

Construction Grant Applications (FY2012-2013)

MHLS Incentives Committee Recommendations

Background

MHLS member libraries have reported a **need for over \$55,000,000** for construction, expansion and renovation through the 2011 Construction Needs Update Action Memo. Applicants for the '11-'12 round of construction funds have requested over **\$784,000**.

Total Available Funds for 2012: MHLS has been allotted **\$525,545** through the State Aid for Public Library Construction Program. This year the System decided to exercise its right to use a portion of the allotted funds. While under the Commissioner's Regulations the System is allowed to use up to 40% of the funds allotted to our region, the System has used just over 4% of the available funds for an asbestos abatement project in the Auditorium basement. After the **System award of \$22,828** there is **\$502,717 available to award to member library applicants**.

Award Recommendation Process

The Incentives Committee of the MHLS Board is tasked with awarding the grant funds.

The MHLS Board approved a list of priority funding areas at its May 2012 meeting:

- Project must be part of a long-range plan and
- Provide for an:
 - Increase in services
 - Increase in access and/or
 - Energy conservation in the context of a professional's recommendations or with an historic preservation element

**Please note that libraries were notified of the board's priorities prior to their application submissions.*

2012 Committee Approach:

1. Reviewed a summary of each application. [Please note: The library associated with each project was not revealed.]
2. As a group, reviewed applications checking for projects that meet the stated criteria of:
 - Increase in services
 - Increase in access and/or
 - Energy conservation in the context of a professional's recommendations or with an historic preservation element
3. As individuals, ranked applications on a 1-2-3-4 scale (1 = highest priority; 4 = eliminate). As a group, built consensus on project rating. (No applicants were eliminated this year.)
4. Divided up the available grants funds using a percentage-based formula applied to the rating.

Member Library Application Summaries & Recommended Award Amounts

Library	Project Description	Amount Requested	<i>Recommended Award Amount</i>
Athens	Restoration/Rehabilitation/Energy Conservation: Historic preservation work on the exterior of the building – repointing and rehabilitation of brick exterior; restoration of corbels and dentils.	\$14,750	\$5,700
Beacon	Expansion/Renovation/Energy Conservation: Façade work to connect two areas of existing building. Will result in 80 square feet of additional space while addressing NYSERDA identified energy conservation measures for the building envelope.	\$27,203	\$15,122
Claverack	Renovation/Rehabilitation/Energy Conservation/Accessibility: Secondary phase of a large adaptive re-use project to address building envelope issues; electrical system; and creation of a handicapped accessible entry way. <i>Increase in usable public space once the entire project is complete: 342%.</i>	\$125,000	\$80,500
Haines Falls	Renovation/Rehabilitation/Energy Conservation/Accessibility: Later phase of a significant renovation project to install Heating, Ventilation, Air Conditioning (HVAC) system, handicapped accessible restrooms and other handicapped accessible aspects of the facility. <i>Increase in usable public space once the entire project is complete: 466%.</i>	\$185,850	\$130,095
Kinderhook	Renovation/Rehabilitation/Accessibility: Reconfiguration and replacement of circulation desk, book return area at entrance of facility to facilitate workflow efficiencies and address accessibility issues; renovation of front porch to a brick deck.	\$3,650	\$2,555
Patterson	Renovation/Rehabilitation/Accessibility: Last phase of a major renovation/expansion project to include initial equipment to create a computer classroom; accessible outdoor walkway and teaching area; parking lot lighting; and connection to town sewer.	\$59,483	\$21,106
Phoenicia	Expansion/Energy Conservation/Renovation/Accessibility: Phase II of renovation project to expand current footprint concurrently with renovation work of fire-damaged building. Will result in new space for children's room, community meeting room and elevator. Slated to be the first Passive House designed library in the country.	\$235,619	\$177,714
Rhinecliff	Energy Conservation: Optimization of heating system to improve energy conservation, includes consolidation of system to one boiler from two; zoned heating and programmable thermostats. Upgrades are based on a NYSERDA Energy Audit.	\$10,987	\$4,194
Stone Ridge	Renovation/Rehabilitation/Energy Conservation: Significant stabilization, rehabilitation and energy conservation project for a building on the State and National Registers of Historic Places. Work to be done has been prioritized within a comprehensive building plan based on a professional historic preservation report and NYSERDA Energy Audit.	\$86,218	\$51,531
Woodstock	Site Acquisition: Purchase of a facility that will become the library's annex to provide additional meeting space and technology-based offerings. <i>Increase in usable public space once the entire project is complete: at least 13%.</i>	\$35,500	\$14,200
Totals:		\$784,260.00	\$502,717.00