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**Executive Board Meeting**

**April 8, 2016**

**Worcester Public Library**

**10 a.m.**

**AGENDA**

In attendance**: Eric Poulin (President), Nanci M. Hill (Vice President), Jennifer Pike (Treasurer), Maureen Ambrosino (Past President), Debby Conrad (Secretary), Manny Leite (Personnel), Noelle Boc (YSS), Nancy Sheehan (PR), Ellen Keane (Conference), Sharon Shaloo (Center for the Book), Jocelyn Tavares (PR), Nora Blake (Membership), Pam McCuen (Jordan Miller), Susan McAlister (Legislative Committee), Ellen Rainville (Bylaws), Krista McLeod (NELA), Dianne Carty (MBLC), Alex Lent (guest), Jennifer Zolkos (MLA Manager)**

Call to order **- Eric Poulin - 10:10 am**

## [Approval of minutes of February 12, 2016](http://www.masslib.org:80/resources/Documents/2016EbdMinutes/EboardMinutesFeb122016.docx) (action)

*Motion to approve - Susan McAlister. Second - Ellen Rainville Approved.*

## President’s Report

**Congratulations to the Legislative Committee for the successful Legislative Day at the State House. Legislative Breakfasts have been well attended. Eric served as a judge for Letters about Literature for the Center of the Book. He will be attending ALA Legislative Day in Washington D.C.**

[**Treasurer’s Report**](http://www.masslib.org:80/resources/Documents/2016EbdMinutes/FY2016%20Budget%20July%201%20-%20April%207.pdf) **(action)**

*Motion to approve - Susan McAlister. Second - Nancy Sheehan Approved.*

## Association Manager Report

**Jennifer is focusing on Conference. Many questions coming in about institution membership. 39 vendors as of April 8. Registrations are higher than last year at this time. Will be working on joint membership with NELA with a goal of the roll out for the combined membership of July 1. Migrated email to Google apps. Email domain is the same. Passwords are the same. Can start using Google drive for sharing within the association. Will be moving to Google groups for email groups.**

## Nominating Committee Report

**Slate of officers – Alex Lent (VP-President elect). Nora Blake is running Secretary. The slate will be announced next week.**

## New Business

Strategic Plan update **– timeline has been revised. Original plan was to have something for membership meeting in May 2016. The Administrative Board met with Tracy Leger-Hornsby and agreed that there was not enough info to really do the plan by that date. The Administrative Board agreed that more information would be gathered. It was also noticed was a lot of strategic planning going on in FY16 and that MLA‘s plan could reflect those plans if we hold off until FY17. Nanci is appointing a committee responsible for conducting focus groups in the fall which should provide enough input for developing the mission statement. The plan will be to hold a retreat for the planning committee and the Executive Board in early fall to begin the process. Eric and Alex will be holding a session at conference on Wednesday morning that will be an open meeting for people to provide input.**

*Motion that the existing plan be extended for one more fiscal year while strategic plan is developed. Nancy M. Hill. Second - Maureen Ambrosino. Approved.*

MLTA Partnership **– Greg Pronevitz contacted Eric to ask if there was interest on the part of MLA to create a more formal relationship with MLTA. MLTA has been going through organizational issues. Eric and Nanci will be meeting with Greg and members of MLTA on April 8 to talk about how that could be brought about. In the past boards of MLTA and MFOL were not interested in that type of relationship. Terms are going have to be negotiated carefully so that both partners benefit from the partnership. Jocelyn suggested that they could attend MLA Executive Board meetings as liaisons. Eric will report back on the results of the meeting.**

Policy for charging non-members for attending MLA events **– Policy now is that when sections and committees it was increased by $10. Eric had proposed that we just come up with a percentage. It should be across the board for any MLA event. After discussion it was agreed that that percentages can result with odd results and that percentages won’t work for conference because there are too many variables. It is important to choose a non-member rate that encourages membership. Consensus is guidelines for conference left alone. Standalone – membership differential and fee must cover costs and generate revenue for the association. Fees must be brought to the Executive Board for approval.**

**Motion asking Jennifer Zolkos collection more information about attendance at conference – how many are members and non-members and then work with Membership to develop a policy – Nanci M. Hill. Second – Susan McAlister. Approved.**

**Susan McAlister asked about the section meeting announcements and where is MLA membership brought up. Eric recommended a standard footer for any program announcement that encourages membership.**

