

**Mohawk Valley Library System  
Director's Report  
October 2018**

**Administration & Governance**

Felicia Spivey will begin her board service at the November 15 meeting. We are having an orientation session for Felicia starting at 8:30 on the 15<sup>th</sup>. Feel free to attend. We continue to wait for Amsterdam to suggest a candidate to fill the open Montgomery County trustee seat.

The proposed 2019 Budget has been prepared, and the budget hearing will be held at the beginning of the November 15 meeting. The proposed budget is posted on the MVLS website with the other meeting materials. The budget, as advertised, will continue the trends of the last few years. We have a very modest budgeted deficit with a \$1.75 million cash flow. All proposed increases are either contractual (delivery, salary & benefits) or the continuation of items that have been under discussion (Library Moon Walk project, JA fees increases, e-resources increases requested by members and/or the central library committee). Budget approval will be an agenda item at the November meeting.

We will also have the final 2018 budget amendments to review. This is just year-end tidying-up to keep the budget in line with reality.

**Automation and Resource Sharing**

The Joint Automation Council will meet the day before the board meeting on November 14. Several policy issues will be coming before the council at that meeting. I may have Fines and Fees and Patron Registration policy amendments for your approval.

Both of these policy changes are due to ongoing projects. The patron registration initiative –designed to give us more accurate information on patron residence and status - is moving forward, and these policy changes are related to that implementation. Also a factor is the continued interest in reducing or eliminating fines on overdue library materials.

The Central Library Advisory Committee met on October 23. We will have a new Central Library Advisory Grant proposal to approve at the January meeting. The 2018 final report and a new Central Book Aid plan will be approved before the end of the year. In 2019 we want to do a study and rethinking of system e-resources in an effort to make more resources available to the members.

**Adult Services**

The 3 system (Mohawk Valley, Southern Adirondack and Upper Hudson) "Library Moon Walk" project got underway with a librarian's workshop on October 15. The initial public program will be at Schenectady central on November 1. Each participating library will form partnerships with regional health businesses and organizations, and will hold public programs on health topics.

Most of the NYSCA book discussion programs have been completed. Attendance has been dropping for these programs. Lois is planning to explore changes to spark more interest. We are completing the paperwork to keep the NYSCA grants going in 2019.

Lois' contacts & visits: 10/2, HFM Prevention Council; Union Meeting; 10/4 Library Moon Walk Meeting; 10/10, Library Moon Walk Meeting; 10/15, Caring for the Mind Workshop; 10/22 SCP; 10/26, SCP; 10/31, SCP.

### **Youth Services**

The Thinking Outside youth workshop had 21 in attendance; speaker Nathan Keefe presented about programs, partnerships, resources for children birth through teens. Resources from the workshop are on the MVLS webpage and distributed to all members.

The third Early Literacy Storytime: Core Elements for Making a Real Difference is scheduled at the Gloversville library on November 15, with eight libraries registered. Presenter Joyce Laiosa is updating our curriculum.

An additional outreach Science @ the Library program at a local Johnstown elementary school is scheduled in January.

Sue is serving on the Newberry Award committee for the awards that will be announced in January. Committee work involves lots of reading, and a blackout on recommending any books that could be considered for the award; so Sue is unable to present at the annual Best of the Best Workshop. That workshop is scheduled for December 6.

Sue's meetings, contacts & field visits: DHS Meeting, QUA, 10/2; Teen Summit, Worcester, MA, 10/4; Supercharged Storytime Webinar, 10/10; Thinking Outside Workshop, SCP, 10/11; Conference Call, MVLS, 10/15; MVLS Board Meeting, AMS, 10/18; Universe of Stories Webinar, 10/23

### **Member Services**

Upcoming workshops include the following:

November 7 – 10 Annual NYLA Conference

November 15 – Early Literacy Storytimes workshop at Gloversville

December 6 – Book Pics from Two Book Divas

January 10, 2019 – Communications & the State Annual Report

February 7, 2019 – Summer Reading Program

Wade is doing a video project with Gloversville, documenting their move to the newly renovated and expanded library. We continue to assist Johnstown as they work on chartering and setting up the new school district public library. I am working with Middleburgh on a potential vote issue there.

## Advocacy & Awareness

Sue, Lois and I will be at the NYLA conference in Rochester from November 8-10.

The Foundation's year end appeal is underway. We had seven letter-stuffers who got through 500 letters in record time. Contributions are starting to come in.

## Meetings, Contacts & Field Visits

10/4/2018	HFM School Library System Council MVLS Member Library Directors Devon Hedges, The Community Library
10/10/2018	Melodie Neary Erica Wing, Johnstown Public Library Tim Burke, Upper Hudson Library System
10/11/2018	John Naple MVLS Central Library Advisory Committee MVLS Member Library Board Presidents MVLS Member Library Directors
10/12/2018	MVLS Board of Trustees Ike Pulver, Saratoga Springs Public Library
10/15/2018	MVLS Communications Committee Michael Burnett, Northville Public Library Karen Bradley, Schenectady County Public Library
10/16/2018	MVLS Trustee Education Session
10/17/2018	Terry Pavoldi, Middleburgh Public Library MVLS Member Library Directors Mary Ann Warner, Schenectady County Public Library Karen Bradley, Schenectady County Public Library Sara Dallas, Southern Adirondack Library System
10/18/2018	MVLS Board of Trustees
10/22/2018	MVLS Member Library Directors
10/23/2018	Barbara Madonna, Gloversville Public Library Erica Wing, Johnstown Public Library MVLS Central Library Advisory Committee Dawn Lamphere, The Margaret Reaney Memorial Library
10/24/2018	Pamela Crandall-Luby Karen Bradley, Schenectady County Public Library Sara Dallas, Southern Adirondack Library System
10/26/2018	Foundation Board Barbara Madonna, Gloversville Public Library MVLS Member Library Directors
10/31/2018	Kathryn McCary, Law Office of Kathryn McCary Rebekkah Smith Aldrich, Mid-Hudson Library System Sara Dallas, Southern Adirondack Library System Tim Burke, Upper Hudson Library System