



# UPPER HUDSON LIBRARY SYSTEM

Together. For Better Libraries.

Chair: Sarah Clark

Vice Chair: Mindy Fowler

Secretary: Sara Hopkins

|    |                          |    |                        |
|----|--------------------------|----|------------------------|
| IP | APLM – Andrea Nicolay    | O  | NGRN – Mary Klimack    |
| IP | ALTM - Joseph Burke      | O  | PTRB – Anita Wilson    |
| O  | BRLN – Sara Rogers       | O  | POES – Donna Riley     |
| O  | BERN – Kathy Stempel     | IP | RCSC – Lisa Neuman     |
| IP | BETH – Geoff Kirkpatrick |    | RENS - Jane Chirgwin   |
| O  | BRUN – Sara Hopkins      | O  | RVLL – Patrick Wynne   |
| IP | CAST – Melissa Tacke     | O  | SNLK - Melinda Fowler  |
| O  | COHS – Christiann Gibeau |    | SCHG - Nick Matulis    |
|    | COLN - Evelyn Neale      | O  | STEP - Kim Roppolo     |
| IP | EGRN - Jill Dugas Hughes |    | TROY - Paul Hicok      |
| O  | GRAF – Leanna Sweet      | IP | VAFL - Kelly Akin      |
| IP | GUIL - Tim Wiles         | IP | VOOR – Sarah Clark     |
| O  | HOOV – Danny Yetto       | IP | WTVT – Whitney Gitman  |
|    | MEND – Laura Cernik      |    | WSTR – Amy Powarzynski |
|    | NASS – Tracey Clague     | IP | UHLS - Tim Burke       |

Directors' Association

Date: April 7, 2023

Others in Attendance: J. Favreau - O; J. Wines – IP; M. Fellows – IP; J. Thornton - O

**Meeting called to order by S. Clark at 10:05AM.**

**Minutes**

D. Riley noted that her last name is spelled incorrectly – J. Favreau will make those changes.

**MOTION:** M. Tacke moved to accept the amended March 3, 2023 minutes. A. Nicolay seconded. Unanimous.

**Updates from UHLS**

*Tim*

- NYS Budget: Official extension has been made to April 10. There are a couple legislative priorities on the table: association libraries becoming eligible for NYSLRS and 259 votes only requiring 25 signatures for a school district to put an item on the ballot. POES is specifically looking to do this, UHLS is helping them with a support letter for legislators and T. Burke will share the document soon with the group. Doesn't impact district libraries at all. The current requirement of needed 10% of voter turnout in the last gubernatorial election is lot of signatures JUST to get to a vote.
- Annual Awards: May 1<sup>st</sup> is the deadline for submission – the UHLS board committees will make the decision. The more applications the better – we shout out all applicants at the award ceremony, as they all deserve recognition.
- Annual Meeting: Save the date for Wednesday, June 14<sup>th</sup>. We're moving away from a big sit down dinner, but will keep the event early evening. The Board really wants to highlight the award winners and not a keynote speaker. A. Nicolay asked as a new Director what this entails – UHLS board business for a tiny part of the night, presentation of the awards, staff and trustees from the member libraries are able to chat and mingle. A lot still up in the air but we'll be in touch as soon as things are solidified.
- Construction Grants: The portal for the 2024 applications should open on or about June 1. Now is the time to start discussing what you're going to do. Last year, for the first time ever, we were forced to give back funding (about \$200k). GRAF, MEND, COHS, WTVT they all need a SAM ID number, every application needs this number moving forward – you can't use the municipality's number.

*Mary*

Expedition started on Monday! She passed around two of the prizes, just in case you aren't a prize library (6 of them). M. Tacke would like to thank the committee for making it so easy – the barcodes are so easy; staff are seeing participants! D. Riley: about \$900 in sales on the webstore since Monday. Survey went out re: ARPA program last week, please participate if you have the time. S. Hopkins asked about the website ADA compliant template that we thought were going to be available - J. Thornton and Rob can help your library become compliant.

*Judith*

Speaking of webstore... order your tank tops for the CDPHP Corporate Team Challenge May 18! ILL is on pause until Wednesday when Amy returns. There will be no 1<sup>st</sup> quarter econtent breakdown spreadsheet. The great spell-off is happening! The new RLA which now includes MVLS and SALS along with UHLS and MHLS is live!

*Jona*

Thank you to everyone who helped reach the March 15 NYS annual report deadline with DLD. Please keep an eye out next week for the UHLS Annual report questions hitting your email.

*Joe*

In regards to ARPA funding – he too was expecting a theme to be installed but instead it's a set of tools for building brand new websites. Libraries should contact UHLS support for assistance in website accessibility. MEND has officially gone fine free! VAFL and COLN are the only two that aren't fine free.

## **Old Business**

## **New Business**

### **Committee Reports**

UHLS Board & Finance Committee – J. Burke not much to note, a typical meeting.

UHLS Administration Committee – G. Kirkpatrick noted that they did not meet in person but they did review the award criteria via email.

UHLS Services Committee – S. Clark noted that they too did not meeting in person but did review the award criteria via email.

Equity Committee – J. Wines reported that A. Nicolay is the newest member of the committee. They are working to develop resources to support the action items and will be sharing soon.

Automation Advisory Committee – J. Dugas Hughes reported that over 60k emails were sent with a one question survey and so far we've received close to 6k responses. The committee is reviewing those responses and are looking to offer online cards if the majority of respondents are online. An email will be sent soon as a follow-up from last month's meeting and deleting license information. There is one seat open until June – T. Wiles will do it but won't stay on after June. 2 seats will be open in June!

Central Library Advisory Committee – no report

eContent Advisory Committee – G. Kirkpatrick thanked J. Wines and the team at UHLS for making the RLA happen. He emailed the contribution spreadsheet – keep spending!

### **Open Forum / Library Status Updates**

T. Wiles reported that there will be a soft opening to the staff and then a grand opening for the new café in the GUIL space. An email will be sent out soon with an invitation if you'd like to stop by. GUIL is testing the waters and thinking of renting a bus for staff development day on June 7 to participate in a mini expedition – may go to 8-10 libraries. If you would like us to visit you with 45 people, reach out!

J. Dugas Hughes will be posting an administrative position within her office with a competitive salary very shortly; please send applicants her way!

A. Nicolay shared that APL has received a cease and desist letter for a scholarship program for candidates of color. A private foundation that has been funding this program to help the library

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become more diverse in their workplace. This article stated they are discriminating against white and Asian students. APL has their attorney looking into the matter.

**11:44AM meeting adjourned.**

Next meeting to be held hybrid on Friday, May 5 at 10AM.