

MHLS Directors' Association  
Minutes of Meeting – Wednesday, March 6, 2013

Attendance

Columbia County

Chatham: Bachrack  
Claverack: Alderdice  
Germantown: Place  
Hillsdale: Briggs  
Hudson:  
Kinderhook: Giraldo  
Livingston:  
New Lebanon: Bogino  
North Chatham: Kurashige  
Philmont: Garafalo  
Valatie:

Dutchess County

Amenia:  
Beacon: Keaton  
Beekman: Rodriguez  
Clinton:  
Dover Plains:  
East Fishkill: Goverman  
Fishkill:  
Hyde Park: Callahan  
LaGrange: Karim  
Millbrook: Barnard  
Millerton:  
Pawling: Priest  
Pine Plains: Hill  
Pleasant Valley: Pulice  
Poughkeepsie: Lawrence  
Red Hook: Freudenberger  
Rhinebeck: Cook  
Rhinecliff: Meyer  
Staatsburg: Rothman  
Stanford:  
Tivoli: Corrado  
Wappingers:

Greene County

Athens:  
Cairo:  
Catskill: Ray  
Coxsackie: Deubert  
Greenville:  
Haines Falls:  
Hunter:  
Windham:

MHLS Staff

Advocate  
Drake  
Nyerges  
Smith Aldrich

Putnam County

Brewster:  
Carmel: Buck  
Cold Spring:  
Garrison: Donick  
Kent: Rees  
Mahopac: Kaufman  
Patterson: Haar  
Putnam Valley: McLaughlin

Guest(s)

Ulster County

Esopus: Tomaseki  
Highland: Kelsall-Dempsey  
Hurley:  
Kingston: Menard  
Marlboro:  
Milton:  
New Paltz: Giralico  
Phoenicia:  
Pine Hill:  
Plattekill: Georghiou  
Rosendale:  
Saugerties:  
Stone Ridge: Ford  
Ulster: Johnson  
West Hurley:  
Olive-West Shokan: Scott-Childress  
Woodstock:

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**Call to Order:** Chair Rees called the meeting order at 10:00 a.m.

Action Items

1. **Approval of Minutes – February 6, 2013:** Alderdice moved, Lawrence seconded and it was **UNANIMOUSLY VOTED** to approve the minutes of the previous meeting as presented.
2. **Mandatory Attendance for Directors for 'Essential Elements of Collection Development' workshops:** Lawrence moved, Kelsall- Dempsey seconded. Menard changed wording to "Five sessions (one in each county) of the Essential Elements of Collection Development workshop will be held and that there is a mandatory attendance requirement for every library director. **Directors are invited to bring any staff members they choose to.**" The motion was approved with 30 in favor, 6 opposed, and 2 abstentions.

Reports

1. **MHLS Reports**

- a. **Executive Director:** Nyerges reviewed his printed report distributed prior to the meeting. In addition, he expanded on the following:
  - i. Advocacy day was successful, most representatives were visited. Important to consider next 10 days to get in touch with your representatives. They are trying to approve a budget by March 21. Senate said it would support an additional \$3 million to the proposed budget bill and encouraged us to reach out to assembly to match that. Reach out to assembly, especially democratic representatives.
  - ii. CIPA hearing on Saturday, March 9 at 10am.
  - iii. Catalog enhancement Novelist Select, recommended by Central Library Advisory Committee, coming out in March.
  - iv. Why libraries matter. David Vinjamuri was brand manager for Coca Cola and spoke at the Advocacy Day rally. He recently wrote two columns for Forbes--one in December 2012, the other in January 2013-- that are must-reads for anyone working in the public library community.
- b. **Consultants**
  - i. **Merribeth Advocate:** See report in DA packet. In addition, she reported the following:
    1. Annual reports, 2 libraries already done (Kent finished first, Dover also completed). New question asks for total amount paid for consultants. The questions about program attendance are divided up. When

making corrections or reviewing with the Edit check, it doesn't go away when you're done. It will turn from red to green. The March 26 deadline is hard and fast. MHLS has then less than 2 weeks to authenticate reports before they can be submitted to State. Local funding is tied to submittal of the reports, so the sooner we get them in, the sooner we get in the queue for our funding and it gets delivered to us. Overdrive monthly statistics are posted on the number of new patrons, ebook circulation and audio book circulation. Directors do not need to add those numbers into annual report circulation statistics, they have already been included.

