

**MLA 2023 ANNUAL BUSINESS MEETING AGENDA  
Tuesday, May 9, 2023 - 8AM**

**LOCATION: Sea Crest II**

**Welcome Remarks**: Kim Hewitt, President, Massachusetts Library Association

Kim welcomed everyone and thanked the sponsors of the conference.

**PLA President** - Dr. Maria McCauley

Maria is the Director of Libraries, Cambridge, MA leading 7 libraries, 150 staff, and works with 3 boards across the city.

Maria spoke about 3 areas of courage – creating an inclusive workplace culture, carefully doing the ask and giving feedback, and setting boundaries and finding meaningful moments amidst the pressures and opportunities in libraries and life.

**ALA President** - Lessa Kananiopua Pelayo-Lozada

Lessa is the 2023 Adult Services Assistant Manager in the Palos Verdes library district. Lessa spoke about our brave communities: libraries in the face of book challenges

**State of the State**: James Lonergan, Director, Massachusetts Board of Library Commissioners

James recognized the MA Board Library Commissioners and staff. Hybrid meeting legislation has been extended to March of 2025. The FY24 budget should be ok given the rainy day fund and reserves available.

James thanked MLA for its advocacy which has made a difference as can be seen in the increase in state aid from $10 million to $16 million over the past several years. James thanked Will Adamczyk and all members of the Legislative Committee for hosting its first Legislative Day at the State House post-COVID as well as a virtual legislative day to educate new attendees.

The budget should be at least level funded since ½ million dollars are designated for grants to libraries including databases and provides advisory staff at MBLC. 28 municipalities submitted letters of intent for construction money. The program was modified to reduce wait times for funding.

The Office of Intellectual Freedom (OIF) of ALA gave MA specific stats: from 2021 to 2022 there has been a ten-fold increase in challenge which most likely are underreported. James encouraged folks to report any banning attempts to OIF. A task force has been created including Sarah Sogigian from MLS and Andrea Fiorillo from IF/SR committee of MLA and Maura Deedy at MBLC to combat challenges. James encouraged all libraries to be prepared by having a collection development policy in place. This year’s annual report survey will be asking questions related to intellectual freedom.

**Annual Business Meeting Minutes Call to Order** at 9:02am by Kim Hewitt.

**Motion to approve the minutes** of the May 24, 2022 annual meeting made by Joanne Lamothe and seconded by Bernadette Rivard. All in favor.

**President’s Report:** Kim Hewitt

Kim thanked everyone for coming and addressed the difficult years all library workers have faced post-COVID. There has been a lot of turnover in libraries which adds to stress in the workplace, especially given that succession planning isn’t always in place. Conference is a great place to see trends in services and building community, to be able to turn to each other, be with our people who know what we are going through. Kim encouraged all to get involved in MLA and thanked the Conference Committee and MLA for all their work.

Kim thanked Andrea Fiorillo for her wealth of information, strength, and support of integrity during this fight against book bans. Kim also thanked Will Adamczyk for bringing back Legislative Day to the State House.

**Treasurer’s Report and Presentation of FY24 Budget**: Bernadette Rivard

Bernadette reported that the membership funding goal has nearly been met. Investment accounts were moved to different accounts to earn more interest. Looking ahead to FY24 fiscal hurdles are still anticipated post COVID.

Bernadette introduced Sarah Breen as the new Treasurer and thanked Kim for her leadership and Kristen for coordinating the conference. Bernadette also presented a summary of the investment portfolio.

**Motion made to approve the Treasurer’s Report** made by Michelle Filleul and seconded by Kim Hewitt. All in favor.

**Motion to approve the FY2024 Budget** made by Esme Green and seconded by Krista McLeod. All in favor.

**Presentation of FY24 Slate of Officers**: Joanne Lamothe, Past President

Seeing no nominations from the floor, this is accepted as a motion to accept the slate made by Joanne Lamothe and seconded by Clayton Cheever. All in favor.

**Presidential Transition**–Kim Hewitt

Kim pinned Michelle as the new MLA president and presented her with a gavel and piece of wood from the US Constitution 1794. Kim expressed her pleasure that Michelle is stepping up to the plate.

**Remarks by Incoming President** Michelle Filleul

Michelle thanked the Administrative Board and thanked Joanne for her 15 years of service with MLA and as a conference committee member as she is about to retire. Michelle also thanked the conference co-chairs and conference manager Kristen Collins.

Michelle recommended becoming involved in MLA as a way to make waves together.

**Motion to adjourn** made by Michelle Filleul and seconded by Tina McAndrew at 9:21am.

Respectfully submitted,

Tina McAndrew

MLA Secretary