**MLA Reference and User Services Section Meeting Minutes**

**Needham Free Public Library**

**August 23, 2019 10 AM-12 PM**

Co-Chairs: Sarah Breen

Becca Lemos (acting as Secretary)

Secretary: Sara Kelso (not present)

1. **Welcome and Introductions**

2. **Overview of RUSS**

-Information from MLA Executive board meetings

-Privacy concerns with Lynda now that it is owned by Linkedin

-Upsetting change to McMillian eBook lending model

3. **Discussion on MLA program ideas for annual conference** (Turn the Tide)

\*Proposals due October 1st

Ideas shared for conference programs and future RUSS Meetings

1. Low Cost Advertising
2. Handling Difficult Patrons
3. Networking for Young Librarians
4. Preventing Library Burnout
5. Alternatives to Cable
6. Going Fine Free
7. How to Find Reliable Cannabis Resources
8. Working with Library School Interns
9. Barriers to Access
10. Diversity in Hiring
11. Sister City Partnership Programs
12. Service Animals in Libraries
13. Getting Ready for the Census
14. How to Support Small Businesses and Entrepreneurs

4. **Discussion on Library Fines**

We hadthreeperspectives for our discussion of Library Fines. Becca Lemos (Newburyport) shared her experience working at a fine free library. Sarah Breen (Needham) talked about reasons why her library has kept fines and our guest Clayton Cheever (Quincy) discussed his library’s transition to being fine free for children and teens.

**Next RUSS Meeting: Friday, November 1, 2019**