

Incentives Committee Meeting

Thursday, March 12, 2020 | 1:30pm

1) Roll Call

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

2) **Call to Order:** Mr. Auchincloss, Committee Chair, called the meeting to order

3) **Chair's Comments:** Mr. Auchincloss welcomed Ms. Hardeman, a new member to the committee.

4) **State Aid for Library Construction Program:**

- a) Staff provided an overview of the program, the role of the Committee and MHLS Board and anticipated timeline for the grant program.
 - i) It was noted that this is a competitive grant program which necessitates the need for a process to prioritize applications for these funds.
- b) The Committee reviewed the list of Funding Priorities to be used if there are more requests for these funds than are allocated to MHLS.
 - i) There was a discussion related to the Energy Conservation point. The Committee continues to feel that an energy audit done by a professional in the field of energy conservation is important. The Committee decided to broaden the ways in which a library may earn this point, opening the door to an energy study that is comparable to a Level 2 ASHRAE Energy Audit such as the cost-effective energy study program offered through the New York State Energy and Research Development Authority (NYSERDA).
 - (1) **BOARD ACTION ITEM:** The Committee's recommendations for the 2020-2021 funding priorities are attached to this report and will be an action item at the March 2020 Board meeting.
 - ii) The Committee agreed to use the same definition of an "economically disadvantaged community" as has been used in the previous years and renewed their goal to analyze this definition once the 2020 Census data is available. **BOARD ACTION ITEM:** The Committee

recommendation for the definition of an “economically disadvantaged community” in the Mid-Hudson Library System is to be an action item at the March 2020 Board meeting.

- iii) The plan for the cultivation and review of applications was reviewed and accepted, including the schedule.
- iv) The Conflict of Interest policy was reviewed. No sitting committee members has a conflict of interest situation this year as none of the committee members currently serve on a member library board of trustees.

5) Mileage Equalization Grant Program

- a) The Committee endorsed the program as it stands.
- b) The Committee asked for additional information to be provided at their next meeting regarding use of the program by member libraries.

6) NYLA Conference Attendance Grants

- a) The Committee unanimously endorsed offering this program again for 2020 with the following upgrade: the addition of a reporting requirement for recipients to share what they learned while at the conference
- b) The Committee unanimously agreed that this program will be offered if our state funding is restored to the same level received last year, if it is not, this program will be suspended until funding is restored.
- c) The Committee requests that data on the program be provided each year at their March meeting.

7) 2020 Committee Meeting Schedule

- a) June – review NYLA Conference Attendance Grant applications
- b) Late August/Early September – Review of State Aid for Library Construction applications

8) **Public Comment:** None.

9) **Other Items:** None.