

**Liaison Report to MHLS Board of Trustees from
Directors Association Meeting
February 3, 2011
MHLS Auditorium**

Action Items:

1. Minutes from January 5, 2011 approved

Discussion Items:

1. Executive Director Michael Nyerges announced staff reduction plan had been implemented, resulting in \$165,000 cut to personnel.
2. Nyerges announced additional 10% cut to library budget proposed in governor's budget which will impact MHLS, encourages all to attend Advocacy Day in Albany March 1.
3. Plan of Service focus groups (23 to date) are scheduled.
4. Free Direct Access will be reviewed as part of the new Plan of Service due to concerns from some member libraries.
5. Libraries are working to complete the Annual Report.
6. Outreach & Education Coordinator MerriBeth Advocate reported on the continued success of Overdrive, the System vendor for downloadable audio books and E-books. Main concern at this point is keeping up with patron demand.
7. Due to restructuring/layoffs, Advocate is now the contact person for Youth Services.
8. Rebekkah Smith-Aldrich reported that ELFA bill passed.
9. Aldrich reported that to date, the Construction Grants for 2010-2011 should be good. There is currently money in the budget for 2011-2012.
10. Aldrich reported tax cap legislation looks as if it will become a reality, although libraries may or may not be specifically included. Nyerges warned that whether or not libraries are included, to ignore the tax cap could be a political misstep.
11. Laurie Shedrick reported due to layoffs, tech support hours have changed. New OPAC will be released in March.
12. In response to the Board Liason report, Directors expressed concern that MHLS BOT were not willing to be contacted directly. Proposed that instead of making their private e-mails public, the BOT be given MHLS e-mail addresses.

Respectfully submitted by Erica Freudenberger
February 14, 2010