



MLA AGENDA
FRIDAY, April 12th, 2019
10:00AM – 12:30PM
SHREWSBURY PUBLIC LIBRARY, 609 Main Street, Shrewsbury, 01545

1. Call to Order
2. Introductions (10:00am start)
 - a. Introduction – Rebecca Beckley
3. Minutes for February 8, 2019 Executive Board Meeting (10:10)
4. Treasurer’s Report (10:15)
 - a. FY19 budget report
 - b. FY20 budget discussion
 - c. Financial updates
5. Personnel Committee (10:30)
 - a. Bookkeeper update
6. Conference Update (10:40)
 - a. Free Conference and free membership discussion
7. Institutional Membership discussion (10:55)
8. Strategic Plan Update (11:10)
9. Committee Reports
 - a. Committee responsibilities (website, meetings, etc.) (11:15)
 - i. June – longer intro meeting
 - b. MBLC Report (11:20)
 - c. Nominating Committee (11:30)

d. Other

10.Old Business (11:45)

11.New Business (11:55)

12.Adjourn (12:00)

13.Future Meeting Dates – June 14th (longer meeting, would like outgoing and incoming chairs to attend)

MLA Executive Committee

Fri, Apr 12, 2019 10:00 AM - 1:00 PM EDT

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CONFERENCE COMMITTEE
MLA Executive Board Report
April 2019

Submitted: March 29, 2019

Meetings:

The Conference Committee had a meeting on March 22. Our next meeting will be held on Friday, April 26, 10 am at the MLS Offices in Marlboro.

Registration: Registration is open for Conference. As of March 29th, there are 136 registrants.

Conference Presenters: The Conference Schedule has been finalized and speakers should be receiving their DocuSign forms. These must be signed and returned by the first week in April.

Sponsorship: 15 sponsors including 1 ad buy (not technically a sponsor) for a total of \$8,650.

Exhibitors: 46 exhibitors (2 comps - NELA and Capira) - we are sold out! This is the first year that we've been sold out before May.

Respectfully Submitted by,
Michelle Filleul, Conference Co-chair



April 2019 MLA Intellectual Freedom & Social Responsibility Committee Report

IF/SRC met on February 26 at the Reading Public Library. The meeting focused on IF/SRC plans for 2019 as well as other items. Topics discussed included:

- Net Neutrality bill being filed by Senator Creem SD.603
<https://malegislature.gov/Bills/191/SD603>
- Library Legislative Day March 05
- New committee chair orientation/training June 14
- ALA OIF “State of the States” Meeting Update
- The Journal of Intellectual Freedom and Privacy
(<https://journals.ala.org/index.php/jifp>) call for submissions
- 2019 Conference update. IFSRC sponsored programs are the following:
 - A. Radical Respect in Troubling Times Opening Keynote
 - B. Communicating Across Differences Workshop
 - C. Real Talk: A Framework for Youth-Led Conversation Forums
 - D. Torn Apart/Separados: Using Digital Humanites to Fight the Family Separation Crisis
 - E. #WeToo: Sexual Assault Prevention, Resources and Discussion
- Potential themes, topics, and format for future symposiums/ professional development sessions
- Upcoming Meetings: Meetings will be bimonthly, half in-person and half GoToMeeting

The next meeting will be on Tuesday, April 23 from 2-4 pm and will be conducted on GoToMeeting

Respectfully submitted,
Andrea Fiorillo
April 5, 2019



Jordan Miller Committee Report April Executive Board Meeting

Mara Whitman sent in pictures from her storytelling event that was funded by the Jordan Miller Grant. She hosted storyteller Ruby Hutchinson at her library, the P. Faith McMahon Wintonbury Branch Library in Bloomfield Connecticut. The event was very well attended! Thank you everyone for helping this happen.

Looking forward...I think I now have a co-chair for Jordan Miller for the next grant round.

Respectfully submitted,

~ Pam McCuen

Jordan Miller Committee Chair



MLA Legislative Committee Report MLA Executive Board Mtg – 4/12/19

The MLA Legislative Committee's next meeting is April 26, 2019 at MLS in Marlboro.

The Leg Com held a successful Library Legislative Day at the State House on 3/5/19. Over 250 people attended including Library Directors and staff, Trustee and Friends as well as over 25 Senators and Representatives stopping by the Hall of Flags. The committee produced a press release which is attached with this report. The committee is giving a special thanks to MSLA, WMLA and CMLA for co-sponsoring various portions of the program. We also could not have done this without the organizational skills of Tress Santillo and Jayme Viveiros. Stephen Spohn heavily contributed to the online portion that streamlined the event.

