



UPPER HUDSON LIBRARY SYSTEM

Together. For Better Libraries.

SERVICES COMMITTEE

November 13, 2013

PRESENT: LouAnne Lundgren, Daniel Curtis, Brian Hartson, Richard Naylor, Mary Muller, Marie Stasiak, Tim Burke, Heidi Fuge

3:30 PM – Meeting called to order by L. Lundgren, Chair

I. CONSTRUCTION GRANT GUIDELINES

Discussion regarding the Guidelines developed by the Services Committee for reviewing the grant applications. The Guidelines were last revised in 2012 when the 75% matching phrase was added. T. Burke asked if these are these the Guidelines that the Committee wants to retain going forward? He handed out copies of the guidelines that are used by other library systems.

M. Muller noted that the Committee composition is fortuitous for this particular discussion since there is a good representation of the different size libraries. She also thanked R. Naylor for his work on reviewing the Guidelines and making valuable suggestions.

Further discussion. D. Curtis noted that he wants to make sure that any decisions made regarding the Construction Grant applications are backed up by policy. It is then easier to make explanations to the libraries regarding those decisions.

T. Burke reported that, according to DLD, since the 75% matching was instituted, more projects are being funded and less money being turned back or refused.

R. Naylor noted that the libraries need to decide on their project priorities and realize that very large projects (\$1million) are not possible solely with this grant because the UHLS allocation would not support it; however it is possible to use the availability of the grant to seek additional funding from their community when they make the point that grant funds alone will not support a major project.

T. Burke asked if the Committee wanted to consider granting larger amounts. This would decrease the number of projects that would be funded but might help with larger projects. R. Naylor noted that this would again come down to priorities: which would be more valuable - a large carpet project or a project that would enlarge a library?

T. Burke will begin a draft of the guidelines for further review and discussion. He asked the Committee members to contact him if they have any more suggestions or ideas. Discussion regarding the revised amounts for the 2013 Construction Grant allocations. Consensus that L. Lundgren will report the new allocations to the Board and note that they were approved by the Committee via email. T. Burke contacted all of the grant applicants to make sure that their projects were still doable with the revised grant amounts.

II. CENTRAL LIBRARY AID BUDGET

Committee members reviewed the Proposed 2014 Budget developed by the Central Library Advisory Committee. T. Burke noted that the Proposed Budget was approved by the Albany Public Library Board of Trustees on 11/12/13 and reviewed by the Directors Association. The bulk of the funds are slated for e-content and the payment of the OverDrive subscription fee. The budget also continues to support staffing at APL for Collection Development. In addition, there is a flexible \$5,000 that could be used for pilot projects that would benefit the member libraries.

R. Naylor noted that the advent of ebooks has allowed libraries to share their resources even more than in the past. This gives all of the libraries a chance to take part in the digitization technology which is the right thing to do at this time.

M. Stasiak noted that the Brunswick library conducted a community survey that showed very clearly the popularity of, and desire for, econtent. The Library needs to better publicize the availability of these.

MOTION:

R. Naylor moved to recommend that the UHLS Board accept the Proposed 2014 Central Library Aid Budget. D. Curtis seconded. Unanimous.

Heidi A. Fuge
11/15/13