



UPPER HUDSON LIBRARY SYSTEM

Together. For Better Libraries.

Chair: Sarah Clark

Vice Chair: Mindy Fowler

Secretary: Whitney Gitman

IP	APLM – Andrea Nicolay	O	NGRN – Mary Klimack
IP	ALTM - Joseph Burke		PTRB – Anita Wilson
O	BRLN – Sara Rogers	IP	POES – Donna Riley
IP	BERN – Kathy Stempel	IP	RCSC – Lisa Neuman
IP	BETH – Geoff Kirkpatrick	IP	RENS - Jane Chirgwin
IP	BRUN – Sara Hopkins		RVLL – Patrick Wynne
IP	CAST – Melissa Tacke		SNLK - Melinda Fowler
	COHS – Ray LeMay	IP	SCHG - Nick Matulis
	COLN – Elissa Valente	IP	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	IP	WTVT – Whitney Gitman
IP	MEND – Sarah Kerr-Mace	IP	WSTR – Amy Powarzynski
IP	NASS – Tracey Clague	IP	UHLS - Tim Burke

Directors' Association

Date: April 4, 2025

Others in Attendance: J. Favreau; J. Wines; J. Thornton

Hybrid meeting called to order by S. Clark at 10:06AM.

Minutes

MOTION: M. Tacke moved to accept the March 7, 2025 minutes. S. Kerr-Mace seconded. Unanimous.

Updates from UHLS

Tim

We've signed the paperwork to move forward with Vega. We're officially in the queue now but don't yet know the timeline. J. Thornton will be leading that charge now. The plan for Vega mobile is to not turn it on until it's ready to go so there won't be a gap in service. G. Kirkpatrick asked if the app has the ability to store the card number? J. Wines will triple check but is confident it does.

There's been a change in construction aid – 75% is the new 50%. UHLS can now award up to 75% to everyone, the flexibility is at the system level which will make the process much simpler. The 75-90% awards will continue to be based on a metric that the system gets to set. J. Dugas Hughes asked how things will change with the IMLS funding being pulled. T. Burke is unsure – it would be ideal if the system would be able to approve applications.

M. Fellows was unable to attend but asked him to hand out the flyer he passed out to the group. Note: there are events on each side.

Joe

He brought up the Mid-Hudson Library System website to show the group what Vega could look like.

Library Calendar – 19 libraries have signed on. He noted that we should be able to integrate those with the other 7 libraries who already have it on their own.

Judith

She emailed the group a couple of weeks ago regarding a partnership with UAlbany and have heard from a couple of interested member libraries. If you too are interested, please let her know.

She reached out to the most common day-hab groups and 5 out of the 6 enthusiastically responded. They are very excited to meet with us on May 15. If you have an issue or question that you'd like specifically addressed, please email her. J. Dugas Hughes has offered her service for QuickBooks online training on Thursday, April 27.

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

The DA took the time to each say something to / about T. Burke and presented him with a gift... of custom pair UHLS suspenders! For the record: the majority of them are wearing suspenders.

Temporary patron bans in patron records: A. Nicolay noted that APL has drafted some standard language around loss of privileges for temporary bans. It reads: "Loss of privileges at all APL branches until [date] and the name/location issuing message." Should be a message so that it pops up for all staff to see. It was asked if anyone issues permanent bans? Consensus was no, only a year at the time with the option to review on a year to year basis.

Sub clerks: A. Powarzynski asked if there was still a list of substitute clerks. J. Wines had sent something out maybe 2 years ago and she can send it out again.

M. Tacke asked if all Rensselaer County Civil Service libraries should meet. Yes! G. Kirkpatrick offered to do a short presentation on the Civil Service HELPS program before the May 2nd meeting.

Committee Reports

UHLS Board & Finance Committee – J. Burke noted that the board had a good discussion regarding the evaluation processes moving forward for both the incoming executive director and UHLS board. Plan of service satisfaction survey results will be shared soon to the DA.

UHLS Administration Committee – No meeting

UHLS Services Committee – No meeting

Equity Committee – A. Nicolay welcomed Sarah Kerr-Mace to the committee. They had reviewed the GRAF write-up of their facilities report along with a couple other reports that were submitted. Out of the 21 participating libraries, only 2 were missing reports from the quarterly check-ins. The next meeting is Thurs. April 24.

Automation Advisory Committee – No meeting

Central Library Advisory Committee – No meeting

eContent Advisory Committee – G. Kirkpatrick handed out a spending spreadsheet. There have been a lot of individual discussions regarding Hoopla – the committee will have some data to present to the DA soon.

Open Forum / Library Status Updates

Next meeting we'll discuss officers positions.

12:07PM meeting adjourned.

Next meeting to be held in person at UHLS with a hybrid option available Friday, May 2 at 10AM.