We were asked to submit a Letter of Support to the Joint Committee on Ways and Means which is also attached with this report.

Finally, the Leg Com has organized the *"Meet and Greet Your Legislative Committee and Library Caucus"* program for the MLA Conference. The program with the Town Hall format will include members of the Legislative Committee and Members of the Library Caucus. To date we have Representative Kathy LaNatra from 12th Plymouth District and Representative Joan Meschino from 3rd Plymouth District. Rep. Higgins is unable to attend and we have invited Rep. Brian Murray and Senator Eric Lesser. Please let me know if anyone has a Library Caucus member as a Representative or Senator in your district who you think we should contact. Finally, MBLC Chair, Commissioner Roland Ochsenein will also be attending. NOTE: Please attend the program on Monday, May 20 from 10:30 A.M. TO 11:30 A.M.!!!

Next Meetings: 10 m-12 noon on Fridays

April 26 – MLS- Marlborough

June 28 - MLN

National Library Legislative Day will be in June next year in conjunction with the ALA Conference in DC.

Respectfully submitted
Jennifer Harris, co-chair

FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE
NEWS RELEASE
March 19, 2019
STOP DATE : April 15, 2018

CONTACT: Jennifer Harris
Plymouth Public Library
132 South Street Plymouth, MA 02360
Ph:1-508-830-4250 TTY:1-508-747-5882

MLA LIBRARY LEGISLATIVE DAY REPORT TUESDAY, MARCH 5, 2019 at the State House

Massachusetts Library Association (MLA) in conjunction with Massachusetts School Library Association (MSLA) held the annual Library Legislative Day at the State House on Tuesday, March 5, 2019. We had 23 Legislators and their aides stop by the registration desk to inquire about their librarians in attendance. Over 250 library supporters throughout the Commonwealth attended. The day is primarily devoted to public and school librarians, as well as Library trustees and Friends groups visiting with their Legislators to discuss the importance of supporting the Massachusetts Board of Library Commissioners (MBLC) budget request which includes the Library budget lines throughout the arduous budget process at the State level.

Those of us with experience; came prepared with the FY 2020 MBLC Budget Request and discussed the various line items including 7000-9101 to keep the MBLC doing its necessary work in spreading the Federal and State dollars to the libraries throughout the Commonwealth. We quoted that this line has been reduced by 12% from its highest support in FY2001. We can state with conviction that unless Libraries are funded through the Library Technology & Resource Sharing Line, 7000-9506 (the funding that supports our library networks) we are not able to keep local dollars in the Legislators' communities. Line 7000-9508 for the Mass. Center for Book annually receives cuts and then overrides to restore funding. And let's not forget, Line 7000-9501 that funds State Aid to Public Libraries is down 9% from its high in FY2009. We also supported the MBLC's efforts to increase the Construction Bond from 200M to 250M with an increase up to 25M per year to be awarded to libraries seeking construction.

What organizers of the day have also been working towards is teaching newer librarians and supporters how to reach their Legislators, how to discuss funding and to know that this activity is essential when the House and Senate are meeting to prepare the budget. We now have a First Time Attendee Program that is an opportunity to discuss the methods of reaching Legislators, 55 people attended. We also have two Legislative Briefings that include the newest members of the Library Caucus as well as strong library supporters within the State House. 110 people attended one or the other of those sessions. In the meanwhile, we had a Library Showcase exhibit inside the Great Hall where 15 libraries and 10 organizations used the opportunity to strut their stuff! This Showcase gives people a chance to connect with the variety of offerings that libraries now have as well as the latest technology that we provide to our communities. And, we keep using our creativity with less and less funding.

As we continue our efforts beyond Legislative Day, we build off of the stories that are told by Legislators which always include memories from their childhood, or as adults ~ teaching their children to join in their first story time, or as seniors ~ learning to play chess. At the luncheon with 275 people in attendance; Esme Green, Vice-President of the MLA recognized the Library Caucus for their dedication to supporting libraries. MSLA President, Carrie Tucker spoke to the work that is being done on behalf of school libraries. The Co-Chairs of the Library Caucus; Representative Natalie Higgins, Senator Eric P. Lesser and Representative Brian Murray each spoke passionately about the importance and value of libraries. They understand that libraries are the key to life-long learning and a strong democracy. MLA Advocacy Award was presented to Representative Alice Peisch for her years of dedicated service to supporting all libraries. Rep. Peisch also received on behalf of the Education Committee, recognition from MSLA.

