

Services Committee February 20, 2008

PRESENT: Erin Apostol, Robert Jaquay, Mary Muller, LouAnne Lundgren, Philip Ritter, Heidi Fuge

EXCUSED: Lois Prenovost

ABSENT: Michael Borges

3:30 PM Meeting called to order by E. Apostol, Chair.

I. OUTREACH MINI-GRANTS

E. Apostol reviewed the recommendations from the Coordinated Outreach Advisory Council. She noted that, this year, the grant applications were exceptionally well-written and well done. She credited Jo-Ann Benedetti for the quality of the applications due to her grant-writing workshop in December. The Advisory Council worked hard in their evaluations and their written responses to the grants should prove useful to the libraries. The Council received applications totaling \$41,272.95. Total funds available were: \$36,479.

The Advisory Council's recommendations (totaling \$35,934) are as follows:

• Albany	\$3,000	• Guilderland	\$1,870
• Altamont	\$2,026	• Cheney	\$ 925
• Berne	\$ 676	• Nassau	\$1,400
• Bethlehem	\$2,950	• RCS	\$2,382
• Brunswick	\$1,410	• Rensselaer	funding denied
• Castleton	\$2,600	• Rensselaerville	\$1,260
• Cohoes	\$2,325	• Troy	\$2,450
• Wm. K. Sanford	\$3,000	• Voorheesville	\$2,345
• East Greenbush	\$3,000	• Watervliet	\$2,315

Consensus to recommend that the Board accept the Advisory Council's recommendations.

II. LSTA - EXPLORE YOUR SHORE

P. Ritter presented a summary of the Explore Your Shore invitational grant. UHLS was invited to submit an application for a pre-determined amount of funds. Mary Fellows developed the grant in conjunction with the Youth Services Advisory Council. Due to the quick turnaround time, the grant has not been presented to the Directors Association for their review. R. Jaquay noted that this seemed to be a good project and supported the submission of the grant application. Consensus to recommend that the Board approve the submission of this grant application.

III. COURIER SERVICE

P. Ritter reported that there have been tremendous problems with the courier service and it has been extremely frustrating. He noted that the major source of the problem has been that Velocity is using contract drivers over which they have no control rather than company employees. UHLS can cancel the contract with Velocity with 60 days notice to the company. He and Jo-Ann Benedetti have been talking with other courier companies including Custom Courier Solutions. The next step would be to develop and send out an RFP for courier services with specific information about UHLS' expectations. This RFP would be for a stand-alone service, UHLS would no longer continue with the unified system with SALS, MVLS and CDLC. The unified system, although good in theory, has not been of tremendous value to the member libraries.

Discussion. M. Muller noted that the delivery is a critical service to the members and she suggested that the Committee should recommend that the Board authorize P. Ritter to look for alternatives to the current courier system and to develop and send out an RFP for services. Consensus to make this recommendation.

NEXT MEETING: Wednesday, March 12th at 3:30 PM

Heidi A. Fuge
2/21/08