

MID-HUDSON LIBRARY SYSTEM

Resource Sharing Committee

November 19, 2010

COMMITTEE MEMBERS PRESENT: Amy Raff (Woodstock), Laurie Shedrick (MHLS), Karen O'Brien (MHLS), Luisa Sabin-Kildiss (Chatham), Daniela Pulice (Pleasant Valley), Carol Rodriguez (Beekman), Jeanne Buck (Carmel), Kelly Tomaseski (Esopus)

GUESTS PRESENT: Liz Colbert (East Fishkill), Lisa Karim (LaGrange), Pat Kaufman (Mahopac), Merribeth Advocate (MHLS), Janet Huen (PPLD), Tom Lawrence (PPLD), Bonny Carrado (Tivoli)

I. CALL TO ORDER

The MHLS Resource Sharing Committee meeting was called to order by Amy Raff at 10:10am at MHLS, third floor conference room.

II. MINUTES

MOTION

Kelly Tomaseski made a motion seconded by Daniela Pulice

TO ACCEPT THE MINUTES OF THE AUGUST 18TH MEETING

AYES: 8 NOES: 0 ABSTAIN: 0

III. REVIEW OF ACTION ITEMS

There is no longer a minimum charge to pay fines via e-commerce.

IV. OLD BUSINESS

Project Gutenberg: Merribeth Advocate gave a demonstration of Project Gutenberg. Patrons have access to these 15,000 titles for free, in addition to the titles we purchased via Overdrive. These will not dilute the other collection of selected titles because these are only available via a separate link. It was recommended by Daniela Pulice and agreed upon by the committee to include the top 100 circulated titles from Project Gutenberg. This would increase our collection from 141 titles, to 241, in addition to having titles available to Kindle users. The Project Gutenberg titles will not show up on a Quick Search or on View All E-books. Users must click on the "Enjoy additional E-books Today" link. Tom Lawrence has asked for a bucket record for all Project Gutenberg titles to be created for the catalog. Daniela Pulice clarified that she would like individual records created for the Top 100 titles. Some limited circulation stats are collected by Project Gutenberg, including the number of circs and which library borrowed the particular item. Tom Lawrence recommended creating a link off of the home page for Project Gutenberg that would explain the program as well as take the patron into the site.

Pat Kaufman arrives at 10:18am.

Holds: Merribeth Advocate explains that we will be doing a holds analysis, but asks if there are any issues to be discussed prior. Daniela Pulice sums up the problem of the holds system as follows: small libraries are crying poverty, large libraries feel they are supporting the system, and the medium sized libraries are pulling their

weight. Tom Lawrence has asked that purchasing thresholds be reviewed, specifically print items vs. DVD's (see handout). Tom states that the only way to reduce delivery cost is to pull trucks off the road and Merribeth reminds everyone that that is not an option due to volume and lack of storage space at MHLS. Daniela brings up the issue of holds being placed that are not initiated by the patron. Mahopac has patrons sign up for authors they enjoy. Whenever the author publishes a new book, the staff puts the patron on the hold list. Millennium can e-mail patrons when a particular author has a new book coming out, and then the patron must initiate the hold on the particular title. Carol Rodriguez reminds the committee that MLHS would need a way to police this policy.

V. NEW BUSINESS

Paging Closed Libraries: Laurie Shedrick presents the idea of paging libraries even if they are closed. It is hoped that this would lower the cost of delivery per library because the pick-up location is the first location paged. Daniela asks for a season loan rule.

MOTION

Daniela Pulice made a motion seconded by Jeanne Buck

TO APPROVE THE PAGING OF CLOSED LIBRARIES FOR A PERIOD OF SIX MONTHS (JAN-JUN 2011) WITH THE INTENT THAT IT WILL ELIMINATE UNNECESSARY DELIVERY OF ITEMS ALREADY AT THE LOCATION

AYES: 8 NOES: 0 ABSTAIN: 0

MOTION

Jeanne Buck made a motion seconded by Carol Rodriguez

TO APPROVE THE EXTENSION OF PAGING TIMES FROM 36 TO 48 HOURS TO ALLOW LIBRARIES MORE TIME TO FILL LOCAL HOLDS IN ORDER TO ELIMINATE UNNECESSARY DELIVERY

AYES: 8 NOES: 0 ABSTAIN: 0

Loan Rules: Daniela Pulice asks if we can look again at lending rules for items going to other libraries. Toms suggests that in order for music CD's to move in a timely manner, we need to look at unifying loan rules. A suggestion was made to county representatives to bring the topic to their county meetings putting emphasis on libraries that allow music CD's to circulate more than two weeks.