Please check out the photos taken at the State House by in-house photographer, Shane Indeglia at <https://flic.kr/s/aHsmBK2JZb> We hope to see you there next year, but in the meanwhile, you can take action by [signing up for legislative alerts](#). You will also find a list of Representatives and Senators by typing in your zip code. It is easy to send an email message that engages them to support the MBLC FY20 MBLC Budget Request. And remember, we are only 0.06% of the entire State budget – let's shoot for 1.0%!!! And finally, please join the MLA Legislative Committee at the MLA Annual Conference on Monday, 5/20/19 from 10:30 a.m. – 11:30 a.m. in at the Sheraton in Framingham for the “Town Hall with Library Caucus members and Legislative Committee Members.” Learn how to advocate for libraries by meeting the Legislators and hearing a few tips on what reaches their ears during the advocacy process.

March 22, 2019

The Honorable Michael J. Rodrigues
The Honorable Aaron Michlewitz
Chairmen Joint Committee on Ways and Means
24 Beacon Street
Boston, MA 02133

Dear Chairman Rodrigues, Chairman Michlewitz, and Committee Members,

The Massachusetts Library Association (MLA) through its Legislative Committee is urging the Joint Committee on Ways and Means to support the Massachusetts Board of Library Commissioners (MBLC) budget lines as requested in FY2020, \$29,329,348 in total.

The request is for a 3 percent increase on five budget lines; with additional urgency for 7000-9401 and 7000-9506 with a total request of only slightly more than \$2.1 million increase over FY2019.

Increased State funding for libraries is crucial. Over 90% of the funding goes either directly to local libraries or for services to local libraries." The Commonwealth is fortunate to have public libraries in virtually every town and city. Therefore Library funding is an investment in all forms of literacy, economic growth and a sense of community. Libraries are essential to continuing education and life-long learning.

Libraries in the Commonwealth use resource sharing (reciprocal borrowing among libraries) and inter-library loans to save money as a collective group. This statewide cooperation provides delivery of books, CD's, DVD's and other materials, and online research databases to every resident of the Commonwealth.

All of the MBLC budget lines support this cooperative effort. However, the MBLC highlights two key budget lines, with budget requests listed below, that need additional support in FY2020:

7000-9401 \$11,516,000 State Aid to Regional Libraries & Library for & Library for the
Commonwealth

7000-9506 \$3,259,000 Library Technology & Resource Sharing

Line 7000-9401 provides funding for the Massachusetts Library System, (MLS) which provides delivery across the state, as well as support for databases heavily used by schools and colleges, and training and support for our libraries. Training and consulting services have had to be cut

severely in the past two years due to lack of funding. MLS delivered 15 million items to libraries last year for less than 28 cents per item, about half the cost of a postage stamp. Cost of delivery has increased 45% in the last 7 years, and funding has not kept pace with rising costs, causing severe service cuts to delivery. This line is 41% below the high in 2001; delivery is in jeopardy -- substantial increases are needed to stabilize the delivery program.

This line also provides funding for the Library for the Commonwealth at the Boston Public Library, which gives all Massachusetts residents access to eBooks, databases, downloadable audiobooks, and digital magazines.

The Resource Sharing & Technology line 7000-9506 funds the infrastructure for interlibrary lending. It also provides the backbone for automated networks, databases, and technology for all libraries across the state. Networks are used for all library operations. This technology line is 36% below its high in 2001. Restoring funding to line 7000-9506 is our statewide priority. When this line is underfunded, the cost of membership to these essential networks is cost-shifted to local communities.

In addition, the MBLC is seeking a new \$250 million bond authorization to support the highly successful Massachusetts Public Library Construction Program (MPLCP). The MBLC also asks that the annual budget cap be increased from \$20 million to \$25 million. Expanding the budget cap will allow the Board to complete the outstanding 19 waiting list projects, the final one by 2025 instead of waiting more than a decade. This will also allow the Board to complete the waitlist projects in a timely manner and permit the MBLC to start planning for the next grant round which is expected to draw 40 new construction projects. The Board has accomplished over 250 new buildings, additions and rehabs since the program's inception over 30 years ago.

Public libraries serve all people; we open our doors to all ages, ethnicity and economic status. We provide equal access to all: information, a safe place for our youth, stimulating programs for our elderly, technical support for the bewildered. Our total request is less than 0.06% of the state budget!

Thank you for your consideration regarding increased funding for the Massachusetts Board of Library Commissioners and the Commonwealth's libraries.



