



## **MLA AGENDA**

**FRIDAY, FEBRUARY 8, 2019**

**10:00AM – 12:30PM**

**SHREWSBURY PUBLIC LIBRARY, 609 Main Street, Shrewsbury, 01545**

1. Call to Order
2. Introductions (10:00am start)
3. Minutes for December 14, 2018 Executive Board Meeting (10:05)
4. Treasurer's Report (10:10)
  - a. FY19 budget report
  - b. Financial issues/updates
5. Personnel Committee (10:25)
  - a. Association Manager update
6. FY20 Budget Discussion (10:40)
7. Conference Update (10:55)
8. Archivist's Report (11:00)
  - a. MLA Archives Retention Policy HANDOUT
9. Strategic Plan Update (11:10)
10. Committee Reports
  - a. Committee responsibilities (website, meetings, etc.) (11:15)
  - b. MBLC Report (11:20)
  - c. Nominating Committee (11:30)
  - d. IFSRC (11:40)
    - i. donation
  - e. Other

11.Old Business (11:45)

a. Leadership & Management Section proposal

12.New Business (11:55)

13.Adjourn (12:00)

14.Future Meeting Dates - April 12<sup>th</sup>

## **MLA Executive Committee**

Fri, Feb 8, 2019 10:00 AM - 1:00 PM EST

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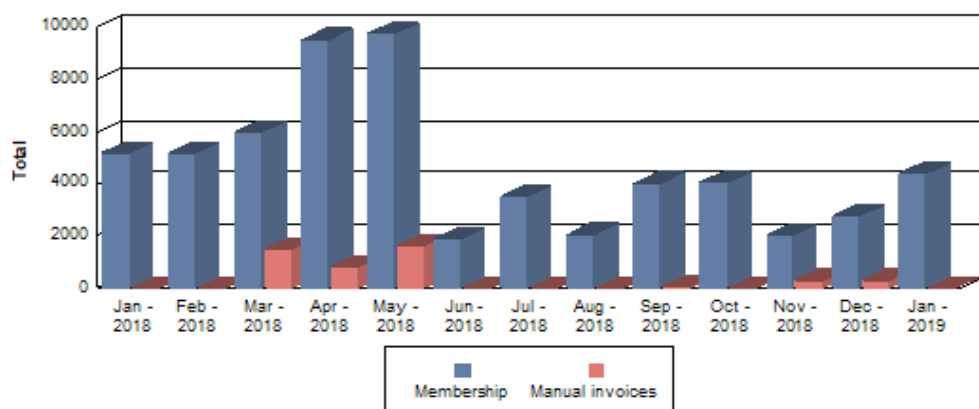


## Membership Committee February 2019 Report

The Massachusetts Library Association has 500 members, 26 members renewing or joining since October. We also have 379 members who have lapsed.

A spreadsheet of the contact info for these members has been posted to Google Drive and shared with the exec. Board. Please go through and contact people on your committees who need to renew. It is suggested to treat the lapse as an oversight and this is a gentle reminder that to serve on a committee, you must be a current MLA member.

Membership Revenue (includes outstanding payments)  
01 Jan 2018 to 25 Jan 2019



Membership will hold a bingo game at the President's Reception on Tuesday. Committee chairs should have materials advertising their committees and sections available for people to take during the reception and also at the registration desk. We also ask you designate one committee representative to be present at the reception and able to answer questions. As of now, the topic of the bingo game is MLA/Library acronyms. Suggestions are welcome!

At our meeting on January 23, we went through the strategic plan and our tasks. Much of it seems to rest on having updated information on the website and increasing communication between the association and the membership.

Respectfully Submitted by,  
Laurie Lessner, Chair  
Melissa Campbell  
Kim Hewitt  
Patrick Marshall



**CONFERENCE COMMITTEE**  
**MLA Executive Board Report**  
**February 2019**

Submitted: January 29, 2019

**Meetings:**

The Conference Committee had a go to meeting on January 25. Our next meeting will be held on Friday, February 22, 10 am at the MLS Offices in Marlboro.