**Nora is going to share the membership brochure with Jennifer Zolkos.**

## Committee reports

### [Conference](http://www.masslib.org:80/resources/Documents/2016EbdMinutes/E-board%20Report%20April%208%202016Conference%20Committee.docx)

**Programs are completely set. More than 300 registered – way ahead of last year. Program is being printed. Focus is on shorter programs with less competition between programs. Agreement that vendors and sponsors need to be contacted immediately after conference to ensure participation in the following year’s conference.**

### By-Laws

**Ellen Rainville will send draft By-laws to Jennifer Zolkos to be posted on the website for approval at the business meeting.**

### [Intellectual Freedom](http://www.masslib.org:80/resources/Documents/2016EbdMinutes/IFSRC%20Report%20to%20EBoard%20-%20April%202016.pdf)

### [**Jordan Miller**](http://www.masslib.org:80/resources/Documents/2016EbdMinutes/Jordan%20Miller%20Committee%20Report%204.07.16.docx)

**19 libraries have applied for the mini 500 grant. Money in 2016 was used in YSS. 2017 will go to a library probably outside of Massachusetts.**

### [Legislative](http://www.masslib.org:80/resources/Documents/2016EbdMinutes/Legislative%20Committee%20ReportApril2016.docx)

**Noelle mentioned that a first time attendee it was difficult to find the first time attendees meeting. Also must be clearer that attendees pick up enough handouts to give to legislators. Krista mentioned that advocacy training is crucial.**

### Massachusetts Center for the Book

### **Sharon reported that the Letters About Literature awards program was held the week following MLA Legislative Day.    Nearly 250 people attended and approximately 40 legislators either attended the event or sent aides/greetings to their constituents.  Stories are being placed in media outlets at present.  She has a Simmons graduate assistant building a statewide calendar of cultural events in libraries.  She expects to have a demo running at the Center's booth at MLA conference. She is looking for a new partner for the Massachusetts book awards.**

### Membership

**Laurie Lessner is going to be chairing the Membership Committee in FY17. Nora and Jennifer Zolkos will be working on the plan to roll out the MLA/NELA joint membership.**

### [**Personnel/Education**](http://www.masslib.org:80/resources/Documents/2016EbdMinutes/Personnel%20Report.doc)

### [**Public Relations**](http://www.masslib.org:80/resources/Documents/2016EbdMinutes/Public%20Relations%20Committee%20Report%20416.docx)

**Krista will send the PR Committee the names of the 2015 NELS attendees. Their names will be included in the acknowledgements at the awards gala which will also include the names of the scholarship winners, the Paraprofessional award winners, and the new inductees in to the MLA Hall of Fame. The Ames Free Library will also be congratulated on being a runner up to the Best Small Library Awards.**

## Section reports

### [Paralibrarian](http://www.masslib.org:80/resources/Documents/2016EbdMinutes/Para_report_April2016.docx)

### RUSS

### Technical services

**Noted that there is a need to reach out to the Technical Services group to find out who is chairing the group now and in FY17.**

### [**Youth Services**](http://www.masslib.org:80/resources/Documents/2016EbdMinutes/YSS%20Report%20April%202016.docx)

### Liaison reports

ALA Councilor  
 Freedom to Read  
 Intellectual FreedomMBLC

**Dianne reported that the MBLC is focusing on the House Budget which is coming out Wednesday, April 13 at noon. They are working with Rep. Hogan so amendments will be ready for signers on Thursday if necessary. Each line item has specific sponsors for amendments. Amendments will be in Rep. Hogan’s office. Susan is going to get things on the Engage website because calls of support are important. Dianne is meeting with Senator O’Connor-Ives in the beginning in May to talk about the process in the Senate Budget.**

**Good applicants for Cindy Roach’s position. Applicants must have Public Library experience. Interviews will be soon.**

**Commissioner Shesko has been receiving targeted therapy with great results.**

**New grant round for Public Library construction will begin in the fall.**

MLS  
MSLANELA

**The Infotech Section is holding spring event on June 13. NELA is holding an advocacy summit on July 19 at Tower Hill. They are encouraging experienced advocates from New England states to attend as well as newer advocates. A panel will be giving presentations and having sharing time between states. Planning is underway for Oct. 16-18 NELA conference in Danvers. Emerson Greenaway nominations is open.**

## Announcements

Motion to adjourn **– Susan McAlister. 12:06 p.m.**

**Respectfully submitted**

***Debby Conrad, Secretary***