Liaison Report to DA from MHLS Board Meeting  
May 11, 2011  
Philmont Public Library

Trustees Present:

X Baker Brill, Lisa (Greene)  
☐ Benson, Steve (Columbia)  
X Benton Profera, Caroline (Greene)  
X Bickford, John (Dutchess)  
☐ Conine, Bill (Greene)  
X Ehnebuske, Jean (Putnam)  
☐ Hoffmann, Peter (Ulster)  
X MacNish, Steve (Dutchess)  
X Miller, Martin (Putnam)  
X Miller, Patricia (Putnam)  
X Minor, Michael (Ulster)  
☐ Patterson, Roland (Dutchess)  
X Schnitzer, Janet (Columbia)  
☐ Rhoads, Sally (Ulster)  
X Tuttle, Jim (Columbia)  

Staff Present: Advocate, Aldrich, Nyerges, Shedrick, Vittone, Winn  
Directors Present: Freudenberger (Red Hook Public Library), Sally Alderdice (Claverack), Karen Garafalo (Philmont Public Library)  
Visitors: Janet Huen (PPLD), Lauren Muffs (PPLD), Matthew Perry (Trustee, Philmont Public Library)  

Action Items:

1. Agenda Approved (with addition of MHLS State Aid under new business)  
3. Warrants for March & April approved.  
5. Central Library Budget application approved.  
6. Authentication of 2011 LSTA Summer Reading Program Grant approved.  

Discussion Items:

1. MHLS BOT President Jim Tuttle announced the resignation of Steve Benson from the Board, introduced Matthew Perry as candidate to replace Benson.  
2. Trustee Sally Rhoads from Ulster County submitted a letter of resignation. Board will seek a replacement to fill the seat of Trustee from Ulster County.  
3. Nyerges reported on Plan of Service, commended Advocate & Aldrich for coordinating the many focus groups. A two-page summary compiling the information gathered is available on the MHLS Web site. MHLS BOT will vote on the plan in September.  
4. Nyerges reported on the updated Direct Access Plan: Approved by the DA at the May 3 meeting, will now go to MHLS BOT for a vote at the July meeting.  
5. From Nyerges: depending on the price of gasoline, MHLS may end the year in the black instead of the expected $37,000 deficit.  
6. Annual Report has been submitted to the State Comptroller.  
7. Nyerges & Aldrich report that the proposed Property Tax Cap may be passed sometime this summer.  
8. Nyerges reported that a Regents Advisory Council for Libraries has been established to develop a new statewide plan for library services. DLD is updating Electronic Doorway standards.  
9. MHLS has several maintenance issues: roofing the auditorium, painting exterior of auditorium & repaving parking lot. Nyerges suggests taking care of at least one of these this year.  
10. Due to personnel reductions at MHLS, all staff have taken on additional responsibilities and some have had job descriptions change. Nyerges recommends reviewing salaries in the fall.  
11. The transition to the second floor is complete. Only servers remain on the third floor.
12. MHLS Annual Meeting will be held from 8:30 a.m. to 12 p.m. Friday, October 28, at FDR Presidential Library & Museum. Keynote speaker will be Mike Nyerges, MHLS Executive Director. Invites will be sent by e-mail.

13. Trustee Ehnebuske reported from the MHLS Trustee Services Committee that the MHLS BOT may participate in a self-evaluation. Encouraged Trustees to visit member library boards, include board-to-board visits in upcoming Plan of Service.

14. Aldrich alerted the board to a legislative priority being promoted by NYLS to exempt public libraries from the MTA payroll tax (impacts Putnam, Dutchess & Ulster counties).

15. Laptop lab is up and running, funded from Building Your Base grant, reports Aldrich.

16. Advocate reported MHLS will be holding a number of hands-on labs to help member libraries manage Web sites hosted by MHLS; MHLS LSTA Summer Reading Program mini-grants offered to member libraries.

17. Lauren Muffs presented information about Central Library; explained focus for this year is helping member libraries update medical collections.

Next meeting 10 a.m. Saturday, July 13, at MHLS Auditorium

Respectfully submitted by Erica Freudenberger