

# MHLS Directors Association | Meeting Minutes

Friday, April 25, 2025 | MHLS Auditorium

Columbia County			Dutchess County			Greene County			Putnam County			Ulster County		
X	Chatham	Bachrach	X	Amenia	Herow		Athens	Benjamin		Brewster	Loprinzo		Esopus	Chance
X	Claverack	Schoep	X	Beacon	Murphy	X	Cairo	Tatavitto		Carmel	Regula, Interim	X	Highland	Dempsey
	Germantown	Place	X	Beekman	Fortier	X	Catskill	Leary		Cold Spring	Reinhardt	X	Hurley	Powell
X	Hillsdale	Gaskell	X	Clinton	Bancroft	X	Coxsackie	Benson		Garrison	Farabaugh		Kingston	Menard
X	Hudson	Chameides		Dover	Smith		Greenville	Flach	X	Kent	Perolli	X	Marlboro	Jankovitz
	Kinderhook	Pavloff		East Fishkill	Salierno	X	Haines Falls	Elmo-Emel	X	Mahopac	Capozzella		Milton	Fonfa
	Livingston	Stork	X	Fishkill	Spann		Hunter	Johnson	X	Patterson	Harrison		New Paltz	Middleton
X	New Lebanon	Hoffman	X	Hyde Park	Palmer		Windham	Begley	X	Putnam Valley	Chaudhri		Olive	McHugh
	North Chatham	Wert	X	LaGrange	De Bellis								Phoenicia	Potter
X	Philmont	Whittaker	X	Millbrook	Tsahal								Pine Hill	Vella
	Valatie	Buono		NorthEast-Millerton	Leo-Jameson							X	Plattekill	Lansperly
				Pawling	Fisher								Rosendale	Scott-Childress
			X	Pine Plains	Campbell							X	Saugerties	Russell
			X	Pleasant Valley	Pulice							X	Stone Ridge	Esposito
				Poughkeepsie	Lawrence							X	Ulster	O'Meara
			X	Red Hook	Geller								West Hurley	Keene
			X	Rhinebeck	Savolainen							X	Woodstock	Gocker
			X	Rhinecliff	Bartlett									
				Staatsburg	Rothman									
				Stanford	Cerul							MHLS Staff		
			X	Tivoli	Farley							X	Rebekkah Smith Aldrich	
			X	Wappingers	Campbell							X	Laurie Shedrick	
												X	Laura Crisci	

Meeting Called to Order by Chair De Bellis at 10:01 am.

Chair De Bellis welcomed new Directors from Stone Ridge, Marlboro and Ulster, as well as Lisa Gill who attended the meeting for Highland. Courtney Tsahal was congratulated on receiving her Doctorate.

## A. Action Items

- Approval of the February 25, 2025 minutes. The minutes were amended to include Brewster as present in the roll call. **Motion made by Schoep, seconded by Spann. Passed as amended by unanimous consent.**
- The Resource Sharing Advisory Committee recommends the adoption of the revisions to Guidelines for Overdrive Collections Developed with Advantage Plus Accounts. **Details presented by Resource Sharing Advisory Committee Chair Bancroft. Recommendation is from a committee, no motions are needed. All in favor; recommendation is passed.**
- The Resource Sharing Advisory Committee recommends the adoption of the revised text to be used in the “welcome” email following patron registration. **Details presented by Chair Bancroft. Recommendation is from a committee, no motions are needed. All in favor; recommendation is passed.**

- The Resource Sharing Advisory Committee recommends the adoption of the update to the Resource Sharing Home Fields Description. **Details presented by Bancroft. Recommendation from a committee, no motions are needed. All in favor, recommendation is passed.**

