Massachusetts Library Association
Legislative Committee
March 14, 2014

Attending: Greg Pronevitz, Deb Hoadley, Kathy Lowe, Nancy Rae, Dinah O’Brien, Krista McLeod, Mary Rose Quinn, Cindy Roche, Joan Kuklinski, Beverly Shank, Jackie Rafferty, Sharon Shaloo, Sharon H. and Anna.

Announcements: Sharon Shaloo told the group about a fundraiser for the boys and Girls Club at the Maynard golf course sponsored by Representative Hogan.

Legislative Update: Cindy Roche provided a list of Library Caucus members and noted that invitation have gone out for Legislative day. There was a discussion of Representative Hogan’s idea of having a “champion” for each of the budget line items. The “Champions” would follow a line item and if an amendment was needed they would file it. Representative Hogan will take the State Aid and Board lines, Representative Paul mark and Nick Collins will take the Regional Library and BPL line, Representative Haddad will take the Talking Book Centers. Kathy Lowe asked if this will include the proposed school legislation and Cindy indicated it would. The Legislative Day program will adjust to 11a.m. to allow legislators a chance to speak.

MLS Update: Greg provided information on the new Ill Department and the hiring and planning going into it. The office space is expanding. Christie Chadwick will join the staff in April to work with Small Libraries. Deb Hoadley updated the e-books project and stated that the pilot project has been extended until June 30.

MSLA Update: Kathy advised that they had their annual conference last week in Hyannis and it was very successful. S1906 passed and is now in House Ways and Means. The school have hosted three legislative breakfasts.

Legislative Day: John Ramsey indicated that legislators in the West don’t like Monday’s since they are in their districts. Beverly went over what is ready to go, packets are ready and three tables have been ordered for registration. Mary Rose reports on the status of the buttons. Breakfast and lunch have all been ordered. Lunch is going to be boxed this year. The “READ” posters are organized and Senators have been notified about Senator Rosenberg’s award. Senator Brewer will be give a certificate and honorary MLA lifetime membership which will be presented by Elizabeth Marcus.

Breakfasts: There was discussion about restructuring the breakfasts next year. Possibly picking a state wide theme such as “Library as Partner in Economic Development” and asking legislators to talk about the topic for a few minutes at each breakfast. Telling Our Stories will also continue.

Snap Shot Day: Nancy reports 67 libraries are registered so far, many of them school and academic.
Intellectual Freedom Committee: If the Privacy statute should ever reopen a reference to eBooks should be included.

Mass Center for the Book: Sharon reports that House 3292 is not out of committee yet.