

*** DRAFT ***

**MHLS Directors' Association
Minutes of Meeting – Tuesday, February 7, 2012**

Attendance

Columbia County

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

Dutchess County

Amenia:
Beacon: Keaton
Beekman: Rodriguez
Clinton:
Dover Plains: Totter
East Fishkill:
Fishkill: Spann
Hyde Park: Callahan
LaGrange: Karim
Millbrook: Rogers
Millerton: Leo
Pawling: Jarzombek
Pine Plains:
Pleasant Valley:
Poughkeepsie: Lawrence
Red Hook: Freudenberger
Rhinebeck: Cook
Rhinecliff: Meyer
Staatsburg:
Stanford: Christensen
Tivoli:
Wappingers: Gonzalez

Greene County

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

MHLS Staff

Advocate
Aldrich
Nyerges
Shedrick

Putnam County

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

Guest(s)

Ulster County

Esopus: Tomaseski
Highland: Kelsall-Dempsey
Hurley:
Kingston:
Marlboro:
Milton: Skelly
New Paltz:
Phoenicia: Priest
Pine Hill:
Plattekill:
Rosendale:
Saugerties: Goswami
Stone Ridge:
Ulster: Johnson
West Hurley:
Olive-West Shokan:
Woodstock:

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

Action Items

1. **Approval of Minutes – January 5, 2012:** Lawrence moved, Alderdice seconded and it was **UNANIMOUSLY VOTED** to approve the minutes of the previous meeting as presented.

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. **AUTOMATION COORDINATOR:** Eric McCarthy has been hired as the Automation Coordinator of the Mid-Hudson Library System. Mr. McCarthy currently serves overseas as the Electronic Resources, Training and Outreach Librarian in support of libraries in four countries under the United States Army Library Program. He joins Mid-Hudson on March 12, 2012. Mike thanked Merribeth Advocate and Julie Dempsey who served on the search committee with Mike and Robert Drake, Linda Vittone, Kit Kassel and Karen O'Brien.
 - ii. **STATE ADVOCACY AND STATE FUNDING:** Mike met with Senator Saland regarding state funding and argued that libraries should be on parity with schools. Although Senator Saland does support libraries he advised that parity with schools is not going to happen.
 - iii. **RECONVENING THE SYSTEM FUNDING TASK FORCE:** At the last meeting of the MHLS BOT there was some discussion as to whether populations of unserved areas with contracts, formal or implied, should be applied to the calculation of member assessments. This issue has been referred to the System Funding Task Force.
 - iv. **EXECUTIVE DIRECTOR GOALS:** Mike listed his goals for the coming year in his written report and asked for suggestions as well as comments. Comments can be sent directly to Mike or if you would prefer forward all comments to your county chair to send to Mike.

- v. **THANK YOU TO MHLS STAFF:** Mike thanked all of the MHLS staff for their continued excellent work, especially in light of the staff cutbacks and additional work needed during Annual Report time without an Automation Coordinator.
- vi. **MHLS BOT:** Mike reiterated the Board's commitment to visiting local library boards.

b. **Consultants**

i. **Merribeth Advocate:** See report in DA packet. In addition, she reported the following:

1. **Annual Report Update:** Merribeth has fielded 82 questions related to the Annual Report. Merribeth and other MHLS staff were able to put together the information for the individual libraries. Everyone involved in developing this data is no longer working at MHLS. Please continue to call if you have questions. The Reports are due by February 17th.
2. **Next Reads:** Next Reads will be replacing Book letters. MHLS will make the transition when Robert returns from vacation. Merribeth warned that Book Letters may try and contact individual directors to buy the book letter widgets after we switch to Next Reads. If a password is necessary for Next Reads for those people who already get emails from Book Letters it will be mhls1234, but they are hoping this won't be necessary. MHLS will keep us advised. They expect a smooth transition.
3. **OverDrive:** Patrons can now return audio books early.
4. **EBooks:** Merribeth's report should read "At this point it looks like the OverDrive eBook statistics for the month of January 2012 equals 3months of 2011 activity.
5. **Book Banquets:** 3 county book banquets have been scheduled with county Boces groups: The Ulster County Banquet is March 27th, Dutchess County April 19th and a tentative date for Putnam County is May 9th.

ii. **Rebekkah Smith Aldrich:** See report in DA packet. In addition, she reported the following:

1. **State Funding:** The good news is that the Governor reneged on his 10% cut for library funding this year but the bad news is that library finding remains flat and we will not be getting the increase promised to schools.

2. **MHLS Board Liaison:** The MHLS BOT met on January 24th. See report from the D/A liaison, Erica Freudenberger, in the packet. There were no questions for Erica.

3. **Advisory Committees**

- a. **Central Library/Collection Development:** This committee met on January 13th. The report is in the D/A packet. The chair, Margie Menard, was not present.
- b. **Continuing Education/Professional Development:** No report.
- c. **Marketing:** No report.
- d. **Resource Sharing:** No Report. This committee meets at the end of February.

Old Business: None.

New/Proposed Business

1. **Extra \$100 for OverDrive:** The Central Library Committee suggested that member libraries each contribute \$100 towards more eBooks. This is in addition to the amount contributed through the annual database cost share. An across the board contribution of \$100 was collected in 2011. The additional \$6600 in 2012 would bring us up to what we spent in 2011 for eBooks. There was some discussion that this should be prorated by the size of the library and not an across the board \$100 fee, since one hundred dollars is a much bigger percentage of a small library's budget.
2. **Revisions to OverDrive Collection Development Guidelines:** There are currently 10029 patrons registered with OverDrive. The average wait for a book is 15 days. The Guidelines currently state that "the % spent on eBooks and on audio books will be annually determined by a vote of the D/A (currently 60% Audio. 40% eBooks). There was a discussions if it would be better to do away with a % and purchase according to demand and wait times.

Information

1. **Revised 2012 Database Charts** – the new chart is in the packet. There is no change in the charges with the change from Book Letters to Next Reads.
2. **Updated 2012 Assessment Chart** -Everyone should see a reduction from the earlier charts since Central Library was able to contribute \$40,000. This was not included in the original chart since CL did not know if the funding from the State would come through.

Adjournment: Kellsall-Dempsey moved, Goswami seconded and it was **UNANIMOUSLY VOTED** to adjourn the meeting. The meeting adjourned at 11:40 a.m.

The next meeting of the MHLS Directors' Association is scheduled for **Thursday, March 1st** (snow date: Friday March 2nd) beginning at 10:00 a.m.

Respectfully submitted,

Linda Deubert, Secretary
Heermance Memorial Library

Future 2012 Meeting Dates

Thursday, March 1 (snow date: Friday, March 2)
Wednesday, April 4
Friday, May 1
Thursday, June 7
Tuesday, July 10
Monday, August 6 (if needed)
Friday, September 7
Wednesday, October 3
Thursday, November 1 (snow date: Friday, November 2)
Friday, December 7