



Massachusetts Library Association
Executive Board Meeting
February 15, 2013
Milton Public Library

In attendance: Ruth Urell (Past President), Elizabeth “Betsy” Marcus (Vice President), Bernadette Rivard (Treasurer), Laura Bernheim (Secretary), Elizabeth Hacala (Executive Manager), Kirsten Underwood (Personnel/Education), Laurie Lessner (Public Relations), Jocelyn Tavares (Public Relations), Sharon Colvin (Youth Services Section), Maureen Ambrosino (Membership), Nancy Rea (ALA Councilor), Jackie Rafferty (Intellectual Freedom), Rob Maier (Massachusetts Board of Library Commissioners), Krista McLeod (Intellectual Freedom/NELA), Beverly Shank (Legislative Committee), Susan McAlister (Legislative Committee), Carolyn Noah (Massachusetts Library System), Allison Sloan (Paralibrarian Section), Sunny Vandermark (Archivist), Daniel Saulean (Technical Services Section); Sarah Sogigian (Conference), Ellen Keane (Conference/Education)

Call to Order: Past President, Ruth Urell called the meeting to order at 10:10 AM. The minutes were approved after a change in which the name “Beverly Rivard” was corrected to Bernadette Rivard. (Sorry Bernadette!)

Budget FY 2014 (Bernadette Rivard)

Kudos to Bernadette for all of her extremely hard work on preparing the MLA Budget for FY 2014. She presented the budget, and went over each section, in detail. The following are just some of the highlights from the discussion. Members can read the proposed budget in detail [here](#), as well as the [analysis](#).

- In regards to the Intellectual Freedom Committee Budget, Jackie asked if it was too late to put in a request for some more funding, regarding a joint program with NELA’s Intellectual Freedom Committee. Jackie as advised that the board would have to vote on any amendments to the budget.
- The legislative committee was advised to do some fundraising, via a letter writing campaign to Library Friends Groups, to help offset the cost of Legislative Day. A discussion ensued about the best way to do this.
- Sharon asked the group to clarify regarding sections and committees fundraising. Ruth clarified that the money is technically raised for MLA as a whole. A discussion ensued.
- The hope is to raise \$32,000 in membership. Executive board members will be asked to contact lapsed members. Maureen also said that the committee needs to reach out to conference attendees who are not MLA members.

- The budget for the Public Relations (PR) Committee is based on the fact that the Hall of Fame Awards are in FY 2014.
- The Youth Services Section (YSS) will receive a bump in its budget to account for registration for a standalone program and a retreat that was approved by the Administrative Board. Bernadette thanked YSS for doing such a great job at bringing in income with the sale of the calendar.

Susan McAlister moved to approve the FY 2014 Budget. Maureen Ambrosino seconded the motion. The executive board voted to approve the FY 2014 Budget.

Treasurer's Report (Bernadette Rivard)

[Available here](#)

- The organization is in a better position than it has been in a few years.
- Sharon wondered what would happen if MLA loses money at the conference. Hopefully, this won't happen as the board voted to approve higher registration rates at the last meeting and that rate was not reflected in this year's budget. Sarah also mentioned that some of the spending for conference is based on registration numbers.

Personnel/Education Committee (Kirsten Underwood)

[Available here](#)

- The committee will work out with the Paralibrarian Section the logistics concerning the PARA certification. The recognition at this year's conference will be levels of achievement for paralibrarians, not certification. Rob had some questions about this on behalf of the Massachusetts Board of Library Commissioners (MBLC) and he and Allison agreed to continue the discussion after the meeting.
- The committee has written up guidelines on how to handle monetary requests. This document was first presented at the October executive board meeting. Betsy suggested adding the line, "should funding be available" in the document's first paragraph. Ellen suggested changing a line saying that MLA can fund "up to 50%", not just "50%".
Elizabeth Marcus moved to approve the guidelines for handling monetary requests. Bernadette Rivard seconded the motion. The motion was approved by the executive board.
- The Personnel and Education committees have recently merged. The merger and the formal statement will be voted on at the MLA Annual Meeting, following the approval of the Executive Board. ***Bernadette Rivard moved to bring the motion to the annual meeting in April. Sarah Sogigian seconded that. The motion to bring the merger to annual meeting was approved by the executive board.***
- A discussion ensued about who gets the money raised from trivia night at the Annual Conference. Susan suggested that the money should go to the general fund and that respective committees can then request it.

