



UPPER HUDSON LIBRARY SYSTEM

Together. For Better Libraries.

X	APLM – Melanie Metzger	X	NGRN – Mary Klimack
X	ALTM - Joseph Burke		PTRB – Anita Wilson
X	BRLN – Sara Rogers	X	POES – Donna Riley
X	BERN – Kathy Stempel	X	RCSC - Judith Wines
X	BETH – Geoffrey Kirkpatrick	X	RENS - Jane Chirgwin
X	BRUN – Sara Hopkins	X	RVLL – Heidi Carle
X	CAST – Melissa Tacke	X	SNLK - Melinda Fowler
X	COHS – Christiann Gibeau		SCHG - Nick Matulis
	COLN - Evelyn Neale	X	STEP - Kim Roppolo
	EGRN - Jill Dugas Hughes		TROY - Paul Hicok
X	GRAF – Leanna Sweet		VAFL - Kelly Akin
X	GUIL - Tim Wiles	X	VOOR – Sarah Clark
	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: March 4, 2022

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

Virtual meeting called to order by S. Clark at 9:01AM.

Minutes

MOTION: M. Tacke moved to accept the February 4 minutes. J. Burke seconded. Unanimous.

Updates from UHLS

Tim

- Please remember to update the two spreadsheets online with policy changes regarding face mask statuses.
- Great participation from the member libraries on Advocacy Day last Wednesday! If you haven't done it already, UHLS suggests sending a quick follow up to your representatives (note in the mail, phone call, email), especially if you didn't participate, expressing how important it is to support libraries. NYLA will have a few more 'call to actions' that will be important to participate in as well – and share with anyone in the community who supports libraries.
- UHLS is working on a policy framework for challenges with ECAC.
- Search for the Manager, Adult and Outreach Services position to replace N. Hurteau is underway, with the review starting on Monday. We are going to move fairly quickly – J. Wines has volunteered to help with digital services if needed. G. Kirkpatrick, T. Burke and M. Fellows are on the search committee. T. Burke thanked N. Hurteau for her work over the last three years, highlighting her work with member libraries looking to explore going fine free.

Jona

Annual report time! Reviewing and sending feedback – 5 libraries that still haven't submitted anything, please send me an update to ensure we'll meet our March 15 deadline.

Natalie

Eight new classes for staff with Nate Hayer will be announced later today, and she will be contacting individual libraries about wrapping up Collection HQ.

Mary

Outreach funds were used to purchase [The Welcoming Library](#), which are on their way to UHLS and will be made to member libraries as a rotating collection. On April 5 UHLS will be hosting an English Language Learners CE program – more information hosted on the homepage of UHLS website.

L. Sweet asked on the status of the bill that Daphne Jordan is sponsoring regarding association libraries possibly participating in the NYS retirement system. J. Burke explained the equity and retention issues to the group but did not have an update.

When a patron comes in with a really old, large fine, J. Wines typically has that conversation with her patrons individually and calls the owning library to make sure if it's okay if they are

removed. With J. Thornton purging fines, what has everyone's process changed to? After discussing with the group, J. Thornton is going to run a list to catch emails for those who have had purged fines, so that they (the patrons) are aware of the clean slate.

Old Business

New Business

Committee Reports

UHLS Board & Finance Committee – T. Burke noted it was a routine meeting. Board discussion was primarily about the Racial Equity Training – the dates are set for March and April.

UHLS Administration Committee – no meeting

UHLS Services Committee – no meeting

Racial Equity Committee: T. Wiles shared that on June 20th we will be celebrating June 19th with local author Dr. Green and her book, *We Who Believe in Freedom*. One hundred copies have been purchased for patrons who will register for the event, and 1 copy for each member library who doesn't already have it in their collection. Collection HQ is almost a done deal for those who have opted in. The McLean Group is moving forward with the UHLS Board training later this month. A Learning Circle happened yesterday with 7 people in attendance – there was a great discussion! Dates are scheduled for the remaining sessions.

Automation Advisory Committee – no report

Central Library Advisory Committee – no report

eContent Advisory Committee – J. Wines noted that the committee met and that the reciprocal lending agreement with Mid-Hudson will go live mid-March.

Open Forum / Library Status Updates

Next Friday is the Cassie Guthrie program, “You Can have it Both Ways”

There was a lengthy masks discussion now that mandates have been lifted and how that's impacting programming, specifically for those who aren't vaccinated. Many libraries will be increasing programming and attendance in April. M. Tacke followed up the conversation with a question regarding take and makes – who is phasing them out or keeping that option for those who aren't attending in person? WSTR is cutting back until summer, BRUN will never cut back as they've been very popular and RCS is transitioning from weekly to monthly.

J. Wines pulled the RCSC circulation numbers for February and they are up 18% - is that all auto-renewals? G. Kirkpatrick said that they at BETH are “letting it marinate” for a while before diving in. The staff at BETH have been hearing a lot of thank-yous for the automatic renewals.

K. Roppolo's husband is publishing his first children's book – *Finding Fire* by Logan Kline. He'll be willing to do programming in September if interested; M. Fellows will include further information in an YSS email to be sent out later this morning.

S. Clark will send out a survey in a couple of weeks regarding meeting in person.

DA Meeting 03/04/2022

MOTION: C. Gibeau moved to adjourn the meeting. S. Hopkins seconded. Unanimous.

10:16AM meeting adjourned

Next meeting to be held Friday, April 1 at 9AM