

MLA Legislative Committee
Meeting Minutes - 2/22/19

Meeting Start: 10am

Present: Susan McAlister, Jennifer Harris, Margaret Cardello, Paul Engle, Mike Moran, Catherine Halpin, Mary Rose Quinn, Charlotte Canelli, Greg Pronevitz

- 1/19/19 minutes were approved.

MBLC Update (Mary Rose)

- 18 legislative breakfasts so far this season (only 1 left!)
- Breakfasts have gone well (gotten callbacks from legislators)
- Legislative agenda materials as well as supplemental materials (fact sheets for each of the budget lines) are available on MBLC website:
<https://mblc.state.ma.us/about-us/legislative-agenda.php>
- New committee assignments in legislature and library caucus hopefully will help libraries this year
- Mary Rose has been designated as the state's "library" point person for the 2020 Census
 - Send out something to public library directors re: upcoming related events/heads up (Charlotte)

Library Legislative Day Planning Update (Tressa)

- Massachusetts Library Trustee Association (MLTA)
 - Can LegDay packets include sheet about trustees? (Yes, will go in attendee packets - Jennifer to arrange)
 - Do they want to do a meetup?
- PR - social media - hashtag discussion - ours is now #supportMALibraries
 - Okay to let the MLA PR committee run with the social media program
- Advocacy Award wording for Rep. Alice Peisch - Mary Rose & others to work on it
- Friends of the Library informal gathering during the day
- Final details & review of assignments for Library Legislative Day
 - Different orgs are producing their own 400 copies info to include in packets (send to BPL, Attention Catherine Halpin)
- Motion for \$2,200 to expend towards Legislative Day passes (additional financial commitments are graciously accepted from MSLA, WMLA, CMLA)

MSLA Update (Greg)

- MSLA would like to include a one-pager in the handouts for the day. Who should we send them to and how many copies? Approved -see above section.
- We are still trying to connect with Rep. Garballey to determine if it is best to present the American Association of School Librarians at Legislative Day or another time. This is a

bit complicated because Rep. Peisch is House Chair of the Joint Committee on Education and the Advocacy Award Recipient.

- Thanks to Tressa for working with me on the 2/27, 4pm EveryLibrary webinar on legislative advocacy. We've got about 20 signed up so far. Tressa will be inviting Legislative Day registrants soon. I'll send another allregions and MSLA list message on Monday. Registrants will also receive a link to view a recording if they cannot attend on the day.
- Three MSLA reps and James Lonergan are meeting with DESE in March to discuss implementation of the recommendations of the Special Commission on School Library Services in Massachusetts to enhance equity of access to school library services.

WMLA Update (Mike)

- Handing out library "trading cards" at LegDay

CMLA Update (Margaret)

- Working on membership recruiting
- Fundraiser trivia event coming up in Barre

Legislative Breakfasts (All)

- Good reports coming in the breakfasts held so far this year
- Future - redo advocacy toolkit, hold another breakfast on breakfasts

Old Business

MLA Conference Program (Jennifer)

- 5/20 Mon 10:30-11:30 (all committee members should plan to attend)
 - Program: "Meet and Greet Your Library Legislative Committee and Library Caucus"
 - Town hall style

New Business

- Next meeting - need to review succession planning and committee housekeeping items (listserv, etc.)

FYI & Other

- Catherine Halpin (Boston Public) is replacing Anna Fahey-Flynn on the committee
- New MLA manager hired

Meeting Adjourned: 12pm

Next Meeting: April 26 from 10am-12pm at MLS Marlborough.