

June 15, 2018  
MLA Legislative Committee  
10 a.m. to

## Attendance

- In person: Jennifer Harris, Charlotte Canelli, Tressa Santillo, Krista McLeod, Mary Rose Quinn, Susan McAlister, Nanci Milone-Hill, Stephen Spohn
- Via phone: Jackie Rafferty, Kathy Lowe, Sharon Shaloo, Will Adamczyk

## Agenda and Notes

### 1. MBLC update (Mary Rose Quinn)

- a. Revenues are up:
  - i. April was \$3.3 billion; 15.7% more than last year but under benchmark.
  - ii. May was \$2 billion;
  - iii. FYTD - \$24.6 billion
- b. Revenue looks good in terms of funding for next year. It's also an election year, so we are hopeful.
- c. Budget is in conference committee. Karen Spilka, Joan Lovely, Vinny DiMacedo. Total increase last year > this year (anticipated) = \$1.5 million.
- d. 9401, 9501, 9506 and 9508 are in conference committee. We are pushing for the House version for 9401 and 9508 and the Senate version for 9501 and 9506. Susan McAlister et. al. sent out an Engage alert on June 14.
- e. Use Engage to reach out to governor when comes conference committee completes it work. **POTENTIAL ACTION ITEM**

### 2. Use of Engage by local library campaigns (ALL)

- a. Greenfield Public Library requested to use Engage for its building project. (NYLA allows it.) MLS Executive Board discussed, was uncomfortable, and has referred to the Legislative Committee. We don't have staff to manage this like NYLA does. **ACTION ITEM**
  - i. Follow-up with ALA on the use of Engage by other groups
  - ii. Follow-up with NYLA on how it works in NY
  - iii. Follow-up with other state chapters
  - iv. If we do this, there need to be guidelines, processes, etc.
  - v. Discuss at next meeting

### 3. Candidate Survey (Krista McLeod)

- a. In the past, MLA created a questionnaire that addressed each library line item in the state budget. The format was "given this statement... do you support? yes/no".
- b. Candidate data is available from the state. With emails?
- c. We sent a paper copy and online version of the survey.

- d. Been four years since we've last done this.
  - e. Dates: All candidates were in by June 5. Primary is September 4. Elections are November 6.
  - f. Mary Rose, Krista and Nanci will own this. Step one is to update the questions. Step two is to determine what contact information is available on the candidates (including emails hopefully). **ACTION ITEM**
- 4. Conference program feedback (Jennifer Harris)**
- a. Over 60 people at the conference program
  - b. Speakers were on target
  - c. Jason Tate from OCPF was good. More time for Q&A next time.
  - d. Maybe French Canadian David from the Ethics Office as well next time.
  - e. Ask for evaluation information and report back at the next meeting. (Only people who had the app evaluated individual sessions?) **ACTION ITEM**
- 5. National Assoc. of Social Workers offer (Tressa Santillo)**
- a. Invitation to us to participate in their legislative agenda. Contact their political director, Sophie Hansen, [shansen.naswma@socialworkers.org](mailto:shansen.naswma@socialworkers.org).
  - b. MLS / MBLC will follow-up and explore potential opportunities and include some public library directors in the conversation. **ACTION ITEM**
- 6. Next meeting date**
- a. FYI MLA Executive Board meetings:
    - i. Admin 7/13; Exec 8/17; Will will send full calendar to mla-legcom.
  - b. MLA Conference May 20-22
  - c. Leg Com:
    - i. **Next meeting July 20**; will schedule additional meetings in time for the next meeting.
- 7. Old business**
- a. Note: Library Caucus is still planning to do a tour of BPL.
  - b. Note: Baker administration has a policy to line item veto any line that receives \$0 funding in either the House or Senate version of the budget. (Implications for 9508.)
  - c. Net neutrality? Any action for us? Ed Markey has a petition in Facebook. Jennifer Harris will follow-up with MLA Exec. **ACTION ITEM**
  - d. Ballot questions are still up in the air. They include a minimum wage increase, a sales tax reduction and a millionaire's tax.
- 8. New business**
- a. Meeting software / conference call system. Request to MLA Exec. Will? **ACTION ITEM**
  - b. Steve / Susan - The Gratitude Committee - report next meeting **ACTION ITEM**
  - c. Last meeting for Kathy Lowe on legislative committee. MSLA is hiring a consultant to work on advocacy for the coming year. That person will come to MLA LegCom. Mr. Greg Pronevitz. His contact information: 978-760-4767 / [greg@pronevitzconsulting.com](mailto:greg@pronevitzconsulting.com). Greg will be focused on next steps following the school library study commission report. Susan will update list. **ACTION ITEM**

- d. Miriam Achenbach needs to step down from the committee, but is willing to help in other ways. Susan will update list. We thank Miriam for her contributions this past year. **ACTION ITEM**
- e. MSLA bookmarks may not rejoin Legislative Day. Tressa will keep us in the loop.