

MLA Legislative Committee
Meeting Minutes - 11/30/18

Meeting Start: 10:05am

Present: Greg Pronevitz, Steve Spohn, Tressa Santillo, Jennifer Harris, Paul Engle, Mike Moran, Mary Rose Quinn, Will Adamczyk, Charlotte Canelli

- 10/26/18 meeting minutes were approved

MBLC Update (Mary Rose)

- 3 new commissioners appointed: Gina Perille, Les Ball, Deb Abraham
- Reauthorization of IMLS in progress now
- **COSLA Initiative**
 - James Lonergan is MA representative
 - Proposing \$1/per capita (each person in the United States)
 - Intention is for MLA Legislative Committee to review this proposal for recommendation for endorsement from the MLA executive board
 - If MLA executive endorses this proposal, James will bring endorsement to COSLA meeting at ALA Midwinter
 - Does this initiative need endorsement from all states to move forward? Not necessarily but it's likely going to be unanimously supported in many, if not all states
 - Related effort - increasing LSTA base to \$1M (joint initiative from ALA and COSLA)
 - Jennifer called a motion to move this proposal to the MLA executive board so that MLA can endorse the COSLA initiative of \$1/per capita - *motion was approved unanimously*
- **Legislative Agenda**
 - Draft legislative agenda available for not ready for distribution yet
 - 7000-9401 State aid to Regional Libraries (MLS & BPL)
 - 75% MLS/25% BPL funding split
 - Talking points: delivery, eResources
 - 7000-9506 Library Technology & Resource Sharing (Library Networks)
 - Talking points: woefully underfunded, especially since 2001
 - Massachusetts Public Library Construction Program program (MPLCP)
 - Talking points: new capital construction bond is needed and need to raise the annual cap on the MPLCP

Legislative Agenda and MLA Support (Will)

- *From 10/26/18 MLA LegComm notes: Jennifer called a motion to approve the FY2020 Legislative Agenda and to include two additional items: 1) LegComm does not approve*

of earmarks and 2) LegComm disapproves of the constant zeroing out (and fighting back for) the Center for the Book in recent years - motion was approved with 10 yes votes and 1 no vote (Sharon)

- MLA Admin members agree with MLA endorsing the MBLC legislative agenda
- Earmarks & Center for the Book - would prefer to deal with MBLC directly
- If MCFTB gets unfunded - perhaps at that point MLA will make a statement
- MLA Admin wants libraries and appropriate stakeholders to get involved earlier with hearings
- Earmarks - MLA could make statements if this happens (could also discuss position on this with library caucus co-chairs)
- Admin will move endorsing legislative agenda forward to MLA exec board (without earmarks and CFTB) - no further action by MLA LegComm is required at this time

Candidate Survey Update (Krista/Nanci)

- Steve wants to look at draft language to see if there's anything that could be used for LegDay
- Jennifer will reach out to Krista to check on status
- Related - MaryRose is updating contact list of Senate & Representatives
- Related - MayRose is updating the list of library caucus

Library Legislative Day (Tressa)

- Showcase will be tabletop style in the Great Hall (due to new statehouse rules regarding the number of tables allowed in the Grand Staircase)
- Only 4 tables can be set up in the Grand Staircase - those tables will be 1) Check-in 2) CMLA/WMLA 3)MBLC/BPL 4)MLS/MSLA
- Call for showcase proposals will be going out in December
- Other planning is happening around the schedule and luncheon schedule
- LegComm is nominating Alice Peisch as the for Advocacy Award (Jennifer will update MLA Eboard)

MSLA Update (Greg)

- MSLA has officially endorsed the MBLC's Legislative Agenda for fy20
- Continuing work to connect with the Joint Committee on Education and DESE to encourage bringing the Special Commission recommendations/long-range plan to fruition.
- We are considering presenting a Commendation from the American Association of School Libraries to the Joint Committee on Education on Legislative Day. (This would still be two speakers, not exactly sure who yet).
- We've made presentations to MassCUE, New England School Library Association, and have plans to present at MLA's conference and AASL.
- I'll poll school libraries to see if any plan to host a breakfast and offer to assist.

Posting Legislative Breakfasts (Steve)

- Tressa will send save the date flyer for LegDay hosts to use
- If you hear that a leg breakfast is happening, send info to Steve
- Steve will send something out to listservs about breakfasts re: info needed
 - Greg will be mentor (has checklist)

Engage Update (Tressa)

- Hack your Engage webinar
 - You can use the custom recipients section to target specific individuals (chair of Ways & Means, etc.); could also use this for local officials
- Tressa & Steve will attempt a cleanup of the Engage database (with updated contacts for tech support)

Old Business

MLA Conference Program (Jennifer/Greg)

- Asked to have the program on Monday, May 20
- Related - MBLC will have a booth at the conference

Minutes for LegComm on MLA website have been posted (Tressa) - done!

New Business (none)

FYI/Other

- Next meeting: Jan. 18 at MLS/Marlborough, revised time is 11am-1pm

Meeting Adjourned: 11:50am