



Massachusetts Library Association (MLA)  
Annual Meeting  
MLA Annual Conference  
April 26, 2013  
Hyatt Regency; Cambridge, Massachusetts

### **I. Minutes Accepted**

President Dinah O'Brien asked for a motion to accept the minutes from last year's annual meeting. ***Past President Ruth Urell moved to accept the minutes. Vice President Elizabeth Marcus seconded. The membership voted to accept them.***

### **II. President's Report (Dinah O'Brien)**

- Dinah mentioned that the past year had been a wonderful year for the association.
- MLA has completed a bylaw revision.
- Along with the paraprofessional section, approved the PARA, a paraprofessional certificate of achievement program. Prior, this had been referred to as the Paraprofessional Recognition of Achievement.
- Dinah congratulated Beverly Shank and Susan McAlister from the Legislative Committee on a job well done on Legislative Day in March.
- Advocacy work on the part of members of the association has had a positive effect on the Massachusetts legislative agenda.
- Dinah attended legislative breakfasts all across the state.
- Dinah continued to work with representatives from the Cape Cod and Islands Library Association (CCILA) and Western Massachusetts Library Advocates.
- Dinah personally thanked everyone for allowing her to serve and experience the past year. She thanked the executive board for doing an outstanding job, making sure to call out members of the Conference Committee.
- Dinah finished her speech saying, "We are MLA"

### **Treasurer's Report (Bernadette Rivard)**

- Last year's conference was a success, financially.
- The association is on its way back up. The first year that Bernadette was treasurer, the economy did not do well.
- MLA has 50 more members than last year.
- Bernadette is finishing her four year term as treasurer. She thanked all of the presidents and past treasurers with whom she has worked, including Nora Blake, Deb Abraham, Susan McAlister, Jackie Rafferty, Dinah O'Brien, and

Ruth Urell. She also thanked Executive Manager Elizabeth Hacala and the conference committee.

- ***Ruth Urell moved to accept the treasurer's report. Secretary Laura Bernheim seconded. The report passed.***

**State of the State (Dianne Carty, acting director, Massachusetts Board of Library Commissioners – MBLC)**

Dianne Carty's State of the State is embedded below:

*Good afternoon. I hope that you enjoyed the conference as much as I did.*

*Today I bring to you my version of the state of the state and because brevity is my middle name, it will be brief.*

*We have basically 3 levels of funding: state operating, state capital and federal LSTA.*

***State Operating***

*We have at this point received the Governor's (or House 1) budget and the House budget. With amendments voted on April 22, the H2 budget for the MBLC was increased \$307,467 over the Governor's H1 budget. Line 7000-9401 State Aid to Regional Public Libraries increased by \$48,000. Line 7000-9402 Talking Book Library at Worcester increased by \$10,766. Line 7000-9506 Library Technology and Resource Sharing increased by \$200,000. Line 7000-9406 Talking Book and Machine Lending at Perkins increased by \$55,408. The administration line of the MBLC was decreased \$6,707.*

*The Senate version is due around May 15.*

*Because the Senate will be working on their version for the next several weeks, contact with senators is important. It is important to further the MBLC's Legislative Agenda through any contacts that are made. State Aid to Public Libraries (9501) back to \$9.9 million. Line 9506 (telecomm) up to \$3.7 million. Line 9401 (Regional and Library of the Commonwealth) up to \$10.9 million.*

***Capital Bond Bill***

*One of the bond bills, General Government, that Governor Patrick filed included the full \$150 million authorization for the Public Library Construction Program. This amount matches the amount in the bill filed by Rep. Peake. This bill needs to make its way through the hearing process and then be enacted before these funds will be available. Typically this activity happens in July. When enacted this assures that the Waiting List projects will be funded as funds become available in the Five Year Capital Plan.*

***LSTA Federal Funding***

*We received notification of a 5% reduction in our FY2013 LSTA award, \$161,274. This is federal year 2013 (October 1, 2012 through September 30, 2013) which the MBLC can expend in federal 2013 or 2014. (October 2012 through September 2014).*

### **Impacts on the MBLC budget**

*The Transportation Bond Bill that invests \$13.7 billion over the next decade to modernize and maintain the transportation system.*