[Massachusetts Board of Library Commissioners \(MBLC\) \(Rob Maier\)](#)

- Rob distributed copies of the MBLC Performance Management Plan. The process and format was the one suggested by the Patrick/Murphy administration.
- The MBLC has released its legislative agenda: <http://mbclclegislativeagenda.org/>
- The title for the legislative agenda is “In Demand, Under Pressure”, and is being presented at the legislative breakfasts around the state.
- There is a budget hearing with both the House and Senate Ways and Means Committees.
- There is currently a bond bill for library construction.
- There is hope that there will be funding for the second Public Library construction specialist position.
- Kate Hogan, the state representative from Stow, is now chair of the Library Caucus.
- Rob is retiring from the MBLC on March 15 and his position is now vacant. Ruth Urell is on the search committee. There will be a retirement party for Rob on March 5 at the John F. Kennedy Library.
- Rob gave a lovely speech, reflecting on his time at the MBLC, as well as his work with MLA. He encouraged leadership in the library community and assured board members that he will still be involved in the library world. The board gave Rob a well-deserved standing ovation. Elizabeth cited an article about Rob in the *Bedford Citizen*: <http://www.thebedfordcitizen.org/2013/03/04/former-bedford-library-director-maier-retires-leaving-legacy/>

Technical Services Section (TSS) (Daniel Saulean)

- The TSS has drafted changes in their bylaws, which largely reflect changes to library’s technical services departments.
- A suggestion was made to strike the line, “Any Section Funds shall be transferred to the General Fund of the association”
- Jackie encouraged Daniel to write an article for the MLA newsletter to increase membership.
- ***Jacquelyn Rafferty moved for the Executive Board to approve a motion to allow the Technical Services Section to approve the changes at their annual meeting. Allison Sloan seconded the motion. The executive board approved.***

Nominating Committee (Ruth Urell)

- Maureen Ambrosino will be the candidate for Vice President/President Elect.
- As of this meeting, a candidate has not been found for treasurer.

Legislative Committee (Susan McAlister and Beverly Shank)

- Legislative breakfasts that were cancelled because of the Blizzard of 2013 will be rescheduled.
- Legislative Day is on March 26.
- Tim Allen from Springfield will be this year’s recipient of the Legislative Advocacy Award.

- MLA and the Massachusetts School Library Association (MSLA) will be holding joint program at Legislative Day.
- Katie Baxter is organizing a tour of the state house at the annual conference.
- The Library Legislative Breakfast and Massachusetts Municipal Association will be holding their programs on the same day at the Memorial Hall Library in Andover on Friday, March 8. The library breakfast will be held from 8-9 and the Massachusetts Municipal Association Round Table will be held from 9-10.

Conference Committee (Sarah Sogigian and Ellen Keane)

- Everything is going “swimmingly”
- MLA members are being asked to contribute to the organization of raffle baskets as those did very well, last year. Sharon presented a challenge to other sections and committees to try to beat YSS this year! The conference committee needs to obtain a raffle permit from the city of Cambridge.
- 2014 will be MLA’s year to host the Jordan Miller program, as Jordan Miller takes 2013 to regroup.
- Allison is doing a great job at obtaining sponsors for the conference.
- The committee is investigating incentives for conference goers, though the incentives will not be book bags or water bottles.
- There will be a complimentary bus for to the state house for the state house tour. It will be limited to 20 people and require sign ups.
- The committee is still working on events for the evenings during the conference.
- The conference next year will probably be in Worcester.

Public Relations (PR) (Laurie Lessner)

The PR Committee was accepting nominations for the PR Awards until February 25.

ALA (Nancy Rea)

- A proposal was made regarding ALA dues, that ALA use the Consumer Price Index. The hope is that there will be a gradual increase of dues, rather than one large increase.
- MLA’s membership in ALA needs to be renewed.
- Nancy is very impressed with the ALA leadership.
- There has been some discussion in ALA on whether there should be a separate school association. In some states, the school associations are merging with the state library associations.

NELA (Krista McLeod)

NELA is looking for nominees for the Emerson Greenaway award:

www.nelib.org/awards/greenaway

Massachusetts Library System (MLS) (Carolyn Noah)

- Deb Hoadley, from MLS, will be team leader of the statewide e-book project.
- An RFP has been written regarding a marketing and branding project.
- The executive board has voted to accept mediated Interlibrary Loan in house, effective July 2014.
- MLS has three workshops planned – Crisis Management Workshop; “My College Freshman is your High School Senior”, “[Making Change, Creativity in Libraries](#)”

Paralibrarian Section (Allison Sloan)

- The Paralibrarian section will recommend candidates for the PARA certification program to the Personnel/Education Committee.
- ***Allison Sloan moved that the guidelines of PARA Certification Program will state that the Personnel/Education committee will receive recommendations for candidates from the Paralibrarian Committee. Susan McAlister seconded the motion. The Executive Board approved.***

Executive Manager’s Report (Elizabeth Hacala)

[Available Here](#)

Elizabeth was contacted by a company that sells space on newsletters.

Archives (Sunny Vandermark)

- Sunny was at the Boston Public Library looking at the MLA Archives. There is now a list of what is there.
- Sunny is going to start writing a column for the MLA Newsletter entitled, “This Day in MLA History”

Old Business

- A Request for Quotation (RFQ) has been written for the Executive Manager position.
- Jackie mentioned that Zachary Newell will be the chair of the new Social Responsibilities Round Table. He will be a non-voting member of the executive board. Clayton Cheever has also agreed to join the new round table.
- Ruth expressed concern that the secretary of the commonwealth is no longer providing paper copies of various documents, only storing them online.

The meeting was adjourned at 12:35 pm. Next meeting is on April 12 at 10:00 am. Location to be determined.

Respectfully submitted,

Laura Bernheim
MLA Secretary