Membership Committee April 2019 Report

The Massachusetts Library Association has 539 members, 95 members renewing or joining since February. We also have 306 members who have lapsed.

A spreadsheet of the contact info for these members will be posted to Google Drive and shared with the exec. Board. Please go through and contact people on your committees who need to renew. It is suggested to treat the lapse as an oversight and this is a gentle reminder that to serve on a committee, you must be a current MLA member.

Question - should we purge members/contacts who have lapsed prior to 2017? - To be discussed with Admin Board, Assoc. Manager, and Membership.

Blurb for upcoming Acronym Bingo at conference:

MLA Acronym BINGO

Bookish

Informative

Networking

Guidance

Organization

Build Insight to the Nature of our Grand Organization at MLA Acronym BINGO!

Get a card, meet committee representatives, and figure out answers to the questions on your card. Get BINGO and get a chance to win a \$25 gift certificate to ...

Be Inquisitive, Now GO! find out the answers!

Remember to have a committee member available to verify answers!

Membership has also been working with our new association manager to take care of issues in Wild Apricot.

Respectfully Submitted by,

Laurie Lessner, Chair

Melissa Campbell

Kim Hewitt

Patrick Marshall

MBLC Director's Report to MLA Executive Board

April 2019--James Lonergan

New Commissioner: Governor Baker appointed Philip H. Madell as a member of the Board of Library Commissioners in late February. Commissioner Madell has served on public library boards in Illinois, Kansas, and Massachusetts (as well as having worked as a page at the University of Illinois library). He is a lawyer in private practice, and legal counsel to the National Counter Intelligence Corps Association. Formerly, he served in state government in Kansas and as a consultant to the California Assembly; taught at several colleges, and held senior management positions in the private sector. He is a graduate of the University of Connecticut, DePaul University, and attended the University of Michigan graduate school of business. Commissioner Madell replaces Commissioner Greg Shesko, whose term expired last October.

Commissioner Ochsenbein and I presented testimony on our FY2020 legislative agenda at the **Joint Committee on Ways & Means hearing** on Friday, March 29th at Roxbury Community College. In addition to the testimony, the MBLC packets distributed to the committee members included: the Legislative Agenda for FY 2020, the line item and affiliate fact sheets, the construction fact sheet and waitlist, the most current construction map, the green budget sheet, the budget organizational chart, and the letters of support from the Massachusetts Library Association (MLA) and the Western and Central Massachusetts Library Advocates (WMLA, CMLA). Senator Collins and Representative Malia chaired the hearing. Despite the hearing running over an hour and a half behind schedule by the time we testified, we were able to deliver our complete testimonies and were asked multiple questions about the importance of statewide support for library programs and services and about how legislators could support our efforts to obtain a new construction bond.

The **House Ways and Means budget proposal** is expected to be released on Wednesday, April 10. We will be working with the House Library Caucus co-chairs, Representatives Brian Murray and Natalie Higgins on amendments for the MBLC budget lines, if necessary.

MBLC staff participated in **Library Legislative Day** events at the State House on Tuesday, March 5th, including staffing a table (shared with BPL) of agency information, with a special focus on the Massachusetts Public Library Construction program (MPLCP). I presented briefings on our Legislative Agenda at two sessions and Commissioner Ochsenbein spoke at the First Time Attendee program. Commissioner Ochsenbein also spoke at the luncheon.

The final **Legislative Breakfast** of the season was held in Amherst on Friday, March 22. Commissioners Resnick and Kronholm represented the Board; staff members Lauren Stara, Andrea Bunker, Mary Rose Quinn, and I were in attendance as well. Legislators included Senator Jo Comerford and Representatives Mindy Domb, Paul Mark, Natalie Blais, and Lindsay

Sabadosa, among others. Senator Comerford and the Representatives were all supportive of the Legislative Agenda and several promised to make libraries a priority in the budget when they spoke with Ways and Means.

Senator Eric Lesser circulated a letter among his colleagues addressed to the Governor regarding the need for a new Library Construction bond and an increase in the annual spending cap. The suggestion for the letter came from Senator Dean Tran at the Leominster Library Breakfast. Thirteen Senators signed on to the letter.

Massachusetts School Library Association representatives and I met for the second time with the Commissioner of the **Department of Elementary and Secondary Education**, Jeff Riley, to discuss priorities from the recommendations of the Special Commission on School Library Services in Massachusetts. MSLA's top priorities include having a School Library Specialist appointed at DESE, who would serve as a liaison to the education and library communities, and a census of public school library programs. Commissioner Riley is open to both (although the position, if created, may only be partially focused on school libraries) and will follow up with us regarding these two priorities within a few weeks. He is also interested in visiting an exemplary school library in the coming months; MSLA will work on scheduling this visit.

