

MHLS Directors' Association
Minutes of Meeting – Wednesday, September 2, 2015

Columbia County

- Chatham DeLisle
- Claverack
- Germantown Place
- Hillsdale Briggs
- Hudson Chameides
- Kinderhook Giraldo
- Livingston Critchell
- New Lebanon Bogino
- N Chatham Kurashige
- Philmont Garafalo
- Valatie Powhida

Dutchess County

- Amenia Devine
- Beacon Verdibello
- Beekman Rodriguez
- Clinton McGuirk
- Dover Totter
- East Fishkill Goverman
- Fishkill Spann
- Hyde Park Callahan
- LaGrange Potwin
- Millbrook Harrison
- NE Millerton Leo
- Pawling Conklin
- Pine Plains Hill
- Pleasant Valley Pulice
- PPLD Lawrence
- Red Hook
Freudenberger
- Rhinebeck Cook
- Rhinecliff Meyer
- Staatsburg Rothman
- Stanford Christiansen
- Tivoli Corrado
- Wappingers Stein

Green County

- Athens Widrick
- Cairo Kamecke
- Catskill Ray
- Coxsackie Dubert
- Greenville Flach
- Haines Falls Garcia
- Hunter Bain
- Windham Begley

Putnam County

- Brewster Loprinzo
- Carmel Buck
- Cold Spring Thorpe
- Garrison McCreery
- Kent Donick
- Mahopac Capozzella
- Patterson Haar
- Put Valley McLaughlin

MHLS Staff

- Advocate
- Aldrich
- Drake
- Sloan

Ulster County

- Esopus Dittmar
- Highland Dempsey
- Hurley Decker
- Kingston Menard
- Marlboro Cosgrove
- Milton Skelly
- New Paltz Giralico
- Phoenicia Potter
- Pine Hill Slater
- Plattekill Georghiou
- Rosendale Alexander
- Saugerites Rees
- Stone Ridge Ford
- Ulster Priest
- W Hurley Lustiber
- W Shokan Scott-Childress
- Woodstock Kerr

Meeting called to order by Chair Rodriguez at 10:00 AM

Two new directors were introduced: Maureen Garcia of Mountain Top and Teresa McGuirk of Clinton.

A. Action Items

1. Motion by Cook, seconded by Lawrence to accept the minutes of July 14, 2015. PASSED.
2. Motion by Dempsey, seconded by Potwin that the public library boards of Beekman, Lagrange and Millbrook and the MHLS board must review the status of petitions, new funding proposal, payment and contract from the Town of Union Vale before borrowing restrictions can be lifted.

PASSED with 33 Yes; 0 Opposed; 3 Abstentions

B. Tweet Out

C. Reports

1. MHLS

i. Executive Director

1. Executive Director Sloan highlighted topics of his written report focusing on the Circulation Incubator Project. Haar and Potwin, both involved in the project, reported that they found it very interesting; Potwin reported that Lagrange is now buying duplicate copies of high demand books. More detailed reporting will be presented at the Removing Barriers Mini-Conference scheduled for later this year. Sloan also reported that MHLS is looking at program attendance and the numbers are good indicating a lot of engagement between the public and local libraries.

ii. Consultants

1. Assistant Director

Advocate supplemented her written report with several items including highlighting a three-page resource guide prepared by recipients of the Family Literacy Grant; she cautioned holders of public library certificates to check online and confirm status is marked as “active”; she provided a handout with tips for engaging digital readers; she announced that the Westchester Library System is offering a post-graduate certificate program; and she requested discarded magazines for the six correctional facilities in the MHLS service area. Advocate noted that the delivery box may not be used for transport of donated magazines. A library member requested that the policy on appropriate uses of delivery boxes be reviewed to allow magazines which would encourage donations.

2. Coordinator for Library Sustainability

Aldrich thanked Director Cook and the Board of the Rhinebeck Library for submitting enabling legislation to Governor Cuomo a second time. Now that it has been vetoed twice, larger state agencies are getting involved in determining a strategy for dealing with this unexpected situation. Aldrich also mentioned that there are two other libraries outside of MHLS which want to merge into one district and she noted that this is a different situation than Rhinebeck’s. Aldrich reminded the DA that when preparing budgets and desiring to stay in compliance with the NYS Tax Cap Law, the override can be used to proactively to safeguard against forgetting to follow procedure. Aldrich has scheduled a webinar on the tax cap for 9/30/15. She also reported that there is an internal controls policy worksheet that is downloadable from the MHLS website, and that the policy tracking spreadsheet has been upgraded.

3. Technology Operations Manager

Drake reported that he's booked a speaker to discuss changes in e-rate who may be helpful reviewing eRate procedure as POTS eligibility is phased-out. There was a suggestion from the floor that eRate will support the cost of mobile hot spots.

iii. Board Liaison - no report.

2. Advisory Committees

i. Central Library/Collection Development – 9/10

ii. Continuing Education/Professional Development – 11/10

iii. Marketing – 10/1

iv. Resource Sharing – 9/29

v. System Services Advisory – 9/2

D. New/ Proposed Business & Information

1. There was a request from the floor that directors should follow the posting guidelines to the listserves and only post topics of broad interest rather than pinpointing specific libraries. Drake proposed that a new procedure can be implemented in which a director, when identifying a library not in compliance with embargo dates (or other similar deficiencies), would contact Drake who would speak directly to the non-compliant library.
2. There was a question from the floor for Sloan asking about a meeting between Sloan and Eugen Knutson (BOCES). Sloan explained that there is a proposal that is due to be considered by the System Services Advisory Committee which would enable public libraries to join BOCES in requesting bids for broadband.

Moved by Julie Dempsey to adjourn; meeting adjourned at 11:33 AM.

Respectfully Submitted,

Gloria Goverman, Secretary