



EXECUTIVE BOARD MEETING MINUTES

December 13th, 2019 at 10:00am

SHREWSBURY PUBLIC LIBRARY, 609 Main Street, Shrewsbury, 01545

Attending: James Lonergan (MBLC), Nora Blake (Vice President), Greg Pronevitz (MSLA Liaison), Sarah Sogigan (MLS Liaison), Ellen Rainville (By-laws), Alene Moroni (Readers Advisory), Kim Hewitt (Conference Committee & Leadership & Management), Bernadette Rivard (Treasurer), Andrea Puglisi (PR), Esme Green (President), Jennifer Harris (Legislative), Carol Witt (IFSRC), Rebecca Beckley (Association Manager), Noelle Boc (Secretary), Marissa Antosh (YSS), Will Adamczyk (Past President), Jocelyn Tavares (PR), Becca Lemos (RUSS), Jenn Del Cegno (PR), Pam Aghababian (Readers Advisory), Sarah Sullivan (NELLS grad), Heather Maganzini (ParaLibrarians), Terry McQuown (NELLS grad), Erin Fragola (PR)

Call to order 10:05am

Motion to approve the minutes from the October Executive Board meeting made by Bernadette Rivard and seconded by Kim Hewitt. All in favor.

NELLS presentation: (Will Adamczyk) We welcomed three of the graduates from NELLS this year. Still looking to fully evaluate the session. A lot of intense introspection happens at it and the takeaways are different and personal to each attendee. Helpful to teach playing to your strengths and learning how to become more of a leader. Kim Hewitt, Sarah Sullivan, Andrea Puglisi all spoke of the impact of the experience. NELLS helped them become more aware of what they could do better, helped built a network of colleagues around New England, and helped deal with various challenges and insecurities. The experience aided with the feeling of isolation that being in Western Massachusetts libraries can create by opening a window into other library points of view from other regions. Being a mentor can polish and revive old leadership skills. We want NELLS attendees to continue to foster their new leadership skills and for all of us to recognize that evolution is never finished.

President's Report: (Esme Green)

- Macmillan: Rhode Island Library Association has been investigating attacking Macmillan from a legal standpoint. Do we think the Massachusetts Attorney General might be interested in the same? We have no feedback yet from Rhode Island's attempts and a national committee has been created to assess the issue.
- Paralibrarians meeting was attended by Esme--very good group energy.
- Request from sections that the budget memo goes out in August instead of later on in the year to give everyone time to think and prepare it.

Treasurer's Report: (Bernadette Rivard)

- Working with accountant getting taxes filed. Some issues with getting the paychecks info.
- Our Fidelity account is doing well right now. Our profit and loss shows us down a bit, but that's normal this time as year as much of our money comes in the spring. We're in good monetary shape.

FY2021 Budget: (Bernadette Rivard)

- Currently the budget numbers show us down by about \$9829. Must decide to see if things can get cut or if we just accept the budget numbers as they are and know we shall have to move funds over.
- Legislative: thinks they have about \$1200 not being accounted for at this time. Legislative Breakfasts are funded individually by local level Friends groups. MLA & MSLA partner to pay for the Library Legislative Day.
- If your section/committee hasn't filled in the notes for what the money is actually for in your budgets, that needs to be rectified. Just put as much detail as possible in about what your plans are for the coming year in regards to the budget. These will be due on Tuesday, January 7th. This includes Conference.

- Kristen Collins's position is now under the Conference committee budget instead of Administration. Most of the deficit is in administrative costs.
- Our credit card fees will hopefully come down with the move to Wild Apricot's system.

Other Notes:

- Master Calendar: we would like to create a master calendar of events so that different events are not running up against one another. A Google form for events will be created that sections can enter information into.
- Make sure you get your section/committee meetings on the MLA calendar--contact Rebecca to post them. We feel there is a lot of overlap.
- Any Legislative breakfasts/events we would also like on the calendars ASAP to make sure those don't overlap as well. Perkins has a Legislative Day that they will inform us of.
- If you want to book the MLS meeting space, please make sure you list WHAT section/committee it is that wants to use the space--don't just say MLA as that leads to confusion.

Association Manager's Report: (Rebecca Beckley)

- GotoMeeting--Rebecca has set up a special link for every committee and section. There is one account for MLA, but we can create as many users as we want. There are some issues that she is working through.
- You can add meetings yourself in the MLA calendar; ask Rebecca if you need access and please remember to add the address for the meeting.

Conference Update: (Kim Hewitt)

- Over 100 proposals were submitted (a big increase!).
- It's slightly behind on the timeline, but about 90% of the programs have been decided upon.
- A lot of great keynotes this year (Nancy Perl!).
- Sponsors and exhibitors are being contacted.
- Registration will be here before we know it--usually early bird registration starts in February.

Committee Reports:

- Strategic Plan update: Focus groups will occur during conference to gather some intel and then we will be able to work on the plan throughout the year and have a new plan by May 2021. We have already accomplished much of the last/current Strategic Plan.
- COPPA: YouTube is requiring all videos to be identified as for or not for children. While not retrospective (YET), it may influence your social media and the rumor is this will spread to other social media sites.
- Nominating Committee: slate is being finalized for upcoming elections.
- Website: we're going to work on improving it. If you are interested in being on a website committee with Nora and Rebecca, let Nora know.

New Business:

- Census: There is a statewide "complete count" library committee. What can we do to increase awareness of the importance of the census? MLA website will point towards the MBLC site that has a great lib guide for it. We will post some more info on the website or blast out to folks as we hear more.
- Hate Speech: After a query that came through from Twitter, do we want to provide guidance for our members? Law is pretty clear: libraries are a limited public forum and you have to let the folks in, regardless of their beliefs. There are choices we can make about speakers, and your meeting room can have a policy to limit to your own residents. You can have a hate speech policy for your library. IF/SRC will take a stab at creating a content page.

Old Business:

- MBLC: bond bill was for \$100 million; is up to \$150 million, which is seen as real progress. The push this year will be to get the cap raised so we can get through all of the current waitlist. MBLC is also working on their next strategic plan and is looking for input. Relocation of MBLC: looking to hopefully still be in Boston assuming nothing falls through.

- Plymouth's 400th birthday is coming up next year. Any libraries that want to participate in showing the Plymouth UK play *This Land* can contact Jennifer Harris (this will be for June).
- MSMLA is trying to activate its membership more with advocacy at legislative levels.
- MLS: a resource sharing assistant position is open. Please share widely.

Next Executive Board meeting is on February 14th, 2020. BRING YOUR VALENTINES!

Motion to adjourn made by Jennifer Harris at 11:54am.