

MID-HUDSON LIBRARY SYSTEM

System Services Advisory Committee Meeting

Date: January 30th, 2026

Location: Online

Committee Members Attending:

- Matthew Pavloff (Columbia)
- Thea Schoep (Columbia)
- Tobi Farley (Dutchess)
- Kristen Salierno (Dutchess)
- Catherine Benson (Greene)
- Christopher Leary (Greene)
- Michele Capozzella (Putnam)
- Stephanie Harrison (Putnam)
- Darren Lanspery (Ulster)

Committee Members Not Attending:

- Margie Menard (Ulster)

Staff Attending:

Rebekkah Smith Aldrich (MHLS), Laurie Shedrick (MHLS)

A motion to approve the minutes from the October meeting was made by Capozzella, seconded by Benson, and approved unanimously.

2026 MHLS Board Liaisons

- January 31: Catherine Benson
- March 18: Michelle Capozzella
- May 22: Matt Pavloff
- July 14: Darren Lanspery
- September 10: Margie Menard
- December 10: Christopher Leary

Discussion Items:

1. Rebekkah introduced new members with information about Committee History & Charge.
2. Committee reviewed DA Bylaws. No changes at this time.
3. Plan of Service Review – Every ten years, MHLS reviews and updates their Plan of Service using input from directors. SSAC will work with MHLS and the DA to help gather information for the update.
4. State Funding Update – Rebekkah gave summary of 2026 NYS Executive Budget.
5. 2027 Assessment
 - a. The SSAC in 2025 recommended the 9.5% range of increases moving forward for a more self-sustained funding model in the coming years. This year, the

committee will consider the 5%, 9.5%, 15%, and fully funded models at their next meeting to inform their recommendation to the DA.

6. Patron Data Cleanup – Laurie discussed what to expect from the patron data cleanup project underway.

Phase 1:

- Review record fields and uses; set policy (Resource Sharing Advisory Committee)
- Confirm unserved areas in each county
- Fix the workflows to be consistent across MHLS
 - Discrepancies in templates
 - What is local and what is not

Phase 2:

- Create ptypes to reflect unserved areas
- Training for library staff on proper ptype assignment
- System-wide push to encourage libraries to undertake this work

Phase 3:

- On Demand Training/Consultation for libraries on patron data clean up best practices
- Routine review of unserved areas

7. MHLS Updates:

- Delivery Services – Chris Herron has taken over delivery services.
- Tech OP – SMS/Text coming soon.
- Library Sustainability – Help coming for libraries going through their strategic plan development. Advocacy Ambassadors programs is successful, with 44 libraries represented so far.
- Administration – Disaster Plan development coming soon.

Other – Intact Software for Finances being implemented.