The ALA reworked **National Library Legislative Day (NLLD)** this year. The event has traditionally been held in May with states sending a delegation to the Hill to advocate for federal library legislation and funding. This year, because ALA Annual Conference will be held in Washington, D.C. in June, ALA officials decided to move NLLD to dates earlier in the legislative calendar year and invite a small group of advocates representing the 50 states to visit key legislators in each state. Mary Rose Quinn was invited and met with staff in the offices of Representatives Katherine Clark, Jim McGovern, and Ayanna Pressley and Senators Elizabeth Warren and Ed Markey. Tim Cherubini, the Executive Director of the Chief Officers of State Library Agencies (COSLA) and a Massachusetts resident, visited with staff in Representative Richard Neal's office and then joined Mary Rose for the Senate visits. In addition to discussing federal funding for libraries and the grants to states program, the 2020 Census was a key discussion point.

Trustee Orientations: Our Trustee Orientation sessions for the spring 2019 season will be held on:

- Tuesday, April 2 - Charlton
- Thursday, April 11 - Rowley
- Wednesday, May 1 - Woburn
- Thursday, May 9 - Wareham
- Thursday, May 16 – Lenox

Our **Massachusetts Library Trustee Institute** is being held on Saturday, April 27 at the AC Hotel in Worcester. The day-long event will focus on advocacy and is open to all library trustees, public library directors, and library foundation members. The keynote will be given by Kathi Kromer, the director of ALA's Washington Office; a panel will discuss library foundations; and Libby Post, president of Communications Services, a consulting and strategic communications firm, will also present a session.

MPLCP:

- Dedication of Woburn Public Library, March 16 – Commissioner Ochsenein spoke
- Groundbreaking for Tufts Library, Weymouth, March 27 – Commissioner Ball spoke
- Groundbreaking for Erving Public Library, March 29 – Commissioner Resnick spoke
- On Wednesday, March 20, the Greenfield City Council voted 9-3-1 to authorize the local funding required for their construction project. We have started the contracting process.
- The Hingham Public Library formally declined their grant. Given this, we will be able to offer Littleton a provisional grant in FY2020

Shelley Quezada and Rob Favini met with Corey Prachniak-Rincón, Director of the **Massachusetts Commission on LGBTQ Youth** on March 12th. They discussed ways that the Commission can provide training and resources to public libraries across the state. We are excited about this partnership as it will provide needed resources to librarians who are serving the LGBTQ community and their families. Public libraries, typically through youth services, have been seen as safe spaces for LGBTQ youth for some time. The Commission has several training sessions that can be delivered through the MLS. They are also creating a resource list brochure that can be distributed to libraries.

The **MBLC communications team** has wrapped up several campaigns. The Boston Bruins PJ Drive ended with libraries going well beyond their goal of collecting 10,000 pajamas to 13,215. This beats the entire statewide goal of 12,000. In total more than 20,000 pajamas were collected for kids in need, beating last year's total by nearly 10,000. MBLC staff held/participated in four library events including a kickoff with First Lady of the Commonwealth at Lawrence Public Library. In the local rivalries, Jonathan Bourne Library beat Morrill Memorial Library in Norwood to be the statewide winner of the PJ drive. Norwood came in second statewide. In Blackstone Valley Competition, Whitinsville beat out five other libraries to be the winner.

In this this year's **#LibraryLovers campaign** nearly 3,000 valentines were sent to legislators. The valentines represent what the library community often says to legislators about why libraries are important, but hearing directly from residents who are impacted is more powerful.

Results from **Wired to Reach You**, the Old Colony Library Network's campaign that received support from the MBLC communications team, are in line with past campaigns. The campaign asked residents why their network is important to them. Comments were received regarding 70% of the member libraries. Over 200 comments were shared with legislators.

Summer reading has already started for the communications team. In collaboration with MLS, the team has presented at five summer library workshops across the state. The team has worked with the Boston Bruins and Vineyard libraries to coordinate the 2nd annual "Skate into Summer with Blades" event that involves all of the Vineyard libraries on July 31. The team is also working with the Boston Bruins and Lawrence Public Library to hold an event in late June. The application for a Blades (Bruins mascot) visit went out to all libraries this week. The team is also going on site visits to determine a location for this summer's kickoff with Bruins prospect players. The date of the kickoff is June 27.

