



UPPER HUDSON LIBRARY SYSTEM

Together. For Better Libraries.

Chair: Pete Petruski

Vice Chair: Elisa Valente

Secretary: Whitney Gitman

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

Directors' Association

Date: January 2, 2025

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

Hybrid meeting called to order by P. Petruski at 10:01AM.

Minutes

MOTION: N. Matulis moved to accept the December 5th, 2025 minutes. E. Valente seconded. Passed.

Updates from UHLS

Chris

A replacement product has been identified for the NYS Annual Report. The roll-out date is still unknown, but the New York State Librarian indicated that it should not impact the disbursement of funds. Jona will compile the UHLS financial portion of the report and get it to everyone. New directors can contact Jona or Chris with questions.

There's a Trustee Handbook Bookclub meeting on 1/27/26, as well as a webinar on library construction projects on 3/3/26. Library Advocacy Day will be on 2/3/26, with Pre-Advocacy Day on 2/2/26. NYLA requires registration for Advocacy Day - be sure to sign up. There will be a PAC fundraiser the night before.

Jona will be doing invoicing this coming week. E-commerce payments will be coming through the bins. Reminder - if you want to send UHLS payments through the bins, they get there faster, and they can be set with attention to Jona.

Mary:

There's a Summer Reading Program children's program workshop happening on 2-9 and a teen workshop on 3/11. The workshops will be recorded, and you must register. On 3/19, there's a Storytime Palooza Book Share in person at UHLS.

Judith

The Wall Street Journal unlimited access is all set, and Judith will be sending out promotional material. ComicsPlus uses "Home Library" for authentication. This may change. The sheet with individual library URLs has gone out. There will also be a program swap revolving around people with dementia and their caregivers on 1/11/26.

Joe:

Discover is live! Pay online is not working currently. The "save" lists were moved over in October and then had to be deleted and reimported. It's being worked on. Any old Encore links can't be fully redirected until Encore is completely gone. Many pages will need to be readjusted. Catalog computers will need to be changed to Discover.

Old Business:

K. Roppolo advises that everyone check their public budget vote numbers after the confusion with the Stephentown Library budget vote.

New Business:

G. Kirkpatrick recommends that every library have an AED available that staff are trained to use. Local EMS may be able to help fund the purchase and train staff. The Troy Savings Bank has grants for AEDs. Important note - there are replaceable parts that need to be kept up with in order for the AED to function.

The East Greenbush Library is experiencing a roof leak in one of the brand new offices and the Children's Room. L. Neuman says everyone should double-check that their libraries are properly insured for the full value of the building.

Committee Reports:

UHLS Board & Finance Committee – No meeting

UHLS Administration Committee – No meeting

UHLS Services Committee – No meeting

Equity Committee –

Automation Advisory Committee – No meeting

Central Library Advisory Committee – No meeting

eContent Advisory Committee – Everyone is at 100% contribution thanks to the new Mystery and Romance e-collections.

Open Forum / Library Status Updates

Castleton, Rensselaer, Menands, and Grafton are sunsetting Hoopla.

Many libraries fear that Midwest Tape is in decline. There is a shared experience with Ingram not being responsive. Barnes & Noble does not appear to be a convenient replacement for Baker & Taylor. Amazon is making moves to be a vendor for libraries.

N. Matulis announces that on 1/11/26 at 3PM, the Diver Library's Let's Make A Song recordings will be airing on the radio, and there will be a listening party at the library. He encourages others to tune in.

The Colonie Library has released 50th Anniversary merch with great success. They used Janway. E. Valente will send out an email for anyone interested in producing merch for their library.

J. Weston asked about where to get Labor Law posters. They are currently on the NYS Website for free.

The next meeting will be held on Friday, February 6th, at 10AM.

MOTION: M. Tacke motioned to adjourn. G. Kirkpatrick seconded. Passed

11:12 AM meeting adjourned.