



EXECUTIVE BOARD MEETING
August 9, 2019 from 10:00am to 12:00pm
Minutes

SHREWSBURY PUBLIC LIBRARY, 609 Main Street, Shrewsbury, 01545

Attending: Patty DiTullio (PIE), Kim Hewitt (Leadership & Management), Joanne Lamothe (Conference), Bernadette Rivard (Treasurer), Joceyln Tavares (PR), Andrea Puglisi (PR), Laurie Lessner (Membership), Nora Blake (Vice-President), Alene Moroni (Readers' Advisory), Pam Aghababian (Readers' Advisory), James Lonergan (MBLC), Jennifer Harris (Legislative), Krista McLeod (NELA), Ellen Rainville (By-Laws), Carol Witt (IF/SRC), Andrea Fiorillo (IF/SRC), Rebecca Beckley (Association Manager), Esme Green (President), Sarah Breen (Reference Users), Noelle Boc (Secretary). Joined via GotoMeeting: Marissa Antosh (YSS)

Call to order at 10:10am

Motion to approve Executive Board meeting minutes from June 14, 2019 made by Nora Blake and seconded by Bernadette Rivard. All in favor.

President's Report—Esme Green

- Esme has been trying to attend some committee and section meetings. Getting everything ready for the new year and making contacts with members old and new.
- The PR Committee helped to write a policy regarding what MLA will and will not endorse in regards to publicity. The date will be added to the policy and it will be placed on MLA letterhead.
Motion to accept the Publicity Policy made by Jennifer Harris, seconded by Krista McLeod. All in favor.

Lynda.com

- Lynda.com is owned by LinkedIn and is requiring library users to create a LinkedIn account that harvests your data.
- Hope is a larger statement from membership of libraries nationally and also opting out of Lynda contracts will have an effect on the company. Financial pressure is the likely only thing they'll listen to.
- MLA can approve the statement crafted from IF/SRC and turn it into a letter to send to LinkedIn and post the statement online. MBLC will share once it is approved.
- MLA's statement is that due to the concerns detailed, it recommends discontinuing use of Lynda.com.
- Much discussion ensued around whether or not libraries should be involved. Is this just a part of dealing with 21st century technology? Overall, there is a feeling that what Lynda/LinkedIn is doing is deliberately forcing members to give up more personal information as opposed to just mining an email or other basic information. Discussion around adding a piece that would summarize for libraries to educate patrons about the Lynda/LinkedIn privacy policy and about protecting their privacy. It is part of our profession's mission to inform.

- **Motion to accept the statement as it is crafted, subtracting the quote by Samantha Lee**, made by Kim Hewitt, seconded by Laurie Lessner. Jennifer Harris and Alene Moroni abstain. All others in favor.

Macmillan and Simon & Schuster lending model

- Should MLA take a stand on it? Recorded Books now has exclusive content with Audible.com, making it so we cannot purchase their items that they are giving to Audible. There are also issues with Blackstone.
- ALA put out a statement to call out to libraries who purchase from Macmillan to contact the CEO to protest the pricing change. This is being discussed on a national level. Readersfirst.org has news on the statement. The ALA statement is found here: <http://www.ala.org/advocacy/e-books> Do we just endorse the ALA statement?
- We should provide guidance and oversight to our membership. Let publishers know that they are harming our service models and that they are not making the connection that we are creating readers for their stable of authors. We are researching more about what is happening and will follow up on the topic with potential actions shortly.

Treasurer's Report—Bernadette Rivard

- The Family Medical Leave Act asks for .63% taken out of the payroll. We can pass on the cost to our employees or we can take on the cost. **Motion that MLA covers the cost for its employees** made by Esme Green and seconded by Nora Blake.. All in favor. There is some question whether we need to pay for it as all as a non-profit which shall be investigated.
- Fundraising Policy costs. YSS brought up this topic as they discuss fundraising ideas. If it is a cost for an event that isn't originally in your section's budget, then the proposal goes to Executive Board to ask for the money. If it is already in the budget for the section, they can just go forward with it. All money raised belongs to MLA, not the section who raises it.
- Budget--Bernadette changed the format for us to look at the budget to make it a clearer to look at. We are in good shape. Bernadette clarified where our accounts are at present. Final report from the fiscal year will be presented at the next meeting. **Motion to accept the Treasurer's report** made by Ellen Rainville and seconded by Jennifer Harris. All in favor.

Association Manager's Report –Rebecca Beckley

- Rebecca is working on cleaning up the website. Feel free to give feedback to her as you peruse the site.
- Call for proposals for conference is up on the top of the home page and news/statements are also highlighted on the front page.
- Also working on storage of our files, which are all over the place. Organizing the files and making a plan of action of where things will be available.

Strategic Plan

- Esme reminds us that plan expires this fiscal year. We will focus on the most urgent pieces this year. **Motion made to extend the deadline on the Strategic Plan by one year** made by Ellen Rainville and seconded by Bernadette Rivard. All in favor.

By Laws Review—Ellen Rainville

- A few changes have been presented as regards the Elections section, primarily to compress the process of elections and it also helps clean up the order of the sections in the By-Laws regarding elections. Due dates will all be on the 31st for consistency. The Nominating Committee will be presented for approval to the October Executive board meeting. The slate is brought to Executive Board in December and by January 31st that comes to membership. Ballot will be created by

March 31st and be reported at the annual business meeting in May. This also gives us leeway to change the dates if necessary if the business meeting is earlier in the year than normal.

- **Motion to approve the changes in regards to Elections made to the By-Laws** made by Esme Green and seconded by Laurie Lessner. All in favor.

Conference Update—Joanne Lamothe

2020 conference theme is Turn the Tide. The program proposal process is a lot more streamlined, thanks to Kim Hewitt's efforts. Proposals will be looked at in October. Visit to the venue is coming up as well.

Committee Reports:

- **MBLC--James Lonergan**
 - . Legislative agenda asks were approved. MBLC got an extra million and it is being discussed where is best to use those funds. Bond bill is on hold in committee right now to be able to bump it up to at least \$150 million to get through the construction waitlist. Starting to talk about legislative budget for 2021. Next meeting at Forbes Library on September 5th at 10am to talk about budget needs.
 - How can we support the bond bill? Once it is taken off hold, need to find out the timing of where it goes next to ask library members to reach out to their legislators to support it. Instructions will be forthcoming once MBLC knows the bill is off hold in the fall.
- **Legislative--Jennifer Harris**
 - Taking the Census 2020 seriously; at least 20 towns are identified as not being good at reporting data, often due to heavy immigrant populations. Goal is to have people sign in online, which is where libraries come in for folks who don't have easy access to the internet. April 1st is when we begin on the census.
 - Uniform Electronic Legal Material Act Bill--many states are getting rid of print copies of laws. Any online legal materials are to be verified and authenticated, preserved and made permanently available to the public. **Motion for MLA to endorse the UELMA bill and to pen a letter from the MLA president to our state legislature in support** made by Ellen Rainville and seconded by Jocelyn Tavares. All in favor.

New Business: NONE

Old Business: NONE

Motion to adjourn by Joanne Lamothe at 11:47am