*Recent activities surrounding the events at the Boston Marathon.*

### **Current Bills we are watching and the Board of Library Commissioners has endorsed...**

#### **Bill H.2835 188th (Current)**

##### **An Act to establish a municipal record preservation commission**

*By Representative Keenan of Salem and Senator Eldridge, a joint petition (accompanied by bill, House, No. 2835) of John D. Keenan, James B. Eldridge and others for legislation to establish a special commission (including members of the General Court) to study and create a plan for municipal records preservation. State Administration and Regulatory Oversight.*

#### **Bill H.2993 188th (Current)**

##### **An Act creating a special commission on school library services in the Commonwealth**

*By Mr. Garballey of Arlington, a petition (accompanied by bill, House, No. 2993) of Sean Garballey and others relative to establishing a special commission (including members of the General Court) to make an investigation and study concerning school library services in the Commonwealth. Tourism, Arts and Cultural Development.*

#### **Bill H.3292 188th (Current)**

##### **An Act relative to the Massachusetts center for the book—establishing the center for the book as a public-private partnership**

*By Ms. Hogan of Stow, a petition (accompanied by bill, House, No. 3292) of Kate Hogan and others relative to the Massachusetts center for the book. Education.*

### **Director Search**

*The director search committee is interviewing 5 semi-finalists on April 29 and May 1. Until those interviews are complete, the time line cannot be confirmed.*

*I would like to add how wonderful the staff at the MBLC and the Board of Library Commissioners have been in their support of me as Acting Director. I could not do it without them*

### **Paralibrarian Section Presentations**

- The nominees for Paralibrarian of the Year were: Maureen Fay- Ipswich Public Library, Barbara Fulchino- Robbins Library, Arlington, Karen Horn- Sturgis Library, Barnstable, Beth Kramer- West Tisbury Public Library, Linda McGeehan- Bolton Public Library, and Amy Rhilinger-Attleboro Public Library
- Barbara Fulchino from the Robbins Library in Arlington is the winner of the Paralibrarian of the Year award.

- The nominees for Paralibrarian Advocate of the Year are Danielle Bowker- Middleboro Public Library, Lucy Loomis- Sturgis library, Barnstable, and Debbie Pennino- Northeastern University/Snell Library
- Debbie Pennino from Northeastern University Libraries is the winner of the Paralibrarian Advocate of the Year award.
- The PARA, Paralibrarian Recognition of the Year, program will become a statewide certification program, starting next year.
- A Level 1 PARA Recognition was awarded to Kellie Porter from the Woods Hole Public Library
- A Level 3 PARA Recognition was awarded to Karen Horn of the Sturgis Library in Barnstable.
- Thanks to the Robbins Library in Arlington and the Reading Public Library for participating in the book cart drill team.

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

- The first annual YSS Awesomeness Award was awarded to Susan Babb of the Massachusetts Library System.

#### **Public Relations (PR) Awards**

- Congratulations to the Westborough Public Library for winning the “Best in Show” award. Director, Maureen Ambrosino, accepted the award.

#### **Raffle Winners**

- Michelle Filleul announced the winners of the raffle baskets. She also thanked everyone who donated items to this very successful fundraiser.

#### **Election Results (Ruth Urell)**

- Ruth introduced Maureen Ambrosino of the Westborough Library as the incoming Vice President/President-Elect.
- Ruth introduced Ryan Livergood of the Robbins Library in Arlington as the incoming Treasurer.
- Ruth and Bernadette Rivard will be leaving the board at the end of the fiscal year.

#### **Induction of President (Dinah O’Brien and Elizabeth Marcus)**

- Dinah inducted Elizabeth “Betsy” Marcus as the new President of MLA.
- Betsy gave a very impassioned speech about the importance of libraries in a democratic society and the importance of getting involved. She stressed her goals of doubling the association’s membership, and getting everyone

involved in a committee or section. She implored directors to not only get involved themselves but to encourage their employees to do the same.

***Ruth Urell moved to adjourn at 1:05. Laura Bernheim seconded. The motion was accepted.***

**Respectfully submitted,**

**Laura Bernheim  
MLA Secretary**