**Agenda items:**

**Program Planning:** We are currently finalizing the schedule. Once we have finalized the schedule, we will require that all shepherds include the final times and dates in the speaker forms and then Kim Hewitt will send the speakers the forms to DocuSign.

**Conference Tech Support:** Jule O'Donnell, Library Systems Coordinator from the Cambridge Public Library has agreed to be the On Site Tech Manager for the Conference.

**Theme:** The conference theme is: Greatest Job on Earth

Respectfully Submitted by,  
Michelle Filleul, Conference Co-chair



## **Youth Services Section Report**

**February 8, 2018**

Youth Services Section held a board meeting on January 17 at the Tewksbury Public Library in Tewksbury.

We had the GoTo Meeting available but unfortunately Tewksbury had no WiFi that day. However, having this virtual option is still awesome, thank you MLA.

The Board decided to develop the YSS Conference raffle basket around the theme of Dr. Who to go with the theme of A Universe of Stories. Marissa will put out a call for monetary donations and assemble the basket in time for conference.

The YSS Retreat is scheduled for Saturday-Sunday, March 23-24 at Cedar Hill Retreat Center in Duxbury. Marissa is looking into developing the registration and promotional info. Topics and speakers are being finalized.

Kat Lewin, Northeast Member-at-Large, has agreed to serve as Nominating Committee for our open position of YSS Secretary (which is a one-year term).

We discussed a fundraiser for next year of a yearly planner, possibly featuring library or librarian pets.

Many thanks to the MLA Treasurer for processing our reimbursements from last year's cancelled retreat.

Respectfully submitted,

Marissa Antosh

Chair



## **MLA Intellectual Freedom & Social Responsibility Committee Report February 2019**

Two donations were made in honour of retired Co-Chair Jacqueline Rafferty: the IF/SRC made a donation to ACLU-MA, and OCLN donated \$400.00 to IF/SRC.

IF/SRC member Michelle Spinney volunteered to create and host an IF/SRC email discussion list. We sent emails to inactive members to learn if they were still interested in participating, receiving some positive responses, and all interested members were added to the list <[mlaifsrc@clamsnet.org](mailto:mlaifsrc@clamsnet.org)>.

We have welcomed two new members since the last Executive Board meeting. Jessi Finnie, Director of the Scituate Town Library, joined after attending a Civic Engagement workshop by MBLC's Michelle Eberle. Dani Scott is a new MLA/NELA member, as well as LIS intern for ALA's Sustainability Round Table; she asked us about the history behind the merger of MLA's Intellectual Freedom and Social Responsibility Committees, which members Susan Pizzolato and Patience Jackson were kind enough to share.

Andrea created a poll to determine the most convenient meeting time; the first choice was Tuesday from 2-4 p.m. The next IF/SRC meeting is planned for February 26 at Reading Public Library, with a GoToMeeting option for those not able to attend in-person. This meeting will focus on IF/SRC plans for 2019.

Respectfully submitted,  
Carol Witt and Andrea Fiorillo  
January 28, 2019



## **MLA Archives Report**

**January 8, 2019**

**By: Aimie Westphal, MLA Archivist (2018-)**

**Digitizing Records:** now that the new year is upon us, I need to strategize with Will to get back in touch with the BPL (they indicated last fall that I should wait to contact them until next year to discuss the MLA files they house). After talking to the past president of the Digital Commonwealth, Kristin Slater recently, she recommended by-passing my contact at BPL in the rare books department who knows about the MLA archives and going right to the DC to discuss options/apply as a digitization project.

