

Liaison Report to DA from MHLS Board Meeting

December 10, 2011

MHLS Auditorium

Trustees Present:

X Baker Brill, Lisa (Greene)	X Miller, Patricia (Putnam)
X Benton Profera, Caroline (Greene)	X Minor, Michael (Ulster)
X Bickford, John (Dutchess)	X Morini, Regina (Putnam)
X Conine, Bill (Greene)	X Patterson, Roland (Dutchess)
X Ehnebuske, Jean (Putnam)	<input type="checkbox"/> Perry, Matthew (Columbia)
X Hoffmann, Peter (Ulster)	X Sameth, Myrna (Ulster)
X MacNish, Steve (Dutchess)	X Schnitzer, Janet (Columbia)
X Miller, Martin (Putnam)	X Tuttle, Jim (Columbia)

Staff Present: Peggy Winn, Linda Vittone, Mike Nyerges, Merribeth Advocate, Rebekkah Smith-Aldrich,

Directors Present: Erica Freudenberger (Red Hook)

Visitors: Mary Keelan, Linda Crow, Carl Hadden, Beverly Tas, Dolores Tillou, Frank Van Zanten

Action Items:

1. Agenda approved
2. Approval of amended Minutes of September 14, 2011 meeting
3. Approval of Minutes of October 28, 2011 meeting (Annual Meeting)
4. Financial Reports for August, September & October received
5. Audit Review Report received
6. Warrants for September, October & November received
7. HSBC designated as MHLS official Bank of Business
8. 2012 Budget Proposal approved
9. MHLS BOT Rules and Procedures amended and approved
10. Election of the Board of Officers approved
11. Approval of 2-year agreement between CSEA Local 702 and MHLS

Discussion Items:

1. Trustee Tuttle thanked all for help during his two years as President, encouraged all Trustees to donate to Foundation for Hudson Valley Libraries inc.
2. Trustee Martin Miller suggested Trustees approach service organizations in their respective counties to donate to Foundation for Hudson Valley Libraries Inc.
3. Nyerges encouraged Trustees to advocate for System services in Albany; announced resignation of Laurie Shedrick and candidate search for automation coordinator replacement ; reported that Preliminary 2012 Budget took into account:
 - a. 10% reduction in funding proposed by Governor,
 - b. one-time potential cost of \$87K for Sierra server,
 - c. \$70K in capital repairs to MHLS auditorium,
 - d. 5% increase for MHLS personnel, includes wages, salaries and benefits,
 - e. three-tier schedule of health insurance benefits to be implemented in 2012 will include retirees as well as current staff,
 - f. increased conference and travel budget.
4. Nyerges reported Annual Member Survey was completed by 79 directors & trustees (2/3 of member libraries), a significant increase from 2010. Surveys were positive, underscored the importance of the Plan of Service and the value of MHLS staff & services.

5. Trustee Bickford, chair of Personnel & Planning committee, reported that Annual Survey shows MHLS BOT need to improve outreach to member library boards.
6. Mary Keelan, representing a group of 12 MHLS retirees, thanked Nyerges and MHLS BOT for listening to the group, reiterated their concerns about retirees contributing to health care costs.
7. After resuming from Executive Session, MHLS BOT approved
 - a. 2-year agreement between MHLS & CSEA Local 702, including a one-time salary and wage adjustment according to the Executive Director's salary review.
 - b. Extended the terms of the agreement to other eligible staff
 - c. Applied the new three-tier schedule for health insurance based on salaries to retirees, using their exit salaries, with the exception of pre-2006 retirees who would contribute at the lowest rate irrespective of their exit salaries.
8. Trustee Patterson presented the 2012 Budget proposal
9. Trustee Schnitzer presented amended Rules & Procedures, encouraging BOT to meet at member libraries more than once a year.
10. Rebekkah Smith-Aldrich reported on the success of this year's Building Your Base workshops: 11 workshops w laptop lab were attended by more than 140 people, 99% reported it was worth their time.

Next meeting 10 a.m. Saturday, January 7, 2011, at Mid-Hudson Library System auditorium.

Respectfully submitted by Erica Freudenberger