



**Executive Board Meeting
Minutes
October 8, 2021 at 10am
Meeting via Zoom**

Attending: Bernadette Rivard (Treasurer), Joanne Lamothe (President), Kim Hewitt (Vice President), Noelle Boc (Secretary), Nora Blake (Past President), Desiree Zicko (Paralibrarians), Andrea Fiorillo (IF/SRC), Rebecca Beckley (Association Manager), Eileen Dyer (Legislative), Felicia O'Keefe (YSS), Steph Barnaby, Meena Jain (Program Planners), Ellen Rainville (Bylaws), Sarah Sullivan (LAMS), Michelle Filleul (Conference), James Lonergan (MBLC), Robert Hayes (Program Planners), Jocelyn Tavares (PR), Pam Aghababian (Readers Advisory), Amy Dorsheimer (Jordan Miller), Jennifer Harris (Legislative), Krista McLeod (NELA), Sarah Sogigian (MLS), Sharon Shaloo (Center for the Book), Esme Green (Conference/ALA Councilor)

Call to order at 10:02am

Motion to approve the minutes of the August 13, 2021 meeting made by Jennifer Harris and seconded by Kim Hewitt. All in favor.

Treasurer's Report—Bernadette Rivard

- Our second PPP loan has been forgiven.
- Next week, everyone will be getting links to the budget spreadsheets. If you can't get your budget to Bernadette before November 5th, let her know. She will send sections a review of what their budget was the previous year. Please don't touch any of the formulas in the spreadsheet. New tab will be added to the spreadsheet for Program Planners.
- Our bank account balance is a little low and our investments are down a little bit as well due to the stock market. Overall, our fiscal year looks pretty good and hopefully things continue in this vein.
- **Motion to accept Treasurer's Report** made by Esme Green and seconded by Ellen Rainville. All in favor.

Association Manager's Report—Rebecca Beckley

- We no longer have SurveyMonkey. Going forward if you need to do a survey, we can use GoogleForms. Reach out to Rebecca if you need help with it.

- Aging receivables notices are going out. All but one conference invoice is unpaid.
- Working with Paralibrarians to create a way to collect the fees for certification online which can be done by working with the WildApricot store, instead of having to send in checks. Digital and physical items can be sold in the store, for future reference.

Conference Update-- Michelle Filleul and Esme Green

- Two day conference in Hyannis happening next May.
- Get proposals in--November deadline. There have been 31 program proposals to date.
- Kristen Collins is working on sponsorships.

Updates

- **MBLC** --James Lonergan
 - Thanks to Will Adamczyk and Jennifer Harris for their legislative work. State Aid ask is 3%, we've been getting significant increases compared to other New England states. \$1million increase for MLS and MBLC, and asking for \$100K for Center for the Book. Doing a check in for how they use their LSTA grants; a survey will be sent out for evaluation
- **MLS** --Sarah Sogigian
 - Small Libraries Forum coming up in November will be virtual. Annual meeting is on November 1st, also virtual. New time of 1pm.
Really working on enhancing online professional development. Basic Library Techniques now opened up to paralibrarians or anyone else instead of just directors. Can now train 90 people at once.
Focus on our communication methods
- **NELA** --Krista McLeod
 - NELA conference in person on October 18th at Holy Cross. Still might be a few tickets available.
- **Massachusetts Center for the Book**--Sharon Shaloo
 - First statewide conversation at the National Book Festival with hundreds of attendees. Librarians are coming to decisions about the current state book awards and prepping for next year. October 15th writing to authors for kids. Moving offices--will be set up by end of month in Northampton.

Sections and Committees

- YSS: Welcome to [Felicia O'Keefe](#), new chair of YSS. Just trying to get back on track right now and hoping to meet monthly to figure things out.
- Legislative Committee--please let us know if anyone is planning on legislative breakfasts
- Program Planners--looking for someone to architect a database
- Paralibrarians--will be holding their annual meeting and presenting awards at annual conference. Desiree Zicko is replacing Heather Maganzini as head of Marketing/social media

- PR--looking for a new co-chair. Possibilities for others to help with social media; let Joanne Lamothe and Jocelyn Tavares know if you are interested in helping.
- **NOTE to the new chairs:** the shared Google drive has the helpful how to documents for new chairs.

Old Business

- **Fundraising by Committees and Sections--**
Nora and Bernadette have put together a procedure for this; statement will be shared with all.
- **Workshop with John Chrastka of EveryLibrary** on Friday, October 15 at 2pm--we are exploring beginning a relationship with them to assist us with our advocacy efforts and work. Administrative Committee met with him last month and we are doing two upcoming workshops on Zoom on the MLA calendar. Looking at developing a framework. Intent is to have anyone on Executive Board involved. We will be examining public perceptions, looking at what libraries are, best practices, etc. A values exercise to identify our concerns and other advocacy issues will be pursued. Second session on October 29 at 9:30. After those two sessions, we will reconvene as a group and see if we want to move forward with them.
Jennifer Harris commented that it's about MLA in general, our ability to attract new members, how do we participate in our world; investigating how there is so much more support we can receive from our communities.
We don't know what we don't know yet. This is a visionquest of sorts that will help guide us in developing our own voice and purpose.

Motion to adjourn made at 10:56am by Nora Blake, seconded by Jennifer Harris.

Respectfully submitted,

Noelle Boc
MLA Secretary