Webpage: Merribeth Advocate suggests getting rid of the "Request It" link under the initial search results page. Instead the patron must click on the link to see if their home library owns it and thereby make a more informed decision. It was also recommend to remove "Save All on Page." The committee recommends Laurie make these changes to the website mockup that will be presented to the DA.

A ten minutes break was taken at 12:03pm.

Tom Lawrence leaves at 12:08pm.

Christine from Tivoli arrives at 12:19pm.

(Return to Old Business of Holds)

The meeting was called back to order at 2:13pm by Merribeth Advocate. The holds analysis asked for members of the committee to write down three of each: strengths of resource sharing, weaknesses of resource sharing, things that threaten the success of resource sharing, and opportunities available to us. Merribeth will be reporting on these findings.

The committee looked at the handout regarding member input about the hold system. Daniela Pulice suggests putting a 50 hold limit—funding has been cut and we can no longer support unlimited holds. Merribeth Advocate reminds the committee that they need to look at staff and patron perception, not necessary the real situation. The issue of smaller libraries vs. large libraries was raised again. Merribeth points out that the larger libraries cannot continue to support the very small libraries. She suggests the committee look at MHLS in terms of a business model. Kelly Tomaseski suggests the committee look into downloadable movies/music to solve many of these problems. Merribeth suggests we look at how member libraries are complying with set resource sharing guidelines. Once this data is collected the committee will draft an action memo to deal with libraries that are not complying with resource sharing standards.

Action Items:

1. Karen will create item records for each of the Top 100 Project Gutenberg titles.
2. Karen will create a bucket record for all remaining titles.
3. Laurie will create a Project Gutenberg link for the website.
4. Laurie will turn on the Page Closed Libraries feature on Millennium.
5. Laurie will extend the paging time from 36 to 48 hours.
6. Laurie will create a report of member compliance with resource sharing standards.
7. County reps will talk at their local meetings about unifying music CD's loan periods to no longer than 2 weeks.
8. Laurie will remove "Request It" and "Save All on Page" from the website mockup.

VI. FUTURE MEETINGS

- A. Courtesy Notices
- B. Damaged items for in house use
- C. Partial payment for collection agency fee

VII. ADJOURNMENT

MOTION

Amy Raff made a motion seconded by Kelly Tomaseski

THERE BEING NO FURTHER BUSINESS, THE MEETING BE ADJOURNED AT 1:58PM

AYES:8 NOES: 0 ABSTAIN: 0

Respectfully submitted,

Kelly L. Tomaseski

From the November 2010 Resource Sharing Advisory Committee meeting:

SWOT analysis of MHLs Resource Sharing

Summary

Strengths:

- Benefits patrons: Makes them happy with easy and convenient access to materials.
- Expands each library's collection: Sharing a collective collection allows for more collection diversity & expands access to unique items.
- Consortium membership benefits libraries: Successful resource sharing among member libraries is a foundation of success of a consortium.

Weaknesses:

- Cost of sharing: Cost of moving materials, damage from overuse, and staff time are all real costs to resource sharing (a system designed to save money).
- Fairness / Equity of rules: Collective 'rules' are carried out at the local level. Libraries not following the set Resource Sharing Standards are perceived as not sharing fairly, without recourse. Some rules are perceived as not supporting local needs.

Opportunities:

- Reevaluate goals of rules for equity, specifically regarding purchasing; sharing currently popular items; loan rules.
- Improve system-wide coordination of collection development. Investigate purposeful purchasing for unique items and for popular items.
- Establish a strategy for positive enhancement of consortium member benefits. Use existing committee structure and Plan of Service.

Threats:

- Limited funding for purchasing and delivery threatens the success of the current structure.
- Rule structure that exists suffers from lack of compliance with existing rules. Concerns about how to enforce rules and how to continue developing a balanced collective collection without best seller overload.