



UPPER HUDSON LIBRARY SYSTEM

Together. For Better Libraries.

Chair: Sarah Clark

Vice Chair: Mindy Fowler

Secretary: Whitney Gitman

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

Directors' Association

Date: March 7, 2025

Others in Attendance: J. Favreau; J. Wines; M. Fellows

Hybrid meeting called to order by S. Clark at 10:03AM.

Minutes

MOTION: T. Furgal moved to accept the February 7, 2025 minutes. E. Valente seconded. Unanimous.

Matt Leibowitz, the Head of Public Safety at APL, presented to the group.

Updates from UHLS

Judith

Thank you to BETH for hosting our hearing tech tour. She'll be communicating soon regarding the Library Calendar implementation.

Mary

ED Search Committee update: the first in-person interview was conducted yesterday. The second is being held on Thursday 3/13 from 2:30-3PM – you're all welcome to attend the presentation portion. The committee will bring a recommendation to the full board on April 9.

Jona

Thank you to all of you for making the annual report a priority this year, we had all but one report submitted by March and that one was submitted only a couple of days later. Hopefully this puts us at the top of the list for review and state aid. Reminder: Tim's retirement celebration is being held on Thursday, April 10th from 4-7PM here at UHLS. Please RSVP to me for planning purposes.

Old Business

New Business

Committee Reports

UHLS Board & Finance Committee – J. Burke noted that the group saw the reconciled 2024 budget, approved the \$3,500 fee for Library Calendar from the automation restricted account, and T. Ricard representing medium sized libraries in Albany Co. and L. Scoons representing BETH won't be up for re-election this June, so they are actively seeking replacements. J. Burke will be leading the charge to evaluate the new ED and D. Carr from RCSC will lead the board self-evaluation process.

UHLS Administration Committee – No meeting but approved the two criteria for the trustee and volunteer annual awards via email.

UHLS Services Committee – No meeting but the committee approved the criteria for both program of the year awards via email.

Equity Committee – J. Wines acknowledge the following libraries for working toward the Equity Challenge: BETH, BRUN, COLN, GUIL, RCSC, SNLK, VAFL, VOOR, WSTR. A recruitment and retaining training is coming up in April. Reminder that you can do as little or as much as you'd like of the challenge; you don't need to do all 8 areas. December 2026 is deadline and it does come with a \$500 incentive.

Automation Advisory Committee – No meeting – J. Dugas Hughes shared that they don't currently have agenda items but is curious to hear if they should be working on Vega or the new calendar – what does the group think? Consensus was for Vega yes – calendar no.

Central Library Advisory Committee – No meeting

eContent Advisory Committee – No meeting but a couple of things: BRLN signed up for Advantage! Spend spend spend, buy buy buy ebooks! A discussion was had re: Hoopla. Many libraries are struggling with the cost and it was proposed to pull out from Hoopla because they have very little willingness to budge on collection development. Perhaps they can make a recommendation to the DA? T. Furgal asked about Palace Project – J. Wines loves what they are doing but doesn't think they'll solve our problems now. If your library is talking to Cloud Library, J. Wines would like to know. J. Dugas Hughes asked about costs per circ in Overdrive? VOOR has been doing it and BETH is considering it.

Open Forum / Library Status Updates

G. Kirkpatrick gave the group a heads up – *A Map for Falasteen* – you may encounter a book challenge if you own it. M. Fellows requested you please let her know if you do.

11:32AM meeting adjourned.

Next meeting to be held in person at UHLS with a hybrid option available Friday, April 4 at 10AM.