



Massachusetts Library Association  
Executive Board Meeting  
April 11, 2014  
Burlington Public Library  
Burlington, MA

In attendance: Elizabeth “Betsy” Marcus (President), Maureen Ambrosino (Vice President), Dinah O’Brien (Past President), Ryan Livergood (Treasurer), Laura Bernheim (Secretary), Sarah Hagan (Association Manager), Esmé Green (Conference Committee), Gerry Deyermond (Paralibrarian Section), Meredith Crosby (Technical Services Section), Jocelyn Tavares (Public Relations Committee), Nancy Sheehan (Public Relations Committee), Kathy Lowe (Massachusetts School Library Association), Sharon Shaloo (Massachusetts Center for the Book), Jackie Rafferty (Intellectual Freedom Committee), Noelle Boc (Youth Services Section), Beverly Shank (Legislative Committee), Susan McAlister (Legislative Committee), Krista McLeod (New England Library Association), Ellen Keane (Conference Committee), Michelle Filleul (Conference Committee), Greg Pronevitz (Massachusetts Library System), Dianne Carty (Massachusetts Board of Library Commissioners -- via speaker phone)

President Elizabeth “Betsy” Marcus called the meeting to order at 10:12 am. The [consent agenda](#) and [minutes](#) from the February board meeting were approved. Betsy asked that the [Legislative Committee](#) and the [Technical Services Section](#) reports be pulled out for discussion. Krista McLeod asked that the [NELA report](#) also be pulled out for discussion.

### **President’s Report (Elizabeth “Betsy” Marcus)**

[click here for report](#)

- Betsy thanked the Public Relations (PR) Committee for beefing up MLA’s [Facebook presence](#).
- Betsy reminded all committee and section chairs and organization liaisons to submit reports to Sarah Hagan the Wednesday before the scheduled executive board meetings. Sarah has been sending out a reminder notice the Friday before the meetings.

### **Treasurer’s Report (Ryan Livergood)**

[click here for report](#)

- As of this meeting, vendor registrations are a little down.

### **Association Manager’s Report (Sarah Hagan)**

- As of this meeting, 215 people signed up for conference.
- Anyone wanting to do a group registration should contact Sarah directly at [manager@masslib.org](mailto:manager@masslib.org)
- Ryan mentioned that the registrations are on par with last year.

- **Ryan Livergood made a motion to go to a conference call service allowing board members remote access to meetings. Susan McAlister seconded the motion. The motion was approved.** The administrative board will choose the service.
- Sarah was able to deposit 75% of the un-cashed checks uncovered earlier this year.

## Committee and Liaison Reports

### Legislative Committee and Massachusetts Board of Library Commissioners (MBLC) (Beverly Shank, Susan McAlister, and Dianne Carty)

[click here for report](#)

- Betsy encouraged everyone to give the legislative committee and the Massachusetts School Library Association (MSLA) a much deserved round of applause for their excellent work on Library Legislative Day on March 31.
- Beverly mentioned that booking for next year would be a big topic at the next Legislative Committee on May 30.
- The estimated number at Library Legislative Day was 208. In the past, the average was 280-300.
- Thank-you to Sharon Shaloo for helping to facilitate the READ poster event at Library Legislative Day. Twenty-seven legislators participated.
- There were 62 people at the MSLA bookmark contest event, including legislators.
- Some other issues to consider when planning next year's event:
  - Legislators are usually in their districts when the event is on a Monday or a Friday.
  - Legislators will often ask if their constituents are there, and there is often no way of knowing. Greg Pronevitz suggested providing a sheet with all of the towns in Massachusetts and asking attendees to check off their towns when arriving. Another suggestion was encouraging advanced registration. Please e-mail Beverly any suggestions before the next legislative committee meeting.
- Signatories were needed on the following amendments to the House Budget (H-4000)
  - **Amendment 500**-Increase line 7000-9501 (State Aid to Public Libraries) to \$9,223,657
  - **Amendment 648**-Increase line 7000-9506 (Library Technology & Resource Sharing) to \$3,129,238
  - **Amendment 748**-Increase line 7000-9401 (State Aid to Regional Libraries) to \$9,806,360 & 41 cents per capita (supports free digitization for MA public libraries)
  - **Amendment 568**- Fund the MA Center for the Book by \$250,000
  - **Amendment 922**-Establish a Special Commission to study Public School Libraries in MA
- Dianne mentioned that the restoration of state aid over the course of 3 years was suggested by Library Caucus leader, Representative Kate Hogan, as the legislature tends to do things in three year phases.
- The priority of the legislative committee in regards to the house budget will be to focus on state aid.
- The MBLC held a special meeting on Tuesday, April 15 discussing the vacant director position.

