

**MLA Executive Committee Meeting  
Minutes**

Friday, December 8 2023, 10am – 12pm

Virtual Meeting via Zoom

*Attending: Michelle Filleul (President), Noelle Boc (Vice President/PIE), Sarah Breen (Treasurer), Danielle Savin (Assistant Treasurer), Bernadette Rivard (Past Treasurer), Tina McAndrew (Secretary), James Lonergan (MBLC), Esme Green (Conference), Robert Hayes (Program Planners), Kristen Collins (Director of Operations) , Andrea Fiorillo(IF/SRC), Laurie Lessner (Conference), Krista McLeod (Membership), Wil* Adamczyk *(Legislative), Kim Hewitt (Past President)*

**Call to order** at 10:04am

**Motion made to approve the August 11, 2023 minutes** by Esme Green and seconded by Danielle Savin. Krista McLoed and Wil Adamczyk abstained.

**President’s Report**–Michelle Filleul

Michelle attended NELA and the MLS Annual Meeting and provided written testimony for the October 30th Legislative Hearing. She will be attending the ALA Chapter Advocacy Academy Workshop, December 8-10, Chicago, IL.

**Treasurer’s Report**—Sarah Breen

Sarah reported on November income and expenses. A transfer of $5,000 was made from reserves to checking since the checking account balance dipped below $4,000.

Vote on Treasurer’s report will happen at the next meeting.

**FY25 Budget Discussion and Vote (Sarah/Bernadette/Danielle)**

Sarah explained that $46,105 will need to be transferred this year to keep the MLA account flush. Currently, there is $173,000 in investments. Members are looking at ways to increase income such as banners on the website and increasing membership and conference rates. Many members retired; if new members joined this would bring in approximately $20,000.

Members discussed having a membership table at conference and reaching out to current directors for advocacy for staff to join. James suggested having MLA board members speak at legislative breakfasts and encourage joining. Wil suggested MLA attend new director round tables. Krista will start putting a schedule together and try to encourage more leadership from the western part of the state. Esme suggested that since each member has a niche, each could speak to a certain topic.

Perhaps making a promo video of the value of MLA would be beneficial. Having paid advertisements on the new website as well as more promotion and member services listed such as the SLI partnership should help move MLA forward.

Members discussed the potential worst case scenario of moving investment money into the account. Bernadette explained that potential FY25 income is already built in to the budget numbers.

**Director of Operations Report** -Kristen Collins

Kristen is maintaining memberships and making sure committee members are actually MLA members. MLA has received most of the past invoices from NELA. To date, 10 exhibitors and 2 sponsors have signed up for Conference. Kristen has asked Board members to add the Save the Date tagline to their email signatures. Kristen is still investigating either SeaCrest or the Cape Codder for the 2025 conference. Unfortunately, food and beverage costs have skyrocketed so she is looking at ways to be conservative.

Kristen has met with three different providers to replace Wild Apricot and is recommending MC Trade which has more benefits and a one time fee to migrate the data.

**Conference Update**—Esme Green

Esme reported that all sessions have been approved and members will start building the schedule shortly. Kara Roselle Smith, an afro-indigenous model blogger from Martha’s Vineyard will be one of the keynotes. Terri Lesley, a Wyoming library director who refused to pull LGBTQ+ books off the shelf will also attend as will the librarian from Harvard, Josh Kantor, organist for the Red Sox. And last but not least, Maura Healey will attend.

**Committee Reports**

* **MBLC**–James Lonergan

The Mass. Broadband Institute (MBI**)** has released their[“Internet for All” Plan](https://broadband.masstech.org/mainternetforallplan)for public comment from Nov. 13 through Dec. 15. The Legislative agenda should be released within the next week. James reported on new MBLS staff members after several retirements. James will be retiring in 2024 but will be with MLA for a few more meetings.

**New Business**

**Approval of Budget**

**Motion made to approve the FY25 budget** by Esme Green and seconded by Noelle Boc. Wil Adamczyk abstained.

**Old Business**

[SLI / Massachusetts Library Association Partnership](https://docs.google.com/document/d/11BrCBE2svNY17SwNU8cjSRtovTcON7rihqPXrAXuM2E/edit?usp=sharing)

Through the partnership with SLI, MLA members will have access to webinars and a 20% discount to the certification program as well as a roadmap to sustainability.

Kristen has downgraded MLA’s Zoom package since it was costing $150/month for features not being used. However, there is less storage for recordings; Kristen will go through the recordings and if there is a lack of space some recordings will be moved elsewhere. Members agreed to keep the Legislative recordings.

**Motion to adjourn** made at 10:59 am by Danielle Savin and seconded by Bernadette Rivard.

*\*Next meeting: Friday, February 9, 2024*

Respectfully submitted,

Tina McAndrew

Secretary