



UPPER HUDSON LIBRARY SYSTEM

Together. For Better Libraries.

SERVICES COMMITTEE

September 9, 2015

PRESENT: LouAnne Lundgren, Mary Muller, Marie Stasiak, Phil Erlich, Scott Jarzombek, Tim Burke, Heidi Fuge

EXCUSED: Alison Calacone

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

I. CONSTRUCTION GRANT APPLICATIONS

Committee members reviewed the 11 Construction Grant applications totaling \$998,309. UHLS has \$444,453. to allocate. Extensive discussion regarding several different formulas for determining the funding amounts. T. Burke noted that traditionally UHLS has always tried to give every applicant some funding. When the funds are allocated in this manner, it sometimes means that some of the applicant libraries might not be able to complete their project because there isn't enough money.

T. Burke handed out a chart that he used to score the grant requests using the UHLS criteria. At the request of the Committee Chair, he prepared a spreadsheet showing the Construction Grant awards over the last three years. S. Jarzombek pointed out that the Awards spreadsheet was weighted against the larger libraries since they had more money and could apply for larger grants and that this should not be used against them in determining future allocations. T. Burke explained that the spreadsheet was prepared for reference only.

Lively discussion. It was noted that the RCS grant request for \$412,500 to purchase their building was considerably larger than any of the other requests. S. Jarzombek said that, in his opinion, the RCS Library should be looking at a bond vote rather than using Construction grant funds and a bank loan.

It was decided not to fund the RCS request and to fund other requests at either 50% or slightly higher. T. Burke was asked to create the final allocation chart. If there are any libraries that cannot undertake their projects at the lower award, which would result in more funds to allocate, it was decided that the Committee members would give further consideration to the RCS application. However, T. Burke will have to consult with DLD to see if the RCS project would constitute an unmet need if it was not funded at all or if this would mean that it would no longer be eligible for consideration this year. Consensus to report the funding decision for the 10 libraries to the UHLS Board for approval.

Note: the final allocations were charted the day after the Committee meeting, and are as follows:

Albany Public Library	\$27,941	51.74%
Arvilla E. Diver Library (SCGH)	\$10,679	51.74%
Berne Public Library	\$7,448	51.74%
Grafton Community Library	\$9,842	51.74%
Guilderland Public Library	\$117,500	50%
RCS Community Library	\$0	0%
Rensselearville Library	\$9,883	51.74%
Stephentown Memorial Library	\$31,287	51.74%
Troy Public Library	\$165,578	51.74%
Voorheesville Public Library	\$12,552	50%
Westerlo Public Library	\$51,743	51.74%