



UPPER HUDSON LIBRARY SYSTEM

Together. For Better Libraries.

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O	BRUN – Sara Hopkins	O	RVLL – Patrick Wynne
IP	CAST – Melissa Tacke	IP	SNLK - Melinda Fowler
	COHS – Ray LeMay		SCHG - Nick Matulis
IP	COLN – Elissa Valente	IP	STEP - Kim Roppolo
IP	EGRN - Jill Dugas Hughes		TROY – Tim Furgal
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IP	GUIL – Pete Petruski	IP	VOOR – Sarah Clark
	HOOF – Mary Lucey	IP	WTVT – Whitney Gitman
IP	MEND – Sarah Kerr-Mace	IP	WSTR – Amy Powarzynski
O	NASS – Tracey Clague	O	UHLS – Chris Sagaas

Directors' Association

Date: April 3, 2026

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

Meeting called to order by P. Petruski at 10:04 AM.

Minutes

MOTION: E. Valente moved to accept the March 6th, 2026 minutes.
M. Tacke seconded. Passed.

Updates from UHLS

Chris: There will be a WCAG Training at UHLS on April 15th & 16th. Register online!

Thank you to those who replied to the Plan of Service satisfaction survey.

There will be test questions for DLD's new minimum standard requirements. Training sessions for the new requirements will be announced in April. This also serves as an internal survey of who has what.

Dr. John L. Flateau Voting & Elections Database of New York Act update - All election results will become what populates a database with election results. School district libraries that run their own elections will have to report their own results.

The deadline to register for Spring on the Hill is May 1st.

Mary: Storytime Bootcamp with UHLS and MVLS is happening on April 15th. Register on the UHLS website.

Sixteen libraries are offering the virtual parenting program on April 22nd.

The YSAC meeting is coming up on April 21st.

Mary's farewell party is on April 29th from 1 pm to 3 pm.

Jona: 12 out of 29 Annual Reports have been turned in! If there are any weird glitches, let Jona know and she'll talk to DLD. The due date to have reports to Jona is April 6th. If you can't meet that deadline, let her know. Reports are due to DLD by April 16th.

Annual Narrative Report Questions will not be going out until the end of April. They will not be ready for the June 10 annual party at Love Albany.

Judith: Senior Planet; today is the day to sign up for the April training. The training will be offered quarterly. There's \$30,000 in funding coming from United Way to support this. There are two sets of laptops and iPads to be shared between libraries that are coming in.

ILL holdings were previously inaccurate and hopefully now will be updated with OCLC. Things shouldn't change with billing for libraries that have their own OCLC accounts.

April 12th is the Forming Friends game, focused on starting a new friends group or improving on an existing one.

There's an adult program swap for America 250 in April.

May 6th is the Hearing Loss Association training on how to best serve people with hearing loss. Register on the UHLS calendar. If the calendar isn't working, tell Judith.

There will also be a 5 Months of Reader's Advisory virtual program focused on traditional library skills.

Joe: 400,000 records were moved to OCLC. We should get fewer requests for things we don't own. We no longer have access to Sky River. We can build a link from OCLC to Sierra - import is immediate. Accounts are being created for cataloging Council Members. Things are smooth!

Joe is monitoring website attacks and has shut down access to our websites from outside the US. It can be turned back on if needed. There are constant attacks from hackers and bots.

Old Business:

Mary's job posting closes today. Interviews will go through April. There are lots of good candidates.

New Business

WCAG - website accessibility. The April deadline for compliance is coming up. APL's attorney has questions about whether they fall under the 2027 compliance deadline instead of the 2026 deadline. APL is getting a quote from a web host to see how much it will cost. Bethlehem Library believes the 2027 deadline applies to them and are working on it for next year as this is a self-regulating compliance. Colonie will be sharing its accessible template for board documents.

Committee Reports

UHLS Board & Finance Committee – No meeting

UHLS Administration Committee – No Meeting

UHLS Services Committee – No meeting but looked at Annual Awards submissions!

Equity Committee – Revered Westerlo's submissions. Wonderful equity improvements are being made. Berne's submissions were reviewed. The next Getting it Done session is in May (will resume Programming Part 2).

Automation Advisory Committee – No meeting. Proposal to meet about Vega complaints. Idea: keep a list of complaints/problems and see if we as a system can solve any of them. Joe suggests we check other Discover sites to see if they have solved any of the same issues. A. Nicolay suggests a Google Form for staff so we can keep a log of encountered problems.

The Committee is looking for new members. Interest date is June 1st.

Central Library Advisory Committee – No meeting

eContent Advisory Committee – There are dead Overdrive records for items that people are looking for but that we can't buy. There's been discussion about shifting the holds to available versions. Hoopla records are being taken out of Discover. UHLS is managing Hoopla accounts right now but there is the possibility for libraries to manage their own accounts. There's a statewide push for the Palace Project.

Open Forum

Brunswick had the Capital Region Hearing Loss Association come and do free hearing screenings for patrons and it was a success!

APL is going for a tax cap override for a 17% increase. Prior to this, the board has kept the increases low and it's catching up with Albany Public. If the increase doesn't pass, branches will have to close.

Westerlo is preparing their long range plan and sent out a survey. They received many nice comments.

Guilford's annual book sale is happening- if UHLS members want to take stuff when it's over, let Pete know.

Castleton's Friends' Group is holding a fundraiser on April 18th!

East Greenbush is holding its first EG Con on April 11th!

Berne's book sale was successful. They doubled their revenue from last year.

Colonie recommends the Lost Radio Rounders as America 250 program performers and will share information.

The next meeting will be held Friday, May 1st at 10 AM.

MOTION: S. Clark motioned to adjourn. S. Kerr-Mace seconded. Passed

11:57 AM meeting adjourned.