2. Early Literacy directive from State is positioning libraries to be an integral part of the education system. Literacy webinars focus on how early literacy is a foundation for school success. One person from each library should view webinar. The webinar will be shown three times: March 13 & 28, and April 23. There will be a group viewing in the MHLS Auditorium on March 28.
  3. Jeremy from NYLA asked us to get opinions from directors about changing the LA training program. It has always been offered through community college or state school. They are considering starting to offer it though the systems, updating the curriculum, and significantly dropping the price. Instructors would probably be same. NYLA sponsored CE credits.
  4. Reminder that if your library is contacted directly by an inmate, don't respond directly. Contact MHLS and they will handle it.
  5. Workforce survey will be sent out next week. Takes about 6 minutes to answer. Questions about workforce opportunity, internet use, job searching.
- ii. **Rebekkah Smith Aldrich:** See report in DA packet. In addition, she reported the following:
1. Thanks to everyone who sent people to advocacy workshops. 50-60+ new advocates were trained!
  2. Chair of Civil Service Task Force for NYLA will offer a workshop if interested, a Civil Service 101 class.
  3. Apologize for Library Aware vendor contacting us. MHLS will pilot this program for a year, Kerstin will take the lead on this. There will be training in every county. Every library will have your own product. More information coming.
  4. Tax cap filing deadline. There is a hard deadline for those operating on a school fiscal year, but for those operating on a calendar fiscal year this no hard deadline, usually when you adopt budget, so late November.
- iii. **Robert Drake:** See report in DA packet. In addition, he reported the following:
1. 22 libraries have had the Sierra training sessions, which will continue for the next 3 weeks. If there is a weather issue, close the library and email Robert to reschedule your Sierra training.
- iv. **Eric McCarthy:** Not present. See report in DA packet.

2. **MHLS Board Liaison:** No report.

3. **Advisory Committees**

- a. Central Library/Collection Development: No report. Next meeting is March 27<sup>th</sup>.
- b. Continuing Education/Professional Development: No report. Next meeting is May 20<sup>th</sup>.
- c. Marketing: No report. Next meeting is March 15<sup>th</sup>.
- d. Resource Sharing: No report. Next meeting was pushed back to April 16<sup>th</sup> to accommodate Sierra training.
- e. System Funding Task Force: Discussed power of the system to force libraries to do anything, i.e., pay for a database. Also, discussed how best to make libraries and boards aware of looming financial issues, including notifying them of potential fee increases as early as possible. The goal is to get as much information that affects budgets to libraries as soon as possible.

**Old Business:**

1. **2013 Revised Member Assessment Schedule:** The member assessment is meant to provide a worst case budgeting scenario for member libraries. We will have a draft in view in April, but that's too late for June or July 1 budgets. No indication that fees are going up. Advocate will send out updated/revised 2013 revised member assessment today.

**New/Proposed Business:**

1. **Potential merging of MHLS System Funding Task Force with MHLS System Services Ad Hoc Committee:** Rees noted that these committees need new mission/direction. If we proceed with this merger, we would want to make it a full-fledged permanent advisory committee with county membership requirements. Tom suggested that each county have up to 2 representatives. Advocate noted that both were established as temporary committees, and we need a permanent venue for these discussions. Will make a formal proposal next month.

2.

**Information:**

1. Tracy Priest, the new Director of the Pawling Library, was formally introduced and welcomed to the DA.
2. Advocate reminded directors that April 11 is deadline for Summer Reading grants.

**Adjournment:** Lawrence moved, Alderdice seconded and it was **UNANIMOUSLY VOTED** to adjourn the meeting. The meeting adjourned at 11:44 a.m.

The next meeting of the MHLS Directors' Association is scheduled for **Friday, April 5<sup>th</sup>** beginning at 10:00 a.m.

Respectfully submitted,

AnnaLee Giraldo  
Kinderhook Memorial Library

**2013 Meeting Dates**

Friday, April 5<sup>th</sup>  
Thursday, May 2<sup>nd</sup>  
Monday, June 3<sup>rd</sup>  
Wednesday, July 24<sup>th</sup>  
Monday, September 9<sup>th</sup>  
Friday, October 4<sup>th</sup>  
Wednesday, October 3<sup>rd</sup>  
Thursday, November 7<sup>th</sup> (snow date: 11/8)  
Friday, December 6<sup>th</sup>