

Mohawk Valley Library System

Director's Update

January, 2016

Please note that the Director's Report for the cancelled January meeting, as well as the financial reports and other attachments, will be referenced at the February meeting. This update just provides additional information that has developed since January 21, 2016.

Administration & Governance

The 2015-16 Adult Literacy grant, the last state aid we were waiting for, was paid in January.

It is state annual report season! We have 4 reports submitted so far. Member library state annual reports are due at the end of February.

It is time to start thinking about the May 2016 MVLS Annual Meeting. As we have discussed before, to stem declining attendance, we are looking at making a variety of changes, which could include any of the following:

- Different, varying location
- Lower cost to attend
- Include a trustee education element
- More informal atmosphere

We will discuss options at the February meeting.

Automation and Resource Sharing

The next JA Council meeting will be on Wednesday, March 16 here at MVLS.

The Zinio e-magazine service that began in December has been a big success. The libraries that have publicized this service have seen significant usage by their borrowers. Please encourage you library to actively publicize this service. You can access Zinio through the MVLS web site, most member library websites, and at: <https://www.rbdigital.com/schenectadycony/service/zinio/landing>

SALS and MVLS elected to subscribe to the Sky River cataloging database. This purchase will be done through the JA consortium, but MVLS and SALS will foot the bill. The MVLS cost will be approximately \$6,500. This subscription will help us to keep a clean, effective library catalog in a more efficient manner. MVLS has taken on more and more cataloging responsibility from SCPL as they have cut staff.

I have begun developing a new Free Direct Access plan, something that is a required part of our 5 year plan for the state. The Free Direct Access Plan is the system policy that codifies the system's compliance with the state regulations that require library service to be provided to all residents of the system's service area, regardless of whether the user's locality provides or funds library service. We will discuss this plan at our February meeting.

Member Services

Upcoming workshops include the following:

March 2: NYLA Advocacy Day

March 31: Library Technology update with Polly Farrington

April 21: Library Safety & Security CLDA workshop

The Resonate workshops provided by Lois are going well, with Amsterdam, Fort Plain and St. Johnsville participating. These workshops are designed to improve library's ability to explain their services and needs to their communities.

Advocacy & Awareness

Advocacy Day is scheduled for Wednesday, March 2. Please put it on your calendars. Visiting our legislators on that day can have a big impact on our ability to implement the MVLS mission. It makes a real difference to our operating budget. This year libraries are also requesting an increase in state construction funding for libraries. Many systems share our recent experience of having way more construction requests than we can fund.

My last scheduled planning visit with a member library board will take place at Schoharie on February 17. It is possible to schedule more if your library wants me to come (or come back!)

The survey for member library staff and trustees has been distributed and is at:

<https://www.surveymonkey.com/r/MVLS2016>. Go ahead and fill it out if you like. Focus group/listening sessions are being scheduled for the week of 3/28/2016. We will also be doing a public survey.

Meetings, Contacts & Field Visits

1/4/2016	William P. Leitch MVLS Member Library Directors Edward Asselin, SUNY Cobleskill
1/5/2016	Pamela Crandall-Luby Cheryl Cufari PULISDO
1/6/2016	Foundation Board Kathryn McCary, McCary & Huff
1/7/2016	Fran Apollo Whitney Hubbard, Fort Plain Free Library Barbara Madonna, Gloversville Public Library MVLS Member Library Directors MVLS Workshop Ginny Wilday, Sharon Springs Free Library Devon Hedges, The Community Library
1/8/2016	Esther Swanker Capital District Library Council

	MVLS Member Library Directors
	Michael Burnett, Northville Public Library
	Lauren Moore, Pioneer Library System
	Karen Bradley, Schenectady County Public Library
	Devon Hedges, The Community Library
1/11/2016	Don Reisinger, D2 Media
	Eric Kass, Fort Hunter Free Library
	Debbie Booth, HFM BOCES SLS
	Kathryn McCary, McCary & Huff
	Karen Bradley, Schenectady County Public Library
	Catherine Caiazzo, Schoharie Free Library
1/12/2016	Kathryn McCary, McCary & Huff
	Karen Bradley, Schenectady County Public Library
1/13/2016	JA Council
	Kathryn McCary, McCary & Huff
	Karen Bradley, Schenectady County Public Library
1/14/2016	MVLS Workshop
	Karen Bradley, Schenectady County Public Library
1/15/2016	Kathryn McCary, McCary & Huff
	MVLS Board of Trustees
	Sara Dallas, Southern Adirondack Library System
1/19/2016	Esther Swanker
	Capital District Library Council
1/20/2016	Esther Swanker
	MVLS Board of Trustees
	Edward Asselin, SUNY Cobleskill
1/21/2016	Don Reisinger, D2 Media
	MVLS CSEA Unit
	MVLS Member Library Directors
1/22/2016	Foundation Event Committee
	MVLS Board of Trustees
1/25/2016	Nicole Hemsley, Amsterdam Free Library
	Karen Balsen, Division of Library Development
	Kathryn McCary, McCary & Huff
	MVLS Executive Committee
	Michael Burnett, Northville Public Library
	Karen Bradley, Schenectady County Public Library
1/26/2016	Barbara Madonna, Gloversville Public Library
	MVLS Member Library Directors
	Michael Burnett, Northville Public Library
1/27/2016	Beverly Osborne
	Nicole Hemsley, Amsterdam Free Library
	MVLS Executive Committee
	Karen Bradley, Schenectady County Public Library
	Catherine Caiazzo, Schoharie Free Library
	Pam Luby, Sharon Springs Free Library
	Devon Hedges, The Community Library
1/28/2016	Susan Rorick

Hanna Ahrens, Canajoharie Library & Art Gallery
MVLS Board of Trustees
MVLS Trustee Education Session
Ginny Wilday, Sharon Springs Free Library
Sara Dallas, Southern Adirondack Library System
HFM School Library System Council
Karen Bradley, Schenectady County Public Library

1/29/2016