

Mid-Hudson Library System Board Meeting Director's Report May 2008

Legislation: The legislature added \$5 million for libraries over the Governor's \$3 million, but the Governor then put a 2% cut on the legislative 917 Aid and the \$3 million. This means our overall Aid and Outreach, Central Library, Corrections and Local Library Services Aid (LLSA) will be cut by 2%. The \$800,000 of Construction Aid will be cut 2%, but not the \$14 million. What does all this mean? Linda will work up the numbers for the Finance Committee and, in July, we can make the necessary amendments.

Technology: Teleforms now works properly. We have a new server with new cards. We also expect to move to *Millennium Release 2007* that has just been released (a name change was suggested). This will allow more flexible printing and the most beneficial feature for us will be the ability to print routing slips. Currently, library staff has to write the library the item is being routed to on the slip sometimes making it difficult for our sorters to decipher the appropriate destination.

Barnes & Noble: The Barnes & Noble event brought the Foundation for Hudson Valley libraries over \$2,500 most of which will be used to support the fall Battle of the Books event.

CE: We have had several successful Continuing Education events this spring on topics such as: Libraries Supporting Homeschoolers, Summer Reading Planning, Helping Your Patrons, the State Construction Program, and we have a program on library security and trustee education still to come.

Data Entry: We are holding five workshops on data entry. Because of the increasingly complex nature of this activity, e.g. accurately linking a DVD to the wide screen or full screen record, we, at the request of the Directors Association, have made this mandatory that each library send at least one person. We are hoping for a reduction in the number of data entry mistakes.

The list below includes documents & information that are to be placed in the permanent record. Board members may request copies of documents by contacting Peggy on ext. 16 pwinn@midhudson.org.

Member Memos:

- #08-05: In-kind Services
- #08-06: Construction Needs Update
- #08-07: Quality Measures

Correspondence Received:

- Letter of praise from Bruce George, Director Kingston Library, for the technology expertise and assistance of Mohamed Toufali and Sanjay Dabhi.
- March edition of the Poughkeepsie Journal's monthly feature "*On the Shelves*" contributed by Ellen Tannenbaum, Director Dover Public Library.
- Congratulatory letter to Josh Cohen from Senator Stephen Saland on being elected as the 2008-2009 President of the New York Library Association.
- Article from March edition of Ulster Publishing's health, sports & fitness highlighting the System's Teen Health Information Project.
- Letter to Board President, Marie Smith, from Howland Public Library Board President, Marcia Frahman, thanking Josh Cohen and Rebekkah Smith Aldrich for their efforts and expertise in helping the library create a useful long-range plan.
- Letter to Josh Cohen from Cassandra Artale, of the Division of Library Development, approving the System's revisions to the Free Direct Access Plan part of the MHLS Five-Year Plan of Service.

- Note of recognition to Bobbi Clapp, from Kelly Tomaseski, Director of the Town of Esopus Library, for her work coordinating the Health Information Project.
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- Article from the Unabashed Librarian about the System's Health Information Project.

- April edition of the Poughkeepsie Journal's monthly feature "*On the Shelves*" contributed by Greg Callahan, Director Hyde Park Free Library.
- Thank you letter to Josh Cohen from Cairo Public Library President, Maureen Forrester, for his assistance at the Cairo Town Board meeting.
- Thank you letter to Rebekkah Smith Aldrich from Michael Borges, Executive Director of NYLA for serving as the Regional Coordinator for NYLA Library Lobby Day.

Other Reports:

- Staff Library Visits Report