B. New/Proposed Business & Information

1. None

C. Reports

1. Advisory Committee Reports

- i. System Services Advisory Committee [Have not met since the last DA meeting. Will meet after the NY State budget is finalized]
- ii. Resource Sharing Advisory Committee [met 3.11.25] [next meeting 5.6.25]
  - A reminder that a 2D scanner is needed in order to scan barcodes from the mobile app.
- iii. Central Library/Collection Development Advisory Committee [Have not met since the last DA meeting. Will meet after the NY State budget is finalized]
  - The Committee is seeking feedback on Hoopla's response to library community concerns.
- iv. Ad Hoc Overdrive Committee [next meeting May 9]
- v. Road Trip Committee [conducted business via email; updates on MHLS Notices and in the MHLS Bulletin]
  - Kickoff is June 6
  - Staff training will be held live on 5/6 and 5/8 and then added to Training on Demand
  - A Google map and a poster will list all library locations
  - Visitors will earn prizes depending on the number of libraries they visit
  - There will be a button on the app and a public facing web page

2. MHLS

- i. Report to Member Library Directors
  - Before MHLS sends out an RFP for delivery vendor offerings, they will be conducting a statistical analysis of the past three years of member library circulation data to determine if adjustments to any stops are needed.
  - The mobile app is ready for its May 1 launch.
  - If library staff enters spaces in the barcode when creating a patron record, the barcode image will not display in the mobile app. Laurie was given permission by DA attendees to remove the spaces in the patron records.
  - MHLS is working on building a help button for patrons within the app, with brief tutorials and topics to navigate the feature.
  - Patrons with automatic updates enabled will receive app updates automatically to their device. Patrons without automatic updates will need to manually update the app through the appropriate App Store.
  - The app was updated on April 15 for Stack Map and Hoopla integration.
  - Cleaning up records that have been suppressed for more than 7 years is more difficult to carry out than originally thought. Each library will soon receive an Excel spreadsheet with a list of records that were billed, and they will have four weeks to review and take action. After that time the records will be deleted. The next records sent will be the "in transit".
  - Innovative Phone Alerts [IPA] will replace the current Itiva system for circulation notifications. The new system operates in a cloud environment, eliminating equipment maintenance and replacement.
  - MHLS has partnered with Innovative to pilot a new process to keep crawlers and bots from overwhelming the catalog and database.

- Wi-Fi access points installed at libraries using an ARPA grant in 2021 are due for renewal in 2026. The current price is \$450 per unit.
  - The Sierra Users Group will meet in person on May 1. There will be a presentation on printing spine labels directly from Sierra.
  - The State budget has still not been passed. Six policy issues are being debated. Library funding is likely to remain near flat.
  - There has been a call to increase the Cultural Education Account Fee by \$15 to \$35 as a safety net for DLD should IMLS disappear.
  - The New York Library Association open renewal period began April 15.
  - Kerstin Cruger is running for President of NYLA.
  - As of now, there has been no change to the State Aid for Library Construction grant program. If your library needs to address a construction project, you are encouraged to apply.
  - All MHLS applications submitted in August 2024 have been reviewed by DLD. Once the review is finalized, they are sent to DASNY for review. Award announcements are expected October 2025.
  - The Mid-Hudson Annual Membership Meeting will be held on Friday, October 24. The keynote speaker is Sam Helmick, ALA President, who will speak on the power of storytelling for library advocacy.
- ii. Board Liaison Report [met 3.12.25] [next meeting 5.13.25] – Catherine Benson, Heermance Memorial Library (Coxsackie)
- The following items were discussed:
    - a. 2024/2025 finances
    - b. HOOPLA response
    - c. Amazon Prime
    - d. Tempestry project
    - e. Cultural Education Fee
    - f. Amended bylaws
    - g. Oath of Office
    - h. Annual Meeting
    - i. Board to Board visits
    - j. Members Assessment Fee

**There being no further business, motion to adjourn at 11:54 am was made by Spann, seconded by Palmer. Passed by unanimous consent.**

Respectfully submitted by Michele Capozzella, Secretary

Next:

- DA Business Meeting: June 5, 2025 in the MHLS Auditorium