Call to Order: Chair Giraldo called the regular meeting order at 10:00 am

A. Action Items

1. Approval of Minutes – November 12, 2014: Lawrence moved, Alderdice seconded the motion that the minutes be approved with the amendment that Robert Drake was not present at the November meeting, and it was unanimously voted to approve the minutes of the November 12 meeting as amended.

2. Discontinuation of Kids Catalog - Lawrence moved and Pulice seconded the motion that the Kids Catalog be deleted. A few librarians use the Kids Catalog in their libraries. Tom said that the retrieval of records in the Kids Catalog was not good. Nineteen voted in favor of discontinuing. The motion failed.

3. Web management reports and review files - Lawrence moved and Karen Garafalo seconded the motion that review files and web management reports which are more than 30 days old can be deleted. Anyone would be able to delete files over 30 days old. No more space for additional files can be created. Twenty-nine voted yes, the motion passed.

B. Break-Out Discussion on 2014 survey of Library Directors and Board Presidents by Mid-Hudson Library System Board to evaluate the current plan of service. The MHLS Board was looking for 2 to 5 findings, issues, etc to address, based on the data. The directors broke into several small groups to discuss the results of the survey, and each group passed in a few pages of written analysis.

C. Reports

1. MHLS Reports
   i. Executive Director: A new "moving forward" assessment studies cooperative collection development. Over 131,000 ebooks from our shared Overdrive collection circulated in 2013. The average value of an eBook download is estimated to be $12.95: that of a downloaded
audiobook is over $14.00. The value of the use of a database is calculated to be $20 per use. Interlibrary loan will be studied next. There will be training workshops in 2015 on circulation issues. There will be a pilot project for a few libraries who are willing to change policies related to circulation to see the results. The project will pair new directors with libraries who have circulation rising. Member libraries will soon receive lists of items 10 years old or older and have not circulated in 5 years.

ii. Consultants

a. Merribeth Advocate: Annual reports will be due to MHLS on Feb. 19. All appears to be on schedule.

All libraries will have access to Wandoo Reader, provided by Evanced, for the summer reading program. It is more user friendly then the basic Evanced program which has been available for a while. Libraries will have to pick which version, Wandoo Reader of the more traditional Evanced version, to use for their summer reading program.

b. Rebekkah Smith Aldrich: MHLS will work on writing a template for the required efficiency plan related to the property tax freeze. The efficiency plan will not be due until June. The Star Library's special district legislation was vetoed by the governor. He has approved legislation for several other special districts, and it is unclear why he vetoed this one.

Rebekkah will send out information on an upcoming webinar on Fiduciary Responsibility. She advises all library directors to watch it. If a board made an override resolution in case they went over the tax cap, then when they developed their budget did not go over the tax cap, they need to rescind their resolution if they want to apply for the tax cap refund. The form for this is not too onerous.

c. Robert Drake: The E-Rate form 470 will be due to be filed soon. If you want more details contact Robert Drake. The reimbursement rate for phones is decreasing. Internet access funds require Internet filtering. A technological solution is required, but what is to be filtered out is not specified. You are required to have a way to override a filter. Watch that new items with a release date are not processed and checked out before they are officially released. For four years Midhudson has been working on updating it's website, and a new website will soon be released. The search box works well.

2. MHLS Board Liaison: Rees reported that the next Mid-Hudson Board meeting will be on tomorrow morning at 10 at the MHLS office in Poughkeepsie.

3. Advisory Committees

a. Central Library/Collection Development: Training has been suggested on eBooks. It was decided not to extend the loan period to 3 weeks. Some non-fiction titles will be purchased through Central Library funds. Any library can request that requests for Overdrive titles from patrons who use their library be sent to the the library for consideration.


c. System Services and Steering Committee: Will revise bylaws in their January meeting. The revisions will be voted on in March. Rees reported that Giraldo will stay on as president and Donick as secretary during the interim period.