

ULAC

Annual Report for NHLA Executive Board

09/13/22

- ULAC has met regularly in 2022 thus far, each month except for April. The group met on 1/28 virtually, 2/25 virtually, 3/25 virtually, 5/13 in-person at the Rodgers Memorial Library in Hudson, 6/10 in-person aboard the MS Mt Washington in Laconia, 7/29 in-person at the Durham Public Library, 8/26 in-person at the Portsmouth Public Library, and coming up, 9/30 virtually, 10/28 in-person in Lebanon, and a time/place to be determined in December. As is typically the case, there will be no meeting in November.
- The officers for ULAC in 2022 were Eric Stern from the Derry Public Library as chair; Sheryl Bass from the Durham Public Library as secretary, and Betsy Solon from the Wadleigh Memorial Library in Milford as treasurer.
- ULAC has maintained good attendance throughout the year, at both its virtual and in-person meetings. Looking ahead, the group is excited to welcome Lebanon back to active membership within the group!
- Topics of discussion this year have included the obvious relating to the ongoing pandemic, but in addition, the following “highlights” have appeared on ULAC agendas:
 - Challenges with increased presence of unhoused at our libraries
 - E-book pricing for public libraries – promoting awareness of the cost challenges
 - Handling challenging patron interactions (with special guest presenters)
 - Discussion of pay rates, and our respective challenges in hiring and retaining staff
 - Happy Retirement, Randy Brough!
 - This was celebrated aboard the MS Mt Washington, near Randy’s library in Laconia. A wonderful time was had by all, and we were able to send Randy off into the sunset in style. ☺
 - The role of the Reference Department in ULAC libraries
 - Employment of minors
 - Loaning chromebooks, laptops, and other “big ticket” technology
 - Animals in our libraries – dogs, service animals, etc.
 - Recent book challenges in seacoast area libraries
- ULAC’s last reported \$ balance stands at \$6,414.14
- We’re looking forward to another great year in 2023, once again (hopefully) less dictated by the ongoing pandemic than previous years!

Respectfully submitted,

Eric Stern, ULAC Chair