are interested in serving on this committee.
- Library Advocacy Day is Wednesday, March 2 and will be all virtual again this year. More details to follow.

Jona

It's almost annual report time! Some emails have been circulated regarding changes to the YA statistics – I'll send something out officially (the Helpful Hints document) once I receive the major changes document from DLD.

Electronic invoices will be emailed from here on out – ERO and UHLAN invoices were sent out earlier this week, please let me know if you haven't received them.

Natalie

Email reminders will be going out for the Board / staff training on creating an inclusive work place. We'd like to have a least one rep. from each member library. Once Nate is back in the office, his classes will be rescheduled.

CE – “You can have it both ways: Being an assertive, caring, library administrator” with Cassie Guthrie will be happening Friday, February 11. Following this meeting, N. Hurteau will send out an anonymous survey for directors to ask questions and topics, which will be used for discussion during the presentation.

A demo for DEI and Collection HQ will be happening on Friday, January 14. Similar to Ancestry.com after the demo, N. Hurteau will field interest and request a quote.

Mary

She will resend the message today regarding the changes to the YA statistics for the annual report.

Reminder: those questions aren't required this year but will be the following year. The Prepared Leadership Team: Meeting a Challenge presentation is happening on January 13.

Old Business

New Business

Committee Reports

UHLS Board & Finance Committee – no December meeting

UHLS Administration Committee - no report – meeting next week

UHLS Services Committee – no meeting

Racial Equity Committee: T. Wiles welcomed C. Gibeau of COHS and Seth from GUIL to the committee. A draft training menu was sent/emailed prior to the New Year with options for staff and board participation.

Automation Advisory Committee – J. Dugas Hughes summarized the email she sent out Thursday prior to the meeting – the committee is recommending that all libraries enable Automatic Renewals for all renewable Item Types. L. Sweet asked if items would just renew once – this feature will strictly follow each member library's regular loan rules. L. Cernik asked if patrons who already receive a phone call communication will receive an additional call noting that an item was renewed – no. J. Wines asked how many libraries are fine free - 20. She asks because she feels like this decision is delaying the decision for some to go fine free. Both COLN and EGRN expressed that their boards won't likely make the decision to go fine free any time soon and this is a meet in the middle for them (the Directors).

MOTION: J. Burke moved to accept the recommendation of the AAC, that all member libraries enable Automatic Renewals for all renewable item types. E. Neale seconded. J. Wines abstained, the remaining votes were yes. Passed.

After discussion, the group decided that February 1 will be the date for going live to give time to train / prepare staff.

Central Library Advisory Committee – no report

eContent Advisory Committee – J. Wines reported that they did not meet, but she did email out the end of 2021 statistics yesterday. Everyone spent at or above 100%, in addition to advantage spending! This was the first year in a long time that our increased spending is higher than our increased circulation, but we have a lot of catching up to do.

Open Forum / Library Status Updates

S. Clark heard that the open meetings law revisions are likely to be extended. T. Burke heard that as well. As soon as we hear official word, UHLS will let you know.

K. Roppolo polled the group if a patron has ever insisted a book be added to collection and when told no, threatened to go to the board. No but T. Burke suggested that this should be covered in a collection development policy. J. Dugas Hughes shared a ALA Toolbox Kit link with the group.

DA Meeting 01/07/2022

D. Yetto asked if any libraries are offering children and YA programs in person. ALTM is doing “bundle up” outdoor programming, no indoor. APL is offering teen programming, but no Storytime. Both RCSC and BETH are offering indoor Storytime at a greatly reduced number of participants.

C. Gibeau noted that there haven’t been any workers on the outside of the COHS building in multiple weeks – she’s thinking there will be an announcement about the library reopening soon, but she’s waiting to hear from the city.

VOOR, APL and EGRN most likely won’t be offering tax preparation help this season due to the lack of volunteers.

K. Roppolo wanted confirmation that she couldn’t offer programming only to patrons who are vaccinated – T. Burke explained that that would be a local library decision, but because all libraries, regardless of their funding model, are publicly funded, denying services to unvaccinated would likely be challenged in court as discrimination.

D. Scott has had some pushback from the public in the library regarding their mask mandate – is it legal for them to require? If the WTVT board creates a policy using the recommendation of NYS guidance, then yes, it becomes a library policy and the library can enforce it.

10:36AM meeting adjourned

Next meeting to be held Friday, February 4 at 9AM