



**Minutes from 2012 Annual Business Meeting  
DCU Center, Worcester, MA  
May 10, 2012 12:00 noon – 1:30 pm**

**Call to order - Ruth Urell, MLA President:** Ruth called the meeting to order at 12:15 and welcomed attendees, honored guests, MLA Hall of Fame recipients, and librarians who traveled a great distance to attend conference this year.

Ruth introduced members of the MLA Administrative Committee, and honored guests, and gave special thanks to Conference Committee Co-chairs, Ellen MJ Keene and Sarah Soggigian. Ruth also acknowledged section committee chairs.

**Approval of Annual Meeting Minutes from April 29, 2011 - Ruth Urell :** Bernadette made a motion to accept the minutes of the 2011 Annual Business Meeting, Dinah seconded, and the motion passed unanimously.

**MLA Highlights - Ruth Urell:** Ruth drew attention to her written Annual Report brochure.

**Treasurer's Report - Bernadette Rivard, Treasurer:** Bernadette highlighted the positive news from her written report.

**Nominating Committee Report - Jackie Rafferty, Past President:** Jackie presented the slate of officers for Fiscal 2013, Dinah O'Brian as President, Elizabeth Wolfe as Vice-President, Ruth Urell as Past President, and Laura Bernheim as Secretary. Bernadette Rivard will be continuing on in her third as Treasurer.

**Paralibrarian Awards - Gerry Deyermond and Allison Sloan, Paralibrarian Section Co-Chairs:** Allison Sloan recognized the work of the Para-Librarian program and acknowledged fact that 60% of library staff members are Para-Librarian Staff.

The Paralibrarian Award Recipients & Nominees 2012

Armine Bagdasarian- Regis College, Weston  
Alexis Bergeron- Lucius Beebe Memorial Library, Wakefield  
Lyndal Blodgett- Concord Free Library  
**Gerry Deyermond-Memorial Hall Library, Andover**  
Martha Grant- Melrose Public Library  
Cindy Hinckley-Sherborn Library  
Debbie Hogan-Henry Whittmore Library, Framingham State University  
Amanda McClaine-Cary Memorial Library, Lexington  
Carla B. Morrissey- Mt Wachusett Community College, Gardner  
**Hope Schneider-Greenfield Community College Library**

Judith Straeffer-Chelmsford High School Learning Commons  
Joan Sutherland- East Forest Park Branch Library, Springfield  
Group Nomination–Millis Public Library  
Donna Brooks, Joan Dikun, Nancy Doyle,  
Lorraine Fermano, Karen Mortimer, Maria Neville, Rena Romano, Marcie Smith, Betsy Vecchi

Paralibrarian Recognition of Achievement Recipients for 2012 are:

Level I Judith Fallon- Gordon Library- WPI-Worcester  
Kevin MacKenzie- Shea Library- American International College/ Springfield

Level II Karen Horn- Sturgis Library- Barnstable  
Cindy Filipe- Reuben Hoar Library- Littleton

**Mass Library Aid Association - Shelley Quezada, MBLC:** Shelly gave a brief history of the MLAA and encouraged all members of MLA to contribute to the financial stability of fund so that it can continue to serve the needs of the library community.

**Induction of President - Ruth Urell:** Ruth spoke of her admiration for the inspiring, dedicated staff members who love what they do. Ruth recognized the importance of maintaining the love for the work in order to do our personal best. To work with love and be generous makes a fundamental difference to the quality of our work.

Ruth then introduced incoming MLA President, Dinah O'Brian, who works for the town of Plymouth representing 5 municipal departments. It is her mission to raise awareness of the impact of libraries throughout the state. More people come through the doors of libraries than almost any other municipal department in any give city or town.

Dinah's vision for the future involves greater awareness for municipal understanding of the value that libraries bring to the community. Libraries need greater involvement on a municipal level. Libraries are key in this Commonwealth, and throughout the coming year, Dinah will work to raise the profile of libraries in their respective communities.

**Acknowledge outgoing Executive Board members - Ruth Urell:** Ruth acknowledged the hard work of out-going Past-President Jackie Rafferty, Nancy Siegel, outgoing Secretary, and Kim Lynn, outgoing chair of the Membership Committee. Ruth encouraged attendees to consider serving on an MLA committee, as a diverse perspective of librarians throughout the commonwealth is always welcome.

**New Business - Ruth Urell:** None

**State of the State - Rob Maier, Director, MBLC:** Rob asked all attending members of the MBLC to stand and be acknowledged for their contributions.

Budget: Funding still remains challenging, although funding for the Construction Co-coordinator was restored.

Technology Initiatives: work on the new Virtual Catalog is underway. Database procurement is now complete for the next 5 years. Open-Source project is underway....Broadband initiative is also underway. The ***WHO NEEDS LIBRARIES*** marketing campaign has been very successful, and a new video supporting this campaign is now online.

Rob attended the recent program on the future of libraries that was held before lunch and he was extremely impressed with the notion of libraries invading their communities.

**ALA Highlights - Molly Raphael, ALA President:** Molly thanked Ruth and Dinah for their inspiring words. Molly takes inspiration from the younger members of the library profession and knows that the future is in good hands.

**Hall of Fame Inductions - Laurie Lessner and Jocelyn Tavares, Public Relations Committee Co-Chairs:** Laurie introduced Jeff Klapes, of the Lucius Beebe Memorial Library in Wakefield, who inducted Leane Ellis into the MLA Hall of Fame. Leane excelled as a Reader's Advisory expert in Wakefield and across the state. In her acceptance speech, Leane thanked Sharon Gilley, Director of the Beebe Library, and many others for contributing to her success and providing inspiration and guidance throughout her career.

Sue Hugus, of the Monson Memorial Library inducted Bonnie Isman, former Director of the Jones Library in Amherst. Sue was particularly grateful to Bonnie for encouraging her to join MLA and become involved at the state level and advocacy as a whole. In her acceptance speech, Bonnie thanked MLA for the honor of being inducted into the Hall of Fame. Bonnie acknowledged the efforts of the entire staff at the Jones Library, as she believes that no one individual can make a difference without the support of a wonderful staff behind her.

Alice Welch inducted Maureen Killoran formerly of the MBLC. Alice summarized a long history of Maureen's outstanding work advocating for libraries throughout the state. Maureen thanked the association for this honor. She thanked all of her colleagues at the MBLC and professional contacts at MLA for many years of rewarding work.

Rebecca Freer, Director of the Norwell Public Library inducted Jackie Rafferty of the Paul Pratt Library in Cohasset and acknowledged her passion for libraries and determined advocacy efforts. Rebecca summarized Jackie's many accomplishments throughout the state and national level. Jackie shared a story from her community about a young patron who started a petition to increase the evening hours for Cohasset. Jackie takes inspiration from young advocates like this patron who works tirelessly for improved library services without barriers to access.

**Adjournment - Ruth Urell:** Ruth again thanked everyone for attending and thanked all of libraries and staff for their generosity with the basket donation and raffle. Dinah made a motion to adjourn at 1:44; Bernadette seconded the motion which passed unanimously.