RSAC Minutes – May 18, 2026, 10-11:30 AM
Meeting via Zoom

Attending:
Committee Chairperson: Jaki Elmo-Emel (Mountain Top)
Vice Chairperson: Laurie Shedrick (MHLS)
Columbia County: Hanna Bachrach (2029)
Dutchess County: Tom Lawrence (2027) & Courtney Tsahalis (2029)
Greene County: Barbara Flach (2027) & Jaki Elmo-Emel (2029)
Putnam County: Reinhardt (2029)
Ulster County: Gabrielle Esposito (2027)

1. Meeting called to order at 1:33 pm

2. Identify Secretary: Jaki

3. Approve minutes from March 27, 2026 meeting : Motion made by Tom, seconded by Barbara – approved unanimously.

4. Request from UCLA to lower hold thresholds for OverDrive: Continued discussion on the topic to lower patron holds. Tom L. further suggested that a comprehensive review of policies should remove silos in policy between digital and physical. E-resources are so prevalent in circulation; this might be too large a decision.
    a. After compiling two months' worth of data, it is still too early to determine whether this can be recommended. It would be more appropriate to monitor for 6 – 12 months.
    b. The chair will report at the next DA meeting that considering the scope of this request, a final response to the question might require input from the other committees.

5. ILS Updates
    a. Ecommerce
        i. Currently Taking in payments
        ii. PayPal API: Laurie S. reported that the Ecommerce product is now working as it should though we suffered through an extended issue because the discover API could not work with the password criteria that PayPal is now requiring globally. Discover is now patched for our site and the update will be included in the next release.
        iii. Add to Mobile App: As of the last mobile update, the Solace app can process Paypal payments as well
            1. **Action Item:** The RSAC recommends the Mobile app to include the eCommerce through Paypal. Motion made by Tom L./Second by Gabrielle E- passed unanimously

b. SMS: Though we are still in the testing phase, Laurie reported that upon launch, we can a more user-friendly sign-up screen.
    i. Once live, two-week overlap from both services may occur.
    ii. The transition will require patrons to join the new and stop the old.
    iii. A launch kit will follow. There will info and talking points when MHLS launches their new site.

c. Inventory live 6/1: Sierra has been updated for the approved policy for check-in to update the inventory date starting on June 1st. Documentation will be available and sent to the notices list.

d. Contract renewal: As previously discussed, the current ILS contract with Innovative/Clarivate ends in September. While there have been no calls to migrate away from this product, Laurie has updated the research on the two competing products: Polaris and Koha. Laurie notes no advantage to switching to those products and identified several service compromises that would have to be made if we did so. Therefore, Laurie recommends we renegotiate with Innovative/Clarivate for a new contract that would itemize the gains made during the current contract, locking in our premium customer status and several products we have received without charge. MHLS's role as a development partner has positioned us well for the immediate future and continuing with Innovative allows us to build on the work of MHLS staff and members to roll out a new catalog and mobile app.

   The committee recommends negotiating a new 5-year contract with Innovative for our current product suite with an aim to keep the annual increase as close to what we have now (2%) as possible. Motion made by T. Lawrence, seconded by Barbra F. with unanimous approval

e. Mobile updates -
    i. Sandbox (UTA)- Each library will receive a testing instance of the mobile app which will be deployed in a separate environment.
    ii. NY Times book carousels – all lists – are now available in the app. MHLS will provide documentation for members to add this content to their own apps
    iii. Dyslexia font option & Accessibility – the App now has a Dyslexia friendly font included in the preferences.

6. Amazon Grid Ordering
    a. MHLS will assist member libraries with setting up the grid ordering setup, PPLD will begin EDI grid ordering as the second public library to work with Sierra and Amazon soon
    b. We can expect Amazon to provide MARC Records and to send with spine labels and protective covers.

7. P-Type project: Laurie reports that the counties have responded with the unserved areas that need to be identified as discrete p-types. The next steps will be to map and

move as many to the new ptypes by the end of the summer so that the libraries can begin the finer identification where needed.

a. CCLA interested in blocking Non-Res from OverDrive access. Both Tom & Jaki recommended an open discussion with some understanding of the barriers and needs before we move to a change. We need good definitions of ptypes, non-residents, and second resident considerations, especially when usage fees are involved.

1. Tom, Jaki, and Laurie will review the documentation currently in place and provide the DA with details. It is possible that polling may help to refine how things are happening in libraries, and then at a future DA, we could have a discussion using anonymous polls to gather consensus.

8. SQL/API access by 3rd party: MHLS should develop the 3rd part access further and prohibit root access to the shared data through SQL or other direct queries that cannot be filtered.

a. A vendor use of data agreement should be crafted for review.

9. Discussion from Courtney regarding the DCLA interest in lowering the threshold on high demand holds, and brought this to the committee for consideration. Tom added that we need to review the standards again, and replace the word “should” with “shall” & “must.”

a. The committee discussed creating thresholds based on data. Jaki shared Greene County’s spreadsheet of a comparison between 2024 and 2025, where both physical and e-resources data from the annual report are compared year to year.

1. MHLS Could map this info over time, by library county and system

2. Tom proposed that the OverDrive Ad-Hoc should dissolve as part of RSAC instead, as it will help us have a better conversation about how libraries spend their money for collection development.

Adjourned at 2:56 pm. Motion made by Tom, seconded by Gabrielle