

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

New York State Legislation: The Legislature restored the 5% cut in System funding, but Governor Pataki line item vetoed the restoration. I have written to all our legislators asking them to override the veto. The Assembly seems willing to go back in session in September to override the Governor's veto, but the Senate has made no commitment and at this point does not intend to go back into session until after the election. If the 5% is not restored see below.

New York Retirement Payments: The State Retirement system is changing its budget year from a calendar year to the state year. This means we have received a bill for a year and a quarter that does not have to be paid until February. Since we budgeted money for this year, we can pay this bill out of next year's budget, thus having this year payment as excess in our budget. This could offset our 5% cut and cover the extra quarter payment.

Velocity: The transition to Velocity has been as expected. Finding five drivers who can commit to the routes that we are also happy with is taking a little time. We currently have three and a potential fourth. Velocity has two more possibilities. The addition of the fifth route has evened the loads and seems to improve the functioning of the delivery system.

Technology: We upgraded to Millennium Silver. There were a few bugs, but we have worked through them with III. We are doing the Authority Control work on our Database. Authority Control cross references headings such as names, i.e. Mark Twain/Samuel Clemens.

LSTA: We received notification from DLD that our \$25,000 bridge grant was accepted with a comment that it was "well written." This will run from October 1, 2004 to March 31, 2005 and will offer Library Resources demonstrations, specifically *Request-a-Title*, *Home Access* and *NOVEL*, to community groups. The next round of LSTA grants is due in November, and next month we will have proposals for the board to review.

County meetings:

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.

Correspondence:

- Email thank you note to Merribeth Advocate from Kara Lustiber, Director of the West Hurley Library, for announcing the new link on System managed library home pages called "Don't Know What to Read" which has links to bestsellers, award winners, book reviews and lists from independent booksellers, as well as Oprah Book Club selections.
- Thank you note to Josh Cohen from Tracie Hall, Director ALA Office for Diversity, for his participation as a planner/presenter at the pre-conference program.
- Thank you note to Josh Cohen from Colin Evans, trustee Esopus Library, for his attendance and assistance at the Board's orientation meeting.
- Thank you note to Rebekkah Smith from Jennifer Lange, trustee Elting Memorial Library, for hosting the MHLS tour and orientation.
- Thank you note to Josh Cohen from Carol Pfister, trustee D.R. Evarts Library (Athens), for his presentation to the library's Board.
- Articles from *The Poughkeepsie Journal* and *The Beacon Free Press* re: the System's Health Information Project's (HIP) teen internship program.

- Article from *The Poughkeepsie Journal's* "On the Shelves" section featuring Highland Library Director, Julie Kelsall.
- Article from the August 9th *Poughkeepsie Journal* commending the Health Information Project's teen interns for reviewing teen-oriented books, videotapes and Web sites.
- Thank you note to Rebekkah Smith from Barbara Dague, trustee of the Hudson Area Association Library, for her presentation to the Board on fundraising.

Other Reports:

- Staff Library Visits Report