Mary Rose Quinn has been appointed by Secretary of the Commonwealth Bill Galvin to the statewide **Complete Count 2020 Census Committee**. The Committee will meet monthly and is chaired by Eva Millona, executive director of the Massachusetts Immigrant and Refugee Advocacy Coalition. The statewide committee features government and community leaders who will provide education about the decennial census. Population counts gathered in each state will lead to recalculations of federal funding to the states, redistricting and changes in political representation. Federal library funds are distributed to each state based on population. Massachusetts lost a U.S. House seat after the 2010 Census.

Massachusetts libraries will play a critical role in the upcoming 2020 Decennial Census. In past counts, libraries have provided meeting space for hiring, interviewing, and training census workers, and shelf and display spaces for census information, among other library related activities to help support a complete count of the population in the Commonwealth. Libraries are trusted community resources, protecting the privacy of their users; they have the technological resources to allow people to complete the census online; libraries reach more of their communities than any other municipal department.

Massachusetts' large populations of immigrants, college students, and renters make it one of the most difficult states to count on the census every ten years. Boston has one of the lowest

census return rates in the country. But the traditionally hard-to-count state could be even harder during the 2020 Census because of growing fears in immigrant communities, the growing distrust of government, the addition of thousands of new housing units, and the shift to count most people online. Libraries are uniquely positioned to help reach out to these groups and many others traditionally under-represented in the census count, including people with disabilities, young children, older residents, Americans living abroad, and people who are homeless.

The Secretary of the Commonwealth, Bill Galvin anticipates that there are 6.9 million people in Massachusetts. For every person uncaptured in the census, Massachusetts loses \$4,200 in federal support, funding that supports education, libraries, technology, roads, bridges, health care and many other programs we rely on. Libraries will be key to getting the word out about the importance of completing the census.

Although people will be able to respond to the census questions online, paper forms will still be sent out and accepted, and will be available in 12 non-English languages, with support materials in 59 other languages. People can also respond by calling one of twelve toll free numbers, one for each of the 12 non-English languages.

Two Census events were held in Massachusetts on April 1, a year out from the Census 2020 date. Framingham hosted a statewide event for state and local officials. Boston held its kickoff event at the East Boston Branch of the Boston Public Library. The second meeting of the state's Complete Count Committee will be held at the State House at the end of April. More information will be distributed to the library community in the next few months.

The American Library Association is taking a lead role in the 2020 Census and has taken a position on the White House's insistence on a citizenship question on the Decennial Census. From ALA:

"On April 1, ALA joined an amicus brief to the US Supreme Court opposing the last-minute addition of a citizenship question to the 2020 US Census. ALA joined the American Statistical Association, American Sociological Association, and the Population Association of America in support of the plaintiffs in *Department of Commerce v. New York*. The case was appealed directly to the Supreme Court after a federal district court ruled for the plaintiffs and ordered the Commerce Department to remove the question. Arguments in the case will be heard April 23, and the Supreme Court is expected to rule before June, when census forms are scheduled to go to press..."

April Executive Board Meeting Report

masslibsystem.org/blog/2019/03/27/mls-member-update-march-2019/

By mandy

March 27, 2019

Happy Spring, MLS members! We are pleased to share with you our March Member Update.

Marlborough Office News

We continue to work with our broker to find a new home for the Marlborough office. We hope to have news soon.

Membership News

MLS welcomed 1 new member and 2 new directors in February

New Members

- Saint John School Library, Wellesley

New Directors

- Huntington Public Library – Heather Dunfee
- Warwick Free Public Library – Ivan Ussach

Delivery News

An Open House is being planned at Optima's Plymouth sort site for May. We are confirming dates and will post soon. This is a great opportunity to see how the sort-to-light works, and you may even get to try the process out!

Advocacy Activities

Legislator Visits

Executive Board members met with two legislators late in February:

- Senator Jehlen
- Representative Crocker

Library Legislative Day

Several MLS staff members attended the MLA/MSLA Library Legislative Day on March 5, 2019 to support the library legislative agenda. Congratulations to MLA, MSLA and the entire library community on a great day!

MLS Spring Continuing Education

Our spring classes are filling up, but there are still spots available. Check out all of our learning opportunities on our calendar.

