



**Massachusetts Library Association Annual Meeting
April 29, 2011
Danvers MA**

Jackie Rafferty called the meeting to order at 12:25pm.

Jackie asked if there were any corrections to the minutes of the 2010 Annual Meeting. Michael Colford and made a motion to accept them as written. Ellen seconded the motion which was carried.

Jackie reviewed some of the highlights of the past year:

- Partnership with the
- Library Services from youth
- Stood up for exploited hotel workers,
- Snapshot day
- Highlighted libraries
- Paralibrarian PARA IV added
- READS Poster photo shoot
- 2011 Flash mob

Jackie thanked the Conference Committee and Executive Manager for a wonderful project

Treasurer's Report

- Continuing to weather these difficult times
- Conservative spending
- Wild Apricot – saving us money, streamlining our process.

Nominating Report - Susan McAlister

- Susan thanked all the candidates
- VP – Dinah O'Brien.
- Treasurers – Bernadette,
- ALA Councilor – Nancy Rea

Ellen Rainville summarized the changes to the MLA Bylaws.

Ruth made a motion that we accept the bylaws changes as outline by Ellen. The motion was seconded Barbara Flaherty

Gael Nappa acknowledged all the people who had been nominated for Paralibrarian Awards.

The 2011 MLA Outstanding Paralibrarian of the Year was awarded to Barbara Diamond Goldin from Williston Memorial Library in Easthampton, MA. The 2011 MLA Paralibrarian Advocate of the Year was awarded to Robin Demas of the Concord Free Library in Concord, MA.

Jackie formally inducted Ruth as the new MLA President. Ruth thanked Jackie for her energy and enthusiasm in service of the association.

Ruth shared with the meeting her thoughts on the difference between Hope and Optimism. She shared that she was full of optimism for the future of libraries and librarians. She discussed how she was so proud of the title "Librarian" that it was a title that was built on the great work of the past and opened paths for the underserved and disadvantaged. She discussed our role in preserving that legacy for future generations.

Ruth then acknowledged librarians who had retired or announced retirement in the past year. She asked the meeting to acknowledge their contribution to the field. Ruth shared her experiences at a recent Simmons career fair and that the future of libraries would be safe in their hands.

Rob Maier then presented the state of the state.

Rob said the theme of the conference really captured our reality. We have weathered many storms, especially of late and everyone in the room has earned the title of Super Hero. Rob acknowledged the Super Heroes that set up Snapshot Day, MLS, LOLR, This year we have 341 out of 349 libraries certified. Ruth highlighted the work of "Super Heroes" in the library community. The libraries for the blind had done hero work to move from cassette based talking books to digital talking books. There were super heroes working on an open source selection. Super heroes marketing for our libraries in the Bruins partnership. Super Heroes at the Mass Center for the Book who keep our relationship between authors and readers vibrant.

We do face challenges. With regard to budgets we do have recognition by the house and governor that we have done all we can with budget cutting in libraries and that any further cutting will impair local libraries. School libraries have the challenge as well. No one at DOE advocating and we all depend on strong school libraries. The future of Federal funding is under attack. How do we respond to the rise of e-book and the changes they will bring to our libraries? We have, as a community, seen a path forward to ensure the right to read is available to all our communities, patrons, and citizens. Rob thanked the meeting for being super heroes and supporting MLA.

Susan McAlister made a motion to adjourn Ruth Urell seconded the motion. The meeting was adjourned at 12:55p.m.

Respectfully submitted by,
Elizabeth Hacala, MLA Executive Manager
On behalf of Nancy D. Siegel, MLA Secretary (absent)