

- Westchester Library System
- Upper Hudson Library System
- Ramapo Catskill Library System

The motion passed unanimously. FAQ's about this arrangement are posted on the Knowledge Base, but feel free to contact Laurie Shedrick with additional questions. Effective date anticipated for April 1.

B. New/Proposed Business & Information

Proposed letter from the DA regarding library worker vaccine access:

A lengthy discussion ensued with various opinions expressed by the Directors regarding the pros, cons, and repercussions of sending a letter from the entire DA to the Governor requesting vaccination of library workers. No consensus could be reached. Smith-Aldrich recommended that now is the time for the DA to advocate. She has sent an advocacy letter on behalf of MHLS to the Governor. A motion was made by De Bellis, seconded by Schoep, to have a letter sent to the Governor from the entire DA. More discussion ensued, with several directors strongly against it. A vote was not taken.

Smith-Aldrich then recommended that libraries individually advocate at the local and state level if they feel the need for library workers to get vaccinated in phase 1b, in alignment with education workers. The NYLA site has a form letter with appropriate wording. In the interests of unity and strength in numbers, a suggestion was made for a motion to draft a letter to the Governor signed **only** by those Directors in favor of library worker vaccinations. De Bellis rescinded her original motion and made this new motion, seconded by Goverman. Motion passed unanimously. Smith-Aldrich and Menard will draft a letter for review by the DA.

C. Reports

a. Advisory Committee Reports

- i. **System Services Advisory Committee** – Committee Chair Dempsey reported that the main item discussed was the 2021 Member Assessment Table. 2020 statistics will not be used in the rolling average due to the anomalies of the pandemic. Even though our circulation was down throughout the system from what it was in the past, the SSAC would still make the commitment of a 1% or more increase and make the recommendation to the Directors Association. This topic to be revisited.
- ii. **"Resource Sharing Advisory Committee** – Committee Chair Buck reiterated that the digital library card policy mandates verification of patron information within 30 days. The template for these online card applications is generic. Contact Laurie Shedrick if you would like an individualized template for your library. The Committee is developing an i-type for "magazine", as opposed to "periodical" to make searching easier for patrons. They also continue to refine the many loan rules since there is only a finite number to be had.
- iii. **Central Library/Collection Development Advisory Committee** – Committee Chair Fortier reported that the OverDrive Reciprocal Lending Arrangement (see Action Item 4) was approved for vote by the DA. Depending on when or if funding comes through from the state, they suggest putting the money towards delivery or OD content credit.

b. MHLS

i. Staff Report

Laurie Shedrick

- Mobile Worklists is being relaunched due to a major upgrade which includes inventory and title paging. Delete the old version on all your devices.
- The serials module is in use and working smoothly. Open a ticket if you need help; more training to come in 2021.
- An Innovative webinar for Directors about *Vega Discover* is forthcoming.
- A notices email was sent out this morning explaining the addition of an "alias" field in the patron record, which will be active later today.

- *Aerohive* has been purchased by *Extreme Networks* and a group buy for new access points is being negotiated, as *Aerohive* products will no longer be sold. Action Memo forthcoming this summer.
- Sierra ILL has launched. Library staff should reach out to Tara Stohr for assistance and questions.
- RbDigital sunsets March 31. Imaging will be available on KB. A big shout out to Nina for refreshing the magazines showcase!

Rebekkah Smith-Aldrich

- Valley Courier has been sent a request to run alternate routes after snow days/holidays that fall on a Monday or Thursday.
- There are many new Directors in MHLS. They are reminded about the helpful resources available in the New Directors section of the MHLS website.
- Certain municipalities have been granted a deferral of property tax payments and Directors need to be sensitive when seeking their town funds.
- Advocacy Week is February 22 – please use the NYLA Advocacy Center to get the word out about the need for state funding.
- The MHLS Plan of Service 2022-2026 is in development with community conversations taking place in March with the library county associations and directors.

Casey Conlin

- The *Reimagining Library Services series* will continue this Spring.
- The NYS Annual Report 2020 is due to MHLS by 5:00 pm on March 1. Please don't hesitate to contact Casey with any questions.
- Construction Grant funding for the 2021-2022 cycle is coming up. In anticipation of applying, you must have an updated Facility Plan and expenditure estimates from a building contractor, **not** an architect.
- As per the *Copyright Alternative in Small-Claims Enforcement Act (CASE Act)*, libraries need to be mindful to only use images in the public domain, or they risk a lawsuit and/or a hefty fine. A list of sites with images in the public domain are in the MHLS Report for February 2021.

ii. Board Liaison Report - None

- D. Spotlight Discussion:** *Online Program Security Best Practices* with Jen McCreery, Director of the Desmond-Fish Library – postponed until a future date due to time constraints.

Motion to adjourn meeting at 11:43 am made by Spann, seconded by Dittmar.

Respectfully submitted by Mary M. De Bellis, Second Vice Chair

Next: DA Business Meeting: April 16, 2021 – 10:00 am