We also have some discussion groups coming up:

- Directors' Roundtable Lunchtime Discussion: Staff Structure and Other Topics at the Hopkinton Public Library on April 30
- MLS Listening Tour at the MLA Conference on May 21 at the Sheraton Framingham
- Small Library Lunchtime Discussion at the Langley-Adams Public Library in Groveland on May 28.
- Small Library Lunchtime Discussion at the Mattapoisett Free Public Library in Mattapoisett on May 31.
- Directors' Roundtable Lunchtime Discussion: Staff Structure and Other Topics at the Bushnell-Sage Public Library, Sheffield, MA on June 13

If you are interested in hosting a discussion group, please let us know. Contact Sarah Donnelly, MLS Event Coordinator at sdonnelly@masslibsystem.org



NELA Representative Report

MLA Executive Board

Submitted April 8th for Meeting of April 12th, 2019

NELA Activities

The most recent NELA Executive Board Meeting was held in So Windsor, CT on March 15th.

NELLS: There are 16 Massachusetts applicants for NELLS 2019. Selections will be made in late April, and notifications will go out by May 15th. We are seeking a Massachusetts Mentor to attend NELLS and serve as a Mentor for the 2019 cohort. I hope to be able to discuss the Mentor selection at the Friday meeting.

NELA Nominations: Nominations are being sought for NELA Officers, and for Emerson Greenaway Award nominees. Last year's EG winner was the MLA nominee Keith Michael Fiels.

Strategic Planning Process: NELA has launched a new strategic planning process, using consultants from ESC (Empowerment Success Corps) Consultants from the Boston area. Consultants met with the Board of March 15th to launch the process.

Koha Summit: The New England Koha Summit was held March 8th at The Kilton Library in Lebanon NH. The summit was held in concert with the NELA and Bywater Solutions. The summit sought to foster conversations about Koha and how it was being used by libraries.

Stand-Alones: Both NELA Section Standalones scheduled for March (NERTCL Conference on March 29) and April (NETSL Conference on April 5th) were on track to have excellent attendance and to net some profit for the Association.

State News

VT: The 2019 VLA Conference will be held on May 22nd at the University of Vermont. The theme of the conference is "resilience". The Vermont Library Friends and Trustees Conference will be held on May 21 at the same location. This was done to coordinate the message and efforts of the two conferences.

The VLA has agreed to partner with the Vermont Center for the Book in its Social Studies and Me initiative. If grant funding can be secured, this program will provide reading focused civics

learning opportunities for children ages 3-8 throughout the state, in partnership with libraries and schools.

RI: New Library Building Crisis in Narragansett: In 2016 the town of Narragansett voted to approve a \$5.8 million bond issue for a new town library. In Oct 2018 the town purchased buildings and land for \$2.8 million. The town was then going re-design and move the current library to this former storefront space. In January 2018 the newly elected town council (3 new members) made a surprise motion to sell the newly acquired property. In February 2019 the town council made a motion to investigate moving “popular programs” from the Library to the Community/Senior Center and adding staff and hours to the Community/Senior Center. In March 2019 the town council failed to pass a motion to hire a mediator to help the Library Board and the Town Council move forward on the new library project. Currently, ALA, RILA, and COLA (Coalition of Library Advocates, a new section of RILA) are working together on a strategy of support for the new library, including language to remind the town council that state law prohibits them from governing inside of the library. Unfortunately, this town council is not interested in hearing from outside groups or even their own residents, so the future is very uncertain at this time.

For more information: Providence Journal Article from Feb 20.

<https://www.providencejournal.com/news/20190220/narragansett-town-council-rejects-library-initiatives>

Respectfully submitted,

Krista I McLeod, NELA Representative



Paralibrarian MLA meeting Report for April 12

Paralibrarian Section met at Middleborough Library March 14, 2019

PARA Certification

- Seven New PARA Certification applications were received, and six applications were approved. Two are new MLA members. 2018-2019 income from PARA certification was 180.00
- MA/NH Regional PARALibrarian Certification Reciprocity received from NH and approved by Paralibrarian Section board. Will be forwarded to MBLC and MLA Executive Board for review and approval.

PARA Section Conference work includes, working with DEMCO to sponsor PARAganza, Book Cart Drill Team entries and submitting raffle basket entry.

Respectfully Submitted

Anna McGrath
Acting Chair Paralibrarian Section



PR Committee Report

March 28, 2019

Members of the PR Committee met at the Springfield City Library. Discussion focused on MLA's social media presence. Several strategies were discussed for Facebook, Twitter and Instagram including establishing twitter chats featuring each of the MLA sections and creating content for each of the different social media channels.

The spring association newsletter was sent out to the membership.

PR Award judges were recruited and judging locations were confirmed.

Conference promotions have begun.

