



Massachusetts Library Association (MLA) Annual Meeting @ Annual Conference  
May 8, 2014  
DCU Center  
Worcester, MA

President Elizabeth Marcus called the meeting to order at 12:29 pm.

#### **Announcements (Elizabeth Marcus)**

- Elizabeth Marcus mentioned that she hoped everyone was having a wonderful conference.
- Elizabeth Marcus thanked the three conference committee co-chairs: Esme Green, Michelle Filleul, and Ellen Keane. She also thanked the administrator of the conference raffle, Virginia Johnson.
- Elizabeth Marcus thanked new association manager, Sarah Hagan.

#### **Presidential Transition (Elizabeth Marcus)**

- Elizabeth Marcus announced the turning over of powers to Vice President-President Elect, Maureen Ambrosino. She presented Maureen Ambrosino with the official MLA gavel and block.
- Elizabeth Marcus mentioned that MLA was founded in 1890 as the Massachusetts Library Club. The gavel and block of wood were presented to the Massachusetts Library Club in 1929. The wood is from the USS Constitution.
- Anyone who knows a safe and secure place for both storing the gavel and block, as well as displaying it for the public should contact Elizabeth Marcus or Maureen Ambrosino.

#### **Minutes (Laura Bernheim)**

- Secretary Laura Bernheim called for the membership to make a motion to accept the [minutes from the April 2013 annual meeting](#).
- ***Ruth Urell made a motion to accept the minutes from the 2013 MLA Annual Meeting. Kathy Moran-Wallace seconded the motion. The motion passed unanimously.***

#### **Paralibrarian Awards (Gerry Deyermond and Sandy Leifeld)**

- Joyce Senior achieved Level 1 PARA recognition of achievement. Gerry Deyermond achieved Level 4 PARA recognition of achievement.
- The paralibrarian of the year is Diane Annunziato.
- The paralibrarian advocate of the year is Danielle Bowker.
- The team from the University of Massachusetts/Dartmouth won the book cart drill team competition.

#### **Honorary Membership (Elizabeth Marcus)**

- Elizabeth Marcus announced that the recipient of the first ever MLA honorary lifetime membership is [Massachusetts State Senator Stephen Brewer](#).
- Senator Brewer, who is retiring, was honored with the the MLA library advocacy award in 2005 in order to ensure funding for libraries.
- Senator Brewer was unable to attend the MLA Conference and will be presented with the lifetime membership in his hometown of Bare.

### **State of the Commonwealth (Francis “Frank” Murphy, Commissioners, Massachusetts Board of Library Commissioners)**

- Frank Murphy mentioned that the Massachusetts Board of Library Commissioners (MBLC) is primarily responsible for two accounts -- the Construction Program and the Operational Accounts which covers state aid, technology and resource sharing, the Massachusetts Library System (MLS), the Library for the Commonwealth, and the Talking Book Libraries in Watertown and Worcester.
- Since May 2013, 8 new library buildings have opened, with the help of 34 million dollars in construction grants from the MBLC.
- The MBLC also has received 28 applicants for the Planning and Design Grant. The board will make recommendations for 20 projects in June.
- Prior to receiving waivers, 278 municipal libraries were fully certified. 72 libraries applied for waivers and received them, bringing the total up to 344.
- E-book circulation has increased by 39.1%, with a total of 1,450,000 items circulating.
- The total number of hours that libraries were open was a little over 900,000. Libraries were open 100,000 on Saturdays, and 11,500 on Sundays. The percentage of hours open on Sunday has increased by 20% since 2012.
- Network fees accounted for approximately 8 million dollars, making for an increase of approximately 5%.
- The total library holdings were approximately 49 million.
- The MBLC was hopeful about the state budget for Fiscal Year 2015 (FY15). However, the Administration and Finance (A&F) and House budgets did not show any signs of improved significances. The State Aid and technology accounts are level funded
- Frank Murphy announced that Dianne Carty has accepted the position of Director of the Massachusetts Board of Library Commissioners. The news received an enthusiastic response.
- Frank Murphy congratulated Senator Brewer on receiving lifetime membership from MLA.
- Frank Murphy concluded his speech congratulating all the library employees “in the trenches”.

