MID-HUDSON LIBRARY SYSTEM
Central Library / Collection Development Advisory Committee Meeting

Date: May 29, 2020

Committee members attending:
☒ Emily Chameides (Columbia)
☒ Tobi Farley (Columbia)
☒ Carol Fortier (Dutchess)
☒ Daniela Pulice (Dutchess)
☒ Maureen Garcia (Greene)
☐ Sue Ray (Greene)
☒ Carol Donick (Putnam)
☒ Gillian Thorpe (Putnam)
☒ Brooke Dittmar (Ulster)
☐ John Giralico (Ulster)

Staff Attending: Rebekkah Smith Aldrich (MHLS), Tom Lawrence (PPLD) Laurie Shedrick (MHLS)

The meeting was called to order at 10:00 am

The minutes from the March 2, 2020 meeting were reviewed and approved unanimously. The motion to approve the minutes was made by Maureen Garcia and seconded by Carol Fortier, and approved unanimously.

Discussion Items:

1. CLDA/CBA Budget – The budget was built with the assumption of a 5% cut. The amount of money which will come from the state is still very uncertain. Anything which is not contractually obligated is frozen. We do not want to cut delivery. The estimate of the anticipated cut is between 14% and 50%. We have stopped buying books and Overdrive non-fiction through CL/CD funds. Jobnow and Universal Class cannot be cut at this time. We committed to a 3-year contract with Mango. We must continue the platform fee for Overdrive, but can cut back on buying materials. Tom will provide a report as to how much has been spent on OverDrive content so far in FY2020. Print non-fiction can be cut. Sky River helps with cataloging and should be continued. Carol Donick, Daniella, and Gillian favored continuing Mango. We would need to get the message out that individual libraries should buy more non-fiction in Overdrive. The consensus was that print non-fiction should be cut first, Overdrive non-fiction next. Laurie has been in contact with Overdrive, asking them to waive the platform fee for the next 3 years, and they will make some reduction. We should know how much soon. These reductions will alter the plan of service, wait times for Overdrive titles, etc. Our goal of having the wait time for accessing digital collections not exceed the wait time for print materials has always been aspirational. Daniela suggested more lobbying to control eBook pricing. Tom pointed out that many eBooks are available at a reduced price for 12 months. There was agreement from all counties that it was essential to keep delivery robust, even if money had to be moved to it from e-Resources.

2. Review e-Resources Contracts and Statistics - Laurie presented information about the different e-Resources, cost per use, renewal dates, etc. in her e-Resources at-a-glance, Database Use Statistics document. In 2019 Mango Languages was used 14,759 times, with a transactional cost per use of $1.36. Some libraries may be linked to the wrong page for Tumblebooks, so its uses aren’t being counted. RBDigital overall has a very low
cost per use, but perhaps some seldom used titles could be dropped. Laurie will link her summary to the knowledge base so that everyone has access to it.

3. Finalize and recommend 2021 E-Resources Cost Share Plan. This is usually voted on at the June DA meeting. Maureen moved that the 2021 Master spreadsheet for E-Resources, Digital Content, Databases, Catalog Enhancements Cost Shares be recommended to the DA meeting. Toby seconded the motion. It passed unanimously.

4. CL Training. The thing most in demand according to our recent training survey was “E-Collection Development in Overdrive and Beyond”. Nina is would be a good trainer with regard to the mechanics of Overdrive and perhaps we could also have a panel of directors, including Daniella. Fall (perhaps October) would be the best time to do training, which might be done online. The training should include Hoopla information. This might be a series rather than a single webinar.

5. Laurie reported that demand exceeds availability for the Economist. We currently have 5 copies of the Economist, each of which can be checked out 50 times. Laurie suggests that it be no longer available for auto checkout. Tom disagreed, then left the meeting. Laurie suggested that there are two options, one would be to turn auto checkout off for the Economist for a week, and see how many people request it, or to simply turn off auto checkout for the Economist. Brooke moved that we turn off auto checkout for the Economist, Carol Donick seconded the motion. It passed unanimously. We should inform the Director’s Association at the June meeting, and put out a notice. Patrons will find that they have to go to RBDigital to check out the Economist, instead of finding it automatically in their inbox, as the pricing for the Economist is unique.

6. Laurie reported that the Overdrive interface has a “Get a library card” option which we are not currently using. It could link to the Mid-Hudson “Get a library card” page we have already created. Carol Fortier moved that on the banner on the Overdrive landing page for people who were not signed say “If you do not already have a library card, sign up here.” There would them be a link to the Mid-Hudson “Get a Library Card” page which includes a drop down menu for the patron to select their library and be directed to the library’s online card sign-up. Brooke seconded the motion. It passed unanimously.

The meeting was adjourned at 11:35 am

Respectfully submitted,

Carol Donick