**Records at MVLC:** I still need to review the files from the Massachusetts Library Trustees Association (MLTA).

**Retention Schedule:** still working to resolve some big questions around the drafted retention schedule.

**Call for files:** judging by what I have in terms of committee files at MVLC, I know I am missing a lot from the past few years. For instance, for conference, I have materials through 2015 and that's it. I would love electronic and/or physical copies of anything that was sent to MLA members. I would like to work out a more regular transfer system to ensure we have copies of all committee's important files in the archives, but the person who will be running the website should be involved in that discussion as, ideally, electronic copies would go directly to them to post, acting as the archival copy.



## PARALIBRARIAN MLA EBOARD REPORT FOR FEBRUARY 2019

-Bylaw language change to add Chair of Awards to EBoard of the Paralibrarian Section approved by the Section eboard. Vote of the Section membership will take place at the Paralibrarian Section Annual Meeting Tuesday May 21<sup>st</sup> at MLA Annual Conference

Discussed and accepted new design for Paralibrarian Treasurer's report to be more in line with MLA reporting

### ❖ Conference

#### ➤ Paralibrarian Section Programming:

- Tuesday afternoon – Library Snapshots, and Paraganza/Annual Meeting

#### ➤ BCDT

- The new registration form is up and live on the website, Heather will send out on Social Media.
- link for voting up by May 13<sup>th</sup> so everyone can vote ahead of time after viewing videos online ahead of conference

- **Basket Raffle** theme selected

### ❖ Awards

- website has been updated
- changed nomination closing date from March 29<sup>th</sup> to April 1<sup>st</sup>
- Section eboard voting will be at our April Skype meeting
- As soon as a nomination comes in a letter will go to director and nominee

### ❖ Career Development

- Applications (PARA) 3 notebooks have been received (2 Level III and 1 Level I) for \$60
- MA/NH Reciprocity Karen Horn will send an email to MBLC and MLA with information about reciprocity and what NH has done

Next Meeting March 14, 2019





## **MLA Legislative Committee Report**

### **MLA Executive Board Mtg – 2/8/19**

The MLA Legislative Committee met on Friday, 1/18/19 – those in attendance include: Nanci Milone Hill, Jayme Viveiros, Will Adamczyk, Greg Pronevitz, James Lonergan, Tressa Santillo, Steve Spohn, Margaret Cardello. Paul Engle, Mike Moran, Charlotte Canelli, Jennifer Harris

#### **MBLC Update (James)**

- All of the FY2020 Legislative Agenda materials are now available on the MBLC website (see additional MPLCP materials in the Awarehouse)
- Priorities are State Aid to Regional Libraries & Library Technology & Resource Sharing Networks AND Mass Public Library Construction Program
- MBLC has contacted Governor, Lt. Governor, Secretary of the Executive Office for Administration and Finance, and legislators of waitlist libraries
  - Will also draft a “Dear Colleague” group letter for legislators to sign
  - Also asking local officials to urge Mass Municipal to make libraries a priority

#### **Candidate Survey Update (now welcome letter) (Nanci)**

- Candidate survey didn’t go out but going to do “welcome” notes instead
- Committee will review text and needs to respond by January 25
- Welcome notes will be mailed Feb. 1

#### **Library Legislative Day Planning Update (Tressa & Jayme)**

- Review and assignment of speakers and tasks
- 15 proposals with a good mix of libraries represented
- Tressa will send Legislative Day schedule and update on speakers

#### **MLSA Update (Greg)**

- The MSLA Advocacy Committee has been busy promoting legislative breakfasts and Library Legislative Day. The web site has been updated to include:
  - Legislative Breakfast information including a checklist for those considering hosting. A couple of schools are considering hosting.
  - We’ve updated our site to reflect the upcoming Legislative Day
- We have established 2019 legislative priorities with the long term goals of implementing the recommendations of the Special Commission on School Library Services and including school libraries in future revisions to Chapter 70 and ESSA (Every Student Succeeds Act)
  - 1. We endorse the key recommendation for the appointment of a School Library Curriculum Specialist at the Department of Elementary and Secondary Education (DESE). This appointment will provide a much-needed high-level liaison between the education and library communities to facilitate communications among all stakeholders to strengthen school library services in support of excellent education for Massachusetts students including work with the

library community on implementation of the Special Commission recommendations and incorporating school libraries in revisions to Chapter 70 and ESSA; and

