

MID-HUDSON LIBRARY SYSTEM
System Services Ad Hoc Committee Meeting

Date: 1/5/2011

Location: MHLS Conference Room

Committee members attending:

- | | |
|--|---|
| X Pat Kaufamn (Mahopac) | X Erica Freudenberger (Red Hook) |
| <input type="checkbox"/> Gloria Goverman (East Fishkill) | X Jeannie Bogino (New Lebanon) |
| X Tom Lawrence (PPLD/Poughkeepsie) | X Carol Rodriguez (Beekman) |
| X Faith Johnson (Ulster) | X Julie Kelsall (Highland) |
| X Frank Rees (Kent) | X Gillian Thorpe (Butterfield/Coldspring) |

Staff attending: Merribeth Advocate

Discussion Items:

1. Vision: Attendees each shared their vision of the work/goal of the committee:
 - a. *To evaluate what services members utilize. Determine what are important to the majority.*
 - b. *To evaluate and prioritize system services so that the best service can be provided with greatly reduced funds.*
 - c. *Ensure member libraries continue to receive the high level of service we enjoy from MHLS.*
 - d. *Decide what services are most important & allocate resources appropriately.*
 - e. *To make sure the system is viable, current & continues to move libraries forward.*
 - f. *To create something new that keeps MHLS as the premier system in NYS.*
 - g. *Devise a plan to best maximize the system's shared resources.*
 - h. *To reorganize system services to meet demands in a sustainable fashion; to recognize changes in member needs and abilities.*
 - i. *To insure the relevance of the system.*
 - j. *To have director buy-in about changes so they meet expectations & are perceived favorably (M. Advocate)*
2. Ideas: Attendees each shared a pressing concern/goal they came in with:
 - a. *Stop wasting resources.*
 - b. *No cuts to essential services.*
 - c. *Get rid of dead weight in the system & stop holding the hand of the libraries that aren't moving ahead.*
 - d. *Reduce costs of technology support.*
 - e. *Stop trying to meet all needs & focus on where the most good will be done.*
 - f. *Because I am one of the longest serving directors & bring the perspective of history.*
 - g. *Stop everything but tires & wires and then build from there.*
 - h. *Change how fees are charged & what services are offered.*
 - i. *Stop – Look at what was – Focus on what can be.*
3. Have worked for past 4 years in truly cooperative model.
4. MHLS reduction in personnel: Will pick up the pieces with the people remaining. Recommendation to "suspend" services that can no longer be provided. Whatever happens with personnel it must not impede the effectiveness of tires & wires.
5. How to improve catalog maintenance without additional centralized control.
6. ILL – cost related to overall effect t is very limited. Potentially CLDA funds could be used towards centralized collection development. Eliminate rotating collections.
7. DA participation – change DA meeting start time to 10:30 to encourage attendance.

Next meeting: Thursday, February 24 from 10:30-12:30.

Merribeth Advocate