The meeting of the North Country Public Library Directors’ Organization was called to order at 1:30 PM by President Wayne Miller. 25 members were in attendance at the North Country Library System building with 5 video conferencing at the Potsdam site. Wayne introduced our new NCLS consultant, Angela Newman. Carol Ferlito moved, seconded by Sandy Lamb, for approval of the minutes from the April 2013 meeting. All agreed.

Old Business:
A representative from St. Lawrence is needed for the Central Library Advisory Committee and Linda Adams from GOV volunteered. A status check on 24/7 indicated use is dwindling and the cost is approximately $1600 monthly or $2.50 per question. A suggestion was made to defer to the Central Library Advisory Committee, but WAT and OGD have reference librarians in place allowing referrals to be made without 24/7. Questions for 24/7 are not always realistic and can be answered by the local library while other questions may be homework related. After much discussion including new promotional efforts, Sandy Lamb made a motion, seconded by Stella Todd, to discontinue 24/7 due to lack of time and financial resources. All agreed and Steve Bolton will set the cutoff date as soon as is feasible. Wayne gave a brief update on ZINIO, downloadable magazines, at a total cost of $9600 per year for the 65 libraries (or approximately $150 per library). There appears to be interest as circulation is available to all libraries and each library may subscribe to their choice of magazines. EBSCO also has a plan but not as good. People using e-materials sustain a library. Liaisons are needed to go between the NCLS Board and the Directors’ Organization. The NCLS Board meets on the third Thursday of the month six times a year (February – Sharon Briggs; April – ; June – ; August – ; October - Annual Meeting; December - ). Volunteers - please let Wayne know.

New Business:
Virtual attendance allows for flexibility for videoconferencing meetings and will be used for the first two meetings in 2014 using registration as a means for determine attendance. Noreen Patterson moved the resolution, seconded by Carol Ferlito. It was passed.
Barbara Wheeler announced that the Sisters of St. Joseph asked the libraries to become involved to show the movie “Bought and Sold” several times and participate in a display on human slavery during the month of January which is National Slavery and Human Trafficking Prevention Month.

The following Directors will participate in the NCLS System Study: Dennis Eickhoff and Wayne Miller from St. Lawrence County, Sally Brown and Dawn Myers from Lewis County, Carol Ferlito and Noreen Patterson from Oswego County, and Sandy Lamb and Barbara Wheeler from Jefferson County.

Steve Bolton reported on suggestions for the System Study including budget cutting measures requiring more responsibility, ownership and participation in priority setting. There was much discussion on which databases to keep and also regional electronic material. The group will look at the next plan of service and will meet on June 27th in Lewis County.

Several libraries have received calls from Senator Patty Ritchie’s office inquiring about our needs. Wayne thanked Steve Bolton for all NCLS does for the member libraries. “Read on the River” was very successful for the initial event. Dennis Eickhoff was recognized as Director of the Year by NYLA. The cost for overdue books never returned from the correctional facilities can be reimbursed by NCLS. The Colton Library will celebrate 100 years with an anniversary party on Saturday, June 15 at 11:00AM.

The date for the next meeting will be following the annual meeting on October 5, 2013. Rebekkah Smith Aldrich, Coordinator for Library Sustainability for the Mid-Hudson library System, will be the featured speaker for the annual meeting.

Sharon Briggs moved to adjourn, seconded by Julie Garnsey. Adjournment was at 3:19 PM.

Respectfully,

Margaret M. Weigel, Secretary