



UPPER HUDSON LIBRARY SYSTEM

Together. For Better Libraries.

Chair: Sarah Clark

Vice Chair: Mindy Fowler

Secretary: Sara Hopkins

X	APLM – Andrea Nicolay	X	NGRN – Mary Klimack
X	ALTM - Joseph Burke		PTRB – Anita Wilson
	BRLN – Sara Rogers	X	POES – Donna Riley
X	BERN – Kathy Stempel	X	RCSC – Lisa Neuman
X	BETH – Geoff Kirkpatrick	X	RENS - Jane Chirgwin
X	BRUN – Sara Hopkins	X	RVLL – Patrick Wynne
X	CAST – M. Tacke		SNLK - Melinda Fowler
X	COHS – Ray LeMay		SCHG - Nick Matulis
X	COLN – Elissa Valente	X	STEP - Kim Roppolo
X	EGRN - Jill Dugas Hughes	X	TROY – Christiann Gibeau
X	GRAF – Leanna Sweet	X	VAFL - Kelly Akin
	GUIL – Pete Petruski	X	VOOR – Sarah Clark
	HOOV – Danny Yetto	X	WTVT – Whitney Gitman
X	MEND – Sarah Kerr-Mace	X	WSTR – Amy Powarzynski
X	NASS – Tracey Clague	X	UHLS - Tim Burke

Directors' Association

Date: September 6, 2024

Others in Attendance: J. Wines

Hybrid meeting called to order by S. Clark at 10:05AM.

Minutes

MOTION: K. Stempel moved to accept the July 10, 2024 minutes. C. Gibeau seconded. Unanimous.

Updates from UHLS

Tim

- Construction Grants: The initial construction grant applications were \$2-3 million over the total UHLS allocation. UHLS requested libraries to phase and/or cut back on their projects, which they did, making the service committee's recommendation process easier. T. Burke expressed appreciation for the libraries' cooperation.
- The Governor signed legislation allowing systems to allocate 90% funding to eligible libraries, providing greater flexibility and ensuring all construction aid is spent within the system. This law will take effect immediately but will not impact the current grant cycle.
- The 2025 UHLAN fee chart was introduced. J. Burke asked when the new agreement for 2026-28 would be available, to which T. Burke responded it would be ready this time next year. J. Burke suggested releasing it by August next year. A. Nicolay inquired about the process of a new agreement.

Old Business

In late July, SCPL and MVLS met with NYSL. NYSL advised both parties to work out an agreement, emphasizing that the state's preferred outcome is "the status quo." NYSL also noted it has no role in determining the relationship between a library and system services, including any arrangement such as SCPL contracting with UHLS to share their ILS. Any proposed plan that would alter established system service areas (ie. SCPL leaving MVLS) would require SCPL and MVLS to present a mutually agreed-upon plan for consideration and approval by the Board of Regents.

T. Burke and Susan Keitel (UHLS Board President) met with NYSL separately about a week later and heard the same information. SCPL has since decided to move forward with its separation from the JA (Joint Automation agreement) and establish its own separate ILS in POLARIS. That new catalog is expected to go live by the end of this year. As the result of these developments and because SCPL is concentrating on its ILS project, any discussions of a resource sharing agreement between UHLS and SCPL are currently on hold. However, SCPL has reiterated its strong interest in the possibility of sharing resources with UHLS in a shared ILS or as a full member of the system, so the issue is not dead, just on hold. T. Burke appreciated the thoughtfulness of the Board and DAs, hoping for future progress when this question comes back to UHLS.

A. Nicolay noted that the real outcome of this is confusion regarding library services, which negatively impacts patrons.

New Business

J. Wines shared details about the "Messages from Survivors," the Great Give Back, and the gathering of quotes in preparation for the upcoming CLAC meeting.

Committee Reports

UHLS Board & Finance Committee – did not meet

UHLS Administration Committee – did not meet

UHLS Services Committee – S. Clark reported that the committee met to recommend construction aid allocation.

Equity Committee – A. Nicolay reported that a facilities and equipment-focused meeting will occur before the October DA meeting.

Automation Advisory Committee – J. Dugas Hughes volunteered to chair the committee again.

Central Library Advisory Committee – Scheduled to meet on 9/17 to develop and recommend CL budget for 2025.

eContent Advisory Committee – Did not meet but G. Kirkpatrick distributed the spending spreadsheet per usual.

Open Forum / Library Status Updates

S. Clark shared that phase 2 of Voorheesville's construction project starts at the end of September, with the collection being moved within the library on 9/29. Volunteers are welcome! New furniture and carpet installations are also planned.

J. Burke asked about attendees for the Association for Rural & Small Libraries conference in Springfield, MA; K. Ropollo is attending as well.

T. Burke promoted the NYLA conference in Syracuse.

J. Burke sought volunteers to be room monitors for three PLS Saturday NYLA programs.

A. Nicolay shared preliminary results of their hours and programming survey.

G. Kirkpatrick announced the implementation of Patron Point for BETH.

C. Gibeau updated the group on the Troy director search and the completion of HVAC design work for the Hart building.

K. Stempel mentioned that BERN is planning a "Rent Wars" themed escape room.

The next meeting is scheduled for 10/4, preceded by the Equity Committee facilities meeting at 9:00AM.

J. Burke motioned to adjourn. G. Kirkpatrick seconded. Unanimous.

11:18AM meeting adjourned.

DA Meeting 09/06/2024