



Massachusetts Library Association Annual Meeting Minutes

May 24, 2022 – 8:00am

Annual Conference

Cape Cod Resort and Conference Center, Hyannis, Mass.

Welcome Remarks: Joanne Lamothe, President, Massachusetts Library Association

Guest Speaker: Patty Wong, President, American Library Association, speaking on Empowerment, Leadership and Diversity

State of the State: James Lonergan, Director, Massachusetts Board of Library Commissioners—We have two new commissioners this year. We've gotten amazingly good funding the last couple of years for the budget. Still looking to increase funding for the Center for the Book. Annual cap for construction is finally being raised. Half of the waitlist libraries for construction will get funded. Databases have a 30% increase in funding, so new content is coming. Thank you to Liz Babbitt who retired, but Jen Inglis is taking over.

Annual Business Meeting Minutes

Call to Order at 8:51am

Motion to approve the minutes of the May 19, 2021 annual meeting minutes made by Will Adamczyk and seconded by Noreen O'Gara. All in favor.

President's Report: Joanne Lamothe

I have so many people to thank—Thank you to the members of the conference committee; particularly want to thank the co-chairs—Esme and Michelle. Thank you to Association Manager, Rebecca, and Conference director Kristen. And thank you to everyone who participated in sections and committees. Especially recognizing the Legislative Committee and the IF/SRC this year. Krista McLeod is stepping down as our NELA representative and will be our new Membership chair. Kelly Linehan will be our new NELA representative. In the before times, we were planning the 2020 conference. What does Turn the Tide mean? It's a change in direction. It's something that we can't control. The tide is also constant.

“Never give up because that's just the place and time the turn will turn.” —Harriet Beecher Stowe.

Treasurer's Report and Presentation of FY23 Budget: Bernadette Rivard, Treasurer

We met our membership goal for the whole year already. Our PPP loans were forgiven and were a godsend during the pandemic. We moved money from investments to our Cash Reserves to protect funds from losses, to rebalance the portfolio, and to have reserves available to meet operating expenses.

Motion made to approve the Treasurer's Report made by Will Adamczyk and seconded by Alison Sloane. All in favor.

Motion to approve the FY2023 Budget made by Esme Green and seconded by Nora Blake. All in favor.

By Laws Change Proposal: Nora Blake, Past President

- Article IV, section IV – Officers
 - Article V, section II – Elections
- Both sections simply cleaned up language.

Motion to accept the ByLaws changes as presented made by Bernadette Rivard and seconded by Laura Bernheim. All in favor.

Presentation of FY23 Slate of Officers: Nora Blake, Past President

Seeing no nominations from the floor, this is accepted as a motion to accept the slate. All in favor.

Presidential Transition—Joanne Lamothe.

Thank you to Nora and Noelle for their service. I am so pleased that Kim is stepping up to the plate.

Remarks by Incoming President Kim Hewitt

I'm glad to be here and glad to see faces that I've only seen on Zoom. I hope you are having as great a time as I am. We've been through a lot collectively and individually; we've seen a flurry of resignations and retirements, but that's given us an opportunity to rebuild or to find a new place. We can capitalize on our association for new growth. I hope you will encourage your staff to get involved. We are here to be a resource to provide connection. Why? MLA can help with the isolation and I might not be able to be where I am now if I hadn't met Laura Bernheim and that changed our trajectory. I'm a believer in leading from where you are; you can change your organization from within. Think about where you want to be and look at MLA and see where you can get involved. Be the change. You can start a section if you want. If you don't feel like MLA is the fit you want right now, help turn that tide. Step out of your comfort zone and make connections with people; talk to MLA volunteers; we really work together to get the job done and move our profession forward.

Motion to adjourn made by Noreen O'Gara and seconded by Will Adamczyk at 9:19am

Respectfully submitted,
Noelle Boc, MLA Secretary