## Membership (Maureen Ambrosino)

- There are 823 members.
- Maureen has been reaching out to lapsed members. Only 22 recipients of the 135 e-mails that she sent have read the messages.
- Maureen submitted the proposal for [Institutional Membership](#). The proposal was approved by the administrative board. **Laura Bernheim made a motion for the executive board to accept the Institutional Membership proposal set forth by the membership committee and approved by the administrative board. Ryan Livergood seconded the motion. The motion was approved.** The proposal will go before the membership of MLA.

### Technical Services Section (TSS) (Meredith Crosby)

[read report here](#)

- An e-mail was sent to TSS members reminding everyone to renew their memberships.
- The board of TSS would like to change the mission statement and possibly the section's name to include more of a technological aspect, in response to the trend of most public libraries not doing in house cataloging. Krista McLeod will take a look at their bylaws and let Meredith know what needs to be done.

### New England Library Association (NELA) (Krista McLeod)

- NELA President Deb Hoadley is working with Maureen to build a stronger bridge between MLA and NELA.
- The following was embedded in the February 14 MLA Executive Board minutes, but MLA members are strongly encouraged to provide feedback to Deb Hoadley regarding the following:

*State Association Considerations*

*I would love to get your feedback on any or all of the following questions. The NELA Executive Board is really looking forward to connecting and collaborating with our state associations, and we hope to include some of your ideas as we define our future as a leading library association. Please feel free to email me at [dhoadley@nelib.org](mailto:dhoadley@nelib.org).*

*Deb Hoadley, NELA President*

*1. How can NELA help support your initiatives and goals?*

- *Professional Development (conference, stand-alone, promotional help with state offerings)*
- *Collaborations between sections – Intellectual Freedom, leadership initiatives, Pride Alliance, Youth sections, Technical Services – beyond Annual Conference programs*
- *Legislative Actions*

*2. How can we build a stronger network together?*

- *Membership – not competing for membership, joint possibility*
- *Mentoring*
- *Student engagement*
- *Networking opportunities*

*3. How can we strengthen state association presence at Annual Conference or at State*

- *Joint offerings*
- *Program planning/conference committee involvement*

• *Venue in all states – better rotation*

- There is a proposal at NELA, in which members of the various New England state library associations can join NELA for only an additional \$20.00. This would be the only way to join NELA. NELA membership will have to vote on this proposal since it affects that organization's fees.
- The Emerson Greenaway award will be open for nominations, soon.

### **Public Relations (PR) Committee (Jocelyn Tavares and Nancy Sheehan)**

- The following will be inducted into the MLA Hall of Fame:
  - Linda Watkins (Simmons College)
  - Debby Conrad (SAILS Library Network)
  - Rob Meier (former director of the Massachusetts Board of Library Commissioners)
  - Nancy Aberman (Reading Public Library)
  - Mary King (former advisor, Massachusetts Library System)

***The slate was approved by the executive board.***

### **Paralibrarian Committee (Gerry Deyermund)**

- The committee is celebrating 10 years as the "Paralibrarian Committee"
- There are three entries in the book cart drill team: Longmeadow Library, UMASS/Dartmouth, and a combined team from Methuen/Dracut.
- The nominees for paralibrarian and paralibrarian advocate of the year will be announced at the May 6 awards gala. The winners will be announced at the committee's annual meeting.

