

Mid-Hudson Library System Board Meeting Director's Report May 2004

Velocity: We have sent a response to Velocity that asks for a variety of safeguards to be included in the contract. Among these are: Our right to have a route driver changed if we are unhappy with his/her performance, one regular driver for each route, a \$250,000 severance fee and no fuel adjustment surcharge.

Marketing: We have had good coverage in our local papers about our new OPAC including a full-page feature in the Poughkeepsie Journal.

Technology Support: Several libraries have asked if Mid-Hudson could provide a fee for service technology support. Mohammad and I have developed a pricing structure for this service. We will develop a limited agreement with any library requesting our service clarifying what we will assist them with and the costs.

Technology Plan: To continue receiving E-rate reimbursement, we had to submit a new three-year technology plan. Mohammad and Meribeth worked on it and it was accepted by DLD. Any library wishing to receive E-rate reimbursement for more than dial-up lines must submit a plan to Mid-Hudson.

Online Status: We have five library sites that are still not part of the automated network. Hunter, Clinton, Livingston, Canaan, will be coming online by the end of June. Garrison has a standalone system and we have set up a temporary workaround so their materials are available through system holds.

CD Settlement: Under a class action suit concerning music CD price fixing, libraries will be receiving free CDs. Mid-Hudson Library System will receive 9,479 CDs.

System Funding: Like all New Yorkers, we are waiting for the budget to be passed. The word is that the 5% reduction will be reinstated by the legislature, but little else for libraries.

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:

- 04-07: Baker & Taylor's Title Source II
- 04-08: Letters to the Editor Campaign
- 04-09: E-Rate & Technology Plans
- 04-10: In-kind Service
- 04-11: Friends Groups

Correspondence:

- Thank you note to Rebekkah Smith from Joy Wofse, Director Reed Memorial Library, for helping the library obtain a New York State Construction grant.
- Press Release announcing Assemblyman Dan Hooker's presentation of a \$2,500 grant to the E.R. Evarts library for upgrades and repairs.
- Article dated March 2, from *Country Life* re: the first meeting of the Claverack Library's Space Committee
- Thank you letter to Margaret Keefe, Coordinator Youth Services, from Raymond Castellani, Director of Curriculum & Instruction Marlboro Central School District, for her participation at Staff Development Day on March 12.
- Letter of response to Catherine Davies from Camilla von Bergen regarding the System's investigation into outsourcing the delivery service.
- Article from the March edition of the *Taconic Press* on the Health Information Project's Teen resources on the MHLS' Web site.
- Thank you note to Josh Cohen from Janet Carter, Saugerties Library, for his efforts on behalf of Library Legislation Day in Albany and in particular for his assistance on land legislation

- Thank you note to Rebekkah Smith from Mary and Rich Messina for her excellent Advocacy presentation at the Saugerties Library.
- Poughkeepsie Journal article dated 4/1, re: the state's failure to pass the budget on time.
- Thank you note from Ellen Guerci, Director Millbrook Library, to Josh Cohen and Rebekkah Smith for speaking to the library's Long-Range Planning Committee.
- American Library Association press release re: National Library Week, April 18-24.
- Thank you note from Ellen Guerci, Director Millbrook Library, to Rebekkah Smith for sending the library valuable long-range planning information.
- *Poughkeepsie Journal* and *Taconic Press* articles re: the System's new online catalog.
- *Beacon Free Press* article re: the Howland Library's window display honoring Beacon's connection to the music industry.
- *Chronogram* advertisement ensuring free access to a world of information, education and entertainment at any System library by getting a library card.
- Thank you note to Rebekkah Smith, Coordinator of Library Information, from Miriam Devine, Director of the Amenia Library, for her ongoing help and support.
- *Harlem ValleyTimes* article: re: the Amenia Free Library's kickoff of Read Aloud Week with Senator Vincent Leibell.
- *Daily Freeman* article 4/29 featuring West Hurley Library Director, Kara Lustiber, highlighting the services available through its online catalog.
- *The Independent* article 4/23 featuring the Kinderhook Library and the System's online catalog.

Other Reports:

- Staff Library Visits Report