### **New Business**

#### **Fiscal Year 2015 MLA (FY15) Budget (Ryan Livergood)**

- Treasurer Ryan Livergood presented the [proposed budget](#) for FY15.
- There is a \$7,000.70 increase in revenue in the FY15 budget.

- Ryan Livergood stressed that conference fees are a large part of MLA revenue and encouraged everyone to renew their memberships.
- Ryan Livergood called for the membership to make a motion to accept the FY15 budget.
- ***Laura Bernheim made a motion that membership accept the Fiscal Year 2015 proposed budget. Eric Poulin seconded the motion. The motion passed unanimously.***

#### **Committee and Section Participating (Elizabeth Marcus)**

- Elizabeth Marcus mentioned all of the committees and sections of MLA, saying that all of them are looking for volunteers. She mentioned Investment Committee, Paralibrarian Section, Conference Committee, Intellectual Freedom Committee, Personnel Issues/Education Committee, Membership Committee, Youth Services Section, Technical Services Section, and the Public Relations (PR) Committee.
- Elizabeth Marcus thanked the PR Committee co-chairs, Laurie Lessner, Jocelyn Tavares, and Nancy Sheehan for their help in strengthening MLA's presence on social media.

#### **Bylaws Revision (Elizabeth Marcus)**

- Elizabeth Marcus thanked Ellen Rainville for all of her work in looking over the MLA bylaws and suggesting changes.
- There will be a new standing bylaws committee. Ellen Rainville has agreed to chair.
- There have been several [revisions to the MLA bylaws](#), including naming MLA as an employer, changing the title of "Executive Manager" to "Association Manager", and establishing a permanent legal address for MLA.
- Elizabeth Marcus called for membership to make a motion to accept the proposed bylaws changes.
- ***Carolyn Noah made a motion to accept the proposed bylaws changes for MLA. Eric Poulin seconded the motion. The motion passed unanimously.***

#### **Institutional Membership (Maureen Ambrosino)**

- As chair of the membership committee, Maureen Ambrosino drafted a [proposal for institutional membership](#). The draft was approved by the MLA Administrative Board and then the MLA Executive Board.
- Maureen Ambrosino called for membership to make a motion to accept the proposal for Institutional Membership.
- ***Laura Bernheim made a motion to accept the proposal for Institutional Memberships to the Massachusetts Library Association. Ryan Livergood seconded. The motion passed unanimously.***

#### **New England Library Association (NELA)/Massachusetts Library Association Joint Membership (Deb Hoadley)**

- Deb Hoadley, president of NELA stressed that it's important for NELA to support the New England state library associations, as well as the importance of working together.
- Eventually, MLA members will have the opportunity to join NELA for only \$20.

**Election Results (Elizabeth Marcus)**

- Elizabeth Marcus thanked Past President/Nominating Chair Dinah O'Brien, who was unable to attend, for her work on securing nominations.
- Eric Poulin from Greenfield Community College has been elected Vice President/President-Elect.
- Deborah Conrad from SAILS Library Network has been elected Secretary.
- Ruth Urell of the Reading Public Library has been elected ALA Councilor.
- Elizabeth Marcus also thanked Nora Blake who ran for secretary.

**President-Elect Speech (Maureen Ambrosino)**

- Maureen Ambrosino mentioned how excited she was to be chosen and she thanked Elizabeth Marcus for all of her hard work, especially through the transition of hiring a new Association Manager.
- Maureen Ambrosino talked about her library career, including the fact that she worked in a variety of libraries of every shape and size and worked for Patrick Jones.
- She mentioned the importance of working together and the importance of collaboration between the various sections and committees of MLA.
- Maureen Ambrosino reminded everyone that MLA's Strategic Plan is expiring in 2015.
- She stressed the importance of becoming an MLA member and encouraged everyone to join.
- Maureen thanked her husband as they celebrated their wedding anniversary.

***Ruth Urell moved to adjourn the annual meeting. Laura Bernheim seconded. All moved to adjourn at 1:20 pm.***

Respectfully submitted,

Laura Bernheim  
Secretary