### **Youth Services Section (YSS) (Noelle Boc)**

- The retreat in March went very well.
- YSS is going to work more with NELA's New England Roundtable of Teen and Children's Librarians (NERTCL)
- Noelle asked for permission to sell imprinted lunch bags featuring Little Red Riding Hood at the MLA Conference. ***Ryan Livergood made the motion to move \$300 from the newsletter line item in the FY 2014 MLA Budget to the YSS line item to cover the cost of the lunch bag overhead. Laura Bernheim seconded the motion. The motion was approved.***
- Ryan mentioned that it is good practice to put in such requests into future budget proposals. Dinah O'Brien suggested that there be a separate line item for fundraising overhead so that the money is not taken from a specific section. Ellen Keane asked that the board have a discussion about what can be sold as fundraisers. Ryan also suggested discussing the MLA logo as it is not optimized for imprinting. The discussion will be added to the agenda at the June meeting.

### **Personnel/Education (PIE) (Kirsten Underwood)**

- The committee will be setting up table tents advertising MLA committees and sections at the conference lunches. Committee and section liaisons were to send their information by April 16.

## Old Business

- **Election Results (Dinah O'Brien)**
  - The results have been [tallied](#).
  - There were a total of 165 voters.
  - Ruth Urell will be the ALA Councilor.
  - Eric Poulin will be the Vice President/President Elect.
  - Debby Conrad was elected Secretary.
- **Budget (Ryan Livergood)**
  - The proposed budget is [here](#).
  - A discussion ensued about what line item should be used to include meals for conference. Sarah said that it was easier, financially, if the meals are included with the conference line item.
  - Noelle offered to give up \$50 from the YSS line item to the PR line item for the PR awards.
  - An additional \$700 was added to the budget for fundraising.
  - ***Susan McAlister made a motion that the proposed FY 2015 MLA Budget be presented to the MLA membership, including the additional \$700 and the re-allocated \$50 from the Youth Services Section to the Public Relations Committee. Nancy Sheehan seconded. The motion was approved.***
- **Bylaws Revision (Elizabeth "Betsy" Marcus)**
  - Betsy put forth proposed [changes](#) to the MLA Bylaws. The draft of changes is [here](#).
  - ***Jacqueline Rafferty made a motion that the executive board accept all bylaws changes. Noelle Boc seconded the motion. The motion was approved.*** The motion will go before MLA membership.
  - Ellen Rainville will be happy to serve as chair of a standing bylaws committee. Susan suggested that at least one person from the executive board with institutional knowledge should also serve on the committee.

## New Business

- Annual Meeting is on May 8, 2014.
- Annual reports are due from all sections and committees by the June 13 executive board meeting. Chairs are asked to submit the reports in person and electronically.
- Susan suggested that there should be better orientation for new board members at the June meeting.

### **Conference (Ellen Keane and Esmé Green)**

- [Conference](#) is going to be awesome! The conference is May 6-8 at the DCU Center in Worcester.
- The number of registrations is on target with previous years.
- Sarah has hired Diane Young to help with some of the logistics at the conference.
- The conference committee is well prepared with ribbons and badges.
- After much discussion, it was determined not to allow for discounted parking as it causes confusion, and the parking is not terribly expensive.
- Ryan mentioned that the evening activities are vague on the website, which may make them a bit of a hard sell.
- There will be a performers' showcase in the exhibit hall. The performers are paying to appear.
- There will be another basket raffle. Anyone providing a basket should contact Virginia Johnson at [vjohnson@ocln.org](mailto:vjohnson@ocln.org)
- Barnes and Noble will handle book sales.
- Betsy expressed large gratitude to the conference committee.

***Susan McAlister moved to adjourn the meeting at 1:02 pm. Noelle Boc seconded. The meeting was adjourned.***

Respectfully submitted,

Laura Bernheim  
MLA Secretary