

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

Date:

Location:

Committee members attending:

Emily Chameides (Columbia)
 Rain Whittaker (Columbia)

Alex Geller (Dutchess)
 Daniela Pulice (Dutchess)

Jaki Elmo-Emel (Greene)
 Corinne Tatavitto (Greene)

Amina Chaudhri (Putnam)
 Dede Farabaugh (Putnam)

Jesse Chance (Ulster)
 Ivy Gocker (Ulster)

Staff Attending: Rebekkah Smith Aldrich (M HLS), Laurie Shedrick (M HLS)

Others Attending: Tom Lawrence (PPLD), ex officio

Minutes from 10/2/2025 meeting reviewed and approved by Corrine Tatavitto, seconded by Dede Farabaugh

Discussion Items:

1. Committee Orientation
 - a. Review of the Committee's Charge
 - b. Review of the Central Library Plan of Service
 - c. Review of Funding/Cash Flow Considerations
 - i. Discussion to confirm that we have the 2026 content credit to ensure continued Overdrive purchasing
 - d. Review of current eResource product renewals
 - i. We *can* adjust Job Now to a June renewal (with pro-rate payment)
 - ii. Usage of both Transparent Language and Job Now are low relative to expectations for the resource
 - iii. Question to county-level associations:
 1. How important is it that we have databases for languages and job-seeking, even if usage is low?
 - a. Use of Transparent Language is lower than Mango (which cost much more)
 - b. **Share link to check Transparent Language stats so that libraries can come to county-level meeting with information on local use**
 2. Are there other/better databases in these categories we should look to?
 3. Are the costs of these databases low enough that we don't have to worry about it?
 4. Libraries with better stats—what are you doing to promote?
 - e. eResource Recommendation Procedure
 - f. Review eResource Cost Share Arrangements

2. Central Library Budget Update & 2026 Planning
 - a. 2025 final budget shared
 - b. awaiting 2026 budget to plug in figures for each category
3. Central Library Plan of Service Development for 2027-2031
 - a. Rebekkah to provide a cleaned-up draft based on submitted comments for presentation at our next meeting.
 - b. Those not at today's meeting will have until end-of-day on Tuesday, February 3 for submitting final comments**
4. Continued Discussions
 - a. Survey of Digital Collection Users
 - i. What actions are we willing/able to take in response to this kind of survey
 - ii. "Shelf Talking Points" were discussed – a message that can be added to the Libby book description to tell patrons that a particular title is prohibitively expensive and limits our ability to purchase more copies
 - iii. Build a survey that can break down by county so that it gives us tools to advocate for county funding
 1. Discussion of ways to do this – do we ask for a barcode? Have patrons self-report? Can we use data from Sierra vs Patron Point?
 2. Agreement coalesced around starting with a required question: Which county do you live in?
 3. **Alex to work on a draft of survey and share before the next meeting.** Goal is to finalize this at the March CL/CD meeting and vote on this in the April or June DA meeting
 - iv. Add in educational component to survey, i.e. – Did you know ebooks cost X times more than print books?

Action items:

1. Encourage your county-level peers to look at their [Transparent Language usage](#) before your next county meeting—at the meeting gather feedback re: item 1.d.iii above
2. Submit any final comments on the CL/CD Plan of Service via the [shared Google doc](#) by the end of the day on Tuesday, February 3rd.
3. Alex to write and share a draft survey for discussion at our March meeting modeled on the Nassau County survey to gather data on patrons' use/perceptions of Overdrive for use as an advocacy tool and patron education tool

Motion to adjourn: Alex Geller. Seconded by Dede Farabaugh. Meeting adjourned at 11:47am.