Respectfully submitted,

Bernadette Rivard & Jocelyn Tavares, Co-Chairs



Reference User Services Section

Bi-Monthly Report

April 2019

- Our next meeting will be held on May 3, 2019 at the Massachusetts Library System Office in Northampton in the hopes of attracting librarians living in the western part of the state. We will talk about working with aging populations in the library and reference services.
- We are currently hoping to find a second co-chair for next year. Sara Kelso will serve a second year as the section secretary and Sarah Breen has agreed to serve as a co-chair. Laura Bernheim has agreed to serve as past chair for one year in order to help facilitate any transition.
- We are looking forward to MLA's Annual Conference. Our section is sponsoring 8 programs!
- As the section finishes its fourth year, we continue to look into ways to grow and improve as a section. Holding four meetings a year with a theme has helped our attendance and interest in the section. We will definitely continue doing that! We have discussed whether or not we will pursue stand-alone programs.



Youth Services Section Report April 12, 2018

Youth Services Section held our Wellness Retreat at the Cedar Hill Retreat Center in Duxbury, MA from Saturday, March 23-Sunday, March 24. We had thirteen registrants with eleven attending. A program of events accompanies this report.

On Sunday, March 24 we held our board meeting with Chair, Secretary, and Member-at-Large Northeast attending. Most of our attendees at the retreat were not current MLA members, so they got to see their “freebie” meeting and I made the case for joining (or re-joining) MLA.

YSS has nine programs for conference this year, one on Monday, May 20 and the rest on Tuesday, May 21. Volunteer shepherds were gathered from the assembled attendees and will be put in contact with the YSS Conference Committee Liaison. We gathered a few donations for our Dr. Who-themed raffle basket and will put out another call on MASSYAC.

The YSS Nominating Committee sent out an email to MASSYAC putting out a call for nominations for Secretary for YSS, which is a one-year term and currently the only open seat for re-election. The Chair is also seeking a person to name to Member-at-Large Southeast, which is an appointed seat.

We discussed a fundraiser for next year of a yearly planner that is not tied to a specific year, making it have more longevity. Inspired by traditional planners and bullet journals, we’d like to incorporate a contest of library or librarian pets, thus raising money on a photo entry fee. There would also be a cost to purchase the planner. This was well-received by the group.

Thank you to those who helped get our event off the ground and on the website!

Respectfully submitted,

Marissa Antosh
Chair

yss WELLNESS retreat

Saturday, March 23

4:30-5:00pm **Arrival and check in** at Cedar Hill Retreat Center

5:00-5:30pm **Introductions**

Tea & Empathy with Kat Lewin, Tewksbury Public Library

Learn about the benefits of drinking tea, and how the ritual of brewing a cup can be a mindful experience that you can easily add to your day.

5:30-6:15pm **Session 1: Destressing Exercises** with Nancy Denman, Certified Energy Medicine Practitioner

Our job is often filled with challenges that can create stress and anxiety. How can we put ourselves in a place of joy and calm when the chaos of youth services is raging? Learn some simple techniques to help yourself feel less anxious, calmer and happier while also giving yourself a health boost!

6:30-7:30pm **Dinner**

7:30-8:15pm **Session 2: Yoga Storytime Tips & Tricks** with Martha Boksenbaum, Cranston (RI) Public Library

Use picture books to incorporate yoga poses and meditative breathing into your storytime, teaching families about self regulation, body awareness and health. Martha will demonstrate her yoga storytime and answer any questions about liability issues, method, etc.

8:15-9:30pm or beyond **Open Ended Introvert Party!** Coloring, Knitting, Needle Felting, and more. Have a craft or a game to share? Bring it with you!

Sunday, March 24

8:00-9:00am **Wake up and breakfast**

9:00-9:30am **Session 1: Emotional & Physical Literacy** with Katrina Ireland-Bilodeau, Northborough Free Library

Brush up on the newest ideas in emotional and physical literacy and come away with ideas to implement these in your programs and other offerings

9:30-10:30am **Session 2: YSS Meeting and Ask Anonymous**

Bi-monthly YSS meeting and we'll go around and answer some of your "Ask Anonymous" questions as a group.

Laughter Yoga & Why it Works with Jessica Phillips, Duxbury Free Library

Laughter yoga combines yoga breathing practices with laughter prompts to promote stress relief in this beginner session. The concept of laughter yoga is based on a scientific fact that the body cannot differentiate between fake and real laughter. One gets the same physiological and psychological benefits. Laughter yoga began in India and has spread with laughter groups world wide. For more information see <https://laughteryoga.org/>

10:30-11:00am **Departure**



Find bylaws, agendas, minutes, and resources on <http://mlayss.pbworks.com>