



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
O	ALTM - Joseph Burke	O	PTRB – Anita Wilson
IP	BRLN – Sara Rogers	IP	POES – Donna Riley
O	BERN – Kathy Stempel	O	RCSC – Lisa Neuman
IP	BETH – Chris McGinty	O	RENS - Jane Chirgwin
	BRUN – Sara Hopkins	O	RVLL – Patrick Wynne
O	CAST – Melissa Tacke	IP	SNLK - Melinda Fowler
	COHS – Ray LeMay	IP	SCHG - Nick Matulis
IP	COLN – Elissa Valente		STEP - Kim Roppolo
O	EGRN - Jill Dugas Hughes	IP	TROY - Paul Hicok
O	GRAF – Leanna Sweet	O	VAFL - Kelly Akin
IP	GUIL – Nate Hayer	IP	VOOR – Sarah Clark
O	HOOF – Danny Yetto	O	WTVT – Whitney Gitman
IP	MEND – Laura Cernik	IP	WSTR – Amy Powarzynski
	NASS – Tracey Clague	IP	UHLS - Tim Burke

Directors' Association

Date: April 5, 2024

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

Hybrid meeting called to order by S. Clark at 10:02AM.

Minutes

MOTION: A. Nicolay moved to accept the March 8, 2024 minutes. L. Cernik seconded. Unanimous.

Updates from UHLS

Tim

- The state just requested an extension through Monday, April 10 for the budget in order to keep the state running. As a reminder, please thank your representatives and ask them to hold steady for library funding.
- Annual Award nominations email went out yesterday. All applications are due to Jona by April 29.
- The System Support Associate position in the Youth and Family Services department has been filled - Amy J. will be starting April 15th – yes, another Amy! We're excited for her to join the team.
- Save the date: our Annual Celebration will be held June 12 in Albany County – location still to be determined.

Mary

Being down a staff member in the department, the SAIYLS grant was put on hold. If you'd like to commit, please reach out to her. She thinks 12 member libraries have signed up to date.

All SRP recordings of trainings will be emailed soon to be used by anyone on your staff. GOAT meeting will be held April 30th from 10-3:30. It's free, bring your own lunch, and collaborate with colleagues from 5 states! The CDLC annual meeting is April 26th – it's a breakfast session and Kathy Sheehan from the Rensselaer County Historical Society is the keynote speaker.

Jona

With the state reports behind us, she'll be shifting her focus to the narrative report that UHLS presents at the annual celebration. Please keep an eye out for that email over the next week or so.

Old Business

New Business

Earlier this week, UHLS was contacted by the director of SCPL. The board at SCPL has decided to leave JA / their shared catalog with MVLS and SALS. It's important to note that they are not leaving the MVLS system. SCPL doesn't have the autonomy to provide the services they wish to provide to their patrons. JA thinks what SCPL is requesting outside of the services they are willing to provide. What do we do with that request?

There was a long discussion among all of the directors. J. Favreau recorded every question asked during the meeting (listed below) and T. Burke will use them to create a document of answers.

- What can UHLS provide that MVLS / JA can't?
- Is SCPL proposing to pay for delivery?

- What's the message to the community served by UHLS?
- The current UHLAN fee structure doesn't cover the full cost of the automated system and delivery, would this merge be a benefit for current member libraries?
- What would prohibit them from becoming full members of Upper Hudson?
- Is UHLS feeling pressured? SCPL has 6 months and they are a month in to this countdown.
- What's the impact to MVLS and SALS and how would our involvement be perceived?
- Have they tried mediation?
- How's it going to affect the resources of the UHLS staff?
- Is SCPL a net loaner or borrower and how will this impact our patrons' experience?
- Involvement of the county – full access to IT? Would they have access to our ILS?
- Are they considering becoming a district library?
- What happens to the electronic book collection?
- Can they stay with MVLS for the shared digital collection?
- We'd be taking on a considerable cost with delivery, would we be receiving more state funds?
- Central Library concerns – would they be able to meet their state requirements being a central library for MVLS?
- Are they willing to come in as a full member?
- Concern that we're all working all well together, if she's someone that's not willing to cooperate or compromise, how will that impact our dynamic?
- What are the next steps?
- Where is this money coming from to cover all of the delivery and III expenses?
- Will you (Tim) be making a recommendation to the UHLS board?
- Tim's personal opinion – have SCPL requests been reasonable?
- In totality, how is this going to impact our patrons?
- Will you make the recommendation to DA first and allow us the opportunity to vote?
- Has Charity pitched a positive of bringing them on? Why is this as good for us as it is her? Does SCLP recognize how big a deal this is?
- What size of a hole are they creating when they leave? Money and collections wise –

Committee Reports and the Open Forum / Library Status Updates sections of the agenda were skipped due to the length of discussion under New Business.

N. Matulis motioned to adjourn. E. Valente seconded. Unanimous.

11:43AM meeting adjourned.

Next meeting to be held in person at UHLS with a hybrid option available Friday, May 3 at 10AM.