

MLA Legislative Committee May 30, 2014

In room: Beverly Shank, Susan McAlester, Diane Carty, Mary Rose Quinn, Dinah O'Brien, Kathy Lowe, Jackie Rafferty, Anna
Phone: Krista McLeod, Joan K.

Diane Reported that the Library of the Commonwealth proposed funding level is \$0.407. Budget Conference committee announced its 6 members. There is a real show of increase in state aid line, however the Mass Center for the Book bill has failed. Cindy Roche believes that MCoB is going into conference but without bill there is no line to attach money to. Nothing for us to do on that one. The Study of School Libraries passed.

National Library Legislative Day: Appointments were made with all 13 members of the Massachusetts delegation. Beverly Shank, Betty Johnson, Mary RoseQuinn, Julie Farrell, Cindy Roche, and MaryAnn Klugish went to Washington. The group split up and managed to meet everyone. Good information was picked up. Diane feels that next year group should stay for the entire briefing day.

MLS: supports Senate budget for FY15. The short sale of Whatley should be complete soon. Once sale goes through WMRLS should dissolve in order to stay on right side of IRS.

Schools: Kathy is excited that study passed in Senate. The House had it in outside portion. They will now move to establish Commission for the study. Expects heavy lifting to be done by MSLA. After Commission is established the study will be developed. It is due December. Will be great to find out just what is out there. So far there are not a lot of cuts in school districts as of now (librarians). Some actually are coming back. *students learn better reading print as opposed to digitally.*

Susan: After legislative season is over Maureen should send a Thank You letter to legislators for their support.

Brewer was unable to come to Conference so presentation will happen at the Barre Library.

Discussion of Booking the Great Hall next year. "Champions" did not sponsor amendments so should begin earlier. Discussion of when to do briefings. Can do Book Mark Contest after. Then lunch.

Jackie: Intellectual Freedom. Discussion was about the privacy statute and when it might be reopened. If it is reopened we need to be thinking about what we want in it and what else might happen.

Snapshot day Will wait to hear from Nancy 157 libraries participated and over 7,000 pictures were uploaded. Diane's survey did not get that much response.

Sales tax for book-sale. If you have an on-going sale then you are supposed to pay tax. Annual ones are not taxed. A library on the Cape was impacted by this. Need a possible clarifying explanation.