- 2. We support conducting a thorough, detailed census of public school library programs to determine exactly where the inequities lie with regard to student access to a school library, librarians and staffing, funding, information technology, physical and electronic resources, and other factors related to school library services in the Commonwealth.
- We are meeting with DESE in March, along with James Lonergan from MBLC to discuss DESE's and our priorities.
- We are staying in touch with Sue Doherty, a school librarian active with the MTA (Mass. Teachers Association) in keeping school libraries in mind for future funding efforts for schools.
- We hope to arrange a meeting with the Joint Committee on Education once it is appointed for the year to share our perspective on the Special Commission recommendations. We also plan to present the Joint Committee with a Commendation from the AASL (American Association of School Librarians) at Library Legislative Day.
- Related - Mass Teachers Assoc. has noted the importance of school librarians in recent advocacy efforts at State House for education

### **Legislative Breakfasts (Steve)**

- Start a new discussion about planning legislative breakfasts post leg day
  - Improve the toolkit
  - Review logistics
  - Try to centralize the breakfasts (this year there's five on the same day)
  - Related: Mashpee lunch was hugely successful and had great feedback from legislators and participation was high

### **Engage Update (Tressa)**

- Megan Cusick & CQRC tech team are aware of our database issues (advocates in the database that shouldn't be there due to ALA's unprovoked advocate list dump into our account)
- They're going to take a look now before Steve and Tressa can look more closely at this after Legislative Day to determine the real and active advocates
- In the meantime, we can still create engagements and promote as we have been doing on the listservs
- Can also use search criteria to determine advocates to contact
- Mary Anne Cluggish is promoting the "Contact your legislators anytime" engagement at Leg breakfasts using shortened URL that Roland Ochsenbein created: [bit.ly/engageletter](https://bit.ly/engageletter)

### **Old Business**

#### **MLA Conference Program**

- 5/20 Mon 10:30-11:30 (all committee members should plan to attend)

### **New Business**

#### **Construction Bond Alert (Steve)**

- Tressa sent out Engage alert to PubDir discussion list
- Steve will extend the deadline on the Engage alert so James and Mary Rose can figure out the exact timing

### **Library Lobbyist (Steve)**

- MLS staff member started a list of states that do or do not have lobbyists; we had one in the past, but it was not cost effective. Discussion tabled due to lack in interest by the group. The sense is that legislators want to hear directly from constituents.

### **FYI & Other**

- Library caucus co-chairs are going to ask legislators to “re-up” for the new session so we can find out who the caucus members are
- Invitation only meeting scheduled with key national legislators (Mary Rose attending) instead of National Library Legislative Day in June in DC during ALA Annual conference.
- IMLS base funds are increasing to 1M (won't impact MA too much); COSLA also pushing for \$1/per capita (right now it's around 3 cents)
- IMLS not impacted by partial shutdown as of now but the JFK Library IS impacted.

Next Meeting: February 22 from 10am-12pm at Minuteman in Natick.

March 5, Library Legislative Day at the State House – **PLEASE REGISTER AND ATTEND!**

April 26, MLS – Marlborough

June 28, Minuteman - Natick

Respectfully submitted

Jennifer Harris, co-chair



## **NELA Representative Report**

### **MLA Executive Board**

Submitted February 5<sup>th</sup> for Meeting of February 8<sup>th</sup>, 2019

### **NELA Activities**

The most recent NELA Executive Board Meeting was held in Lancaster, MA on January 18<sup>th</sup>.

Conference: The NELA Conference Committee is issuing calls for conference programming proposals. Conