

Incentives Committee Meeting

Monday, August 31st, 2020 | 9:30am | Online

1) Roll Call

- ✓ Stuart Auchincloss, Chair (U)
- ✓ Sharon Davis (C)
- ✓ Priscilla Goldfarb (P)
- ✓ Rajene Hardeman (D)
- ✓ Mary Linda Todd (G)
- Richard Swierat (ex officio) (D)
- ✓ Rebekkah Smith Aldrich (Staff Liaison)
- ✓ Casey Conlin, MHLS (Staff Liaison)

- 2) **Comments from the Committee Chair:** Mr. Auchincloss opened the meeting with a review of the differences in the board priorities related to increased services and increased access.
- 3) **Review of process for Construction Grant Award Recommendations:** Mr. Conlin provided a review of the process including the use of the board-approved priorities to award points to the applications in order to calculate weighted award amounts.
- 4) **Review and Ranking of Member Library Construction Grant Applications:** The Committee reviewed and ranked thirteen (13) member library applications and directed MHLS staff to develop an equitable funding formula based on those rankings. The award amount recommendations are attached to this report for the board's consideration.

ACTION: The Incentives Committee recommends that the MHLS Board approve the recommended award amounts presented in the attached document for the 2020-2021 State Aid for Library Construction Program

- 5) **Guidance on Assignment of Additional Funds:** The Committee directed MHLS staff to reallocate any funds a) turned down by members recommended for funding or b) offered by NYS in addition to MHLS' allocation as equitably as possibly across all libraries recommended for funding.
- 6) **Debrief/Suggestions for 2021 Process**
- a) The Committee discussed adding "pandemic" to the list of examples for a reason the disaster recovery point can be considered if the applicant makes the case that their project is clearly tied to responding to the pandemic.

INCENTIVES COMMITTEE: Responsible for the continuing review of the MHLS grants program. Presents its recommendations for the following year's grants program to the board prior to the review of the next year's budget.

- b) The Committee would like to see a priority augmented or added to elevate projects related to building occupant safety that go beyond a normal repair project.
- c) The Committee commented that they would like to see applicants provide statistics and demographics to back-up statements in narratives. This is something MHLS staff will coach applicants on for future years during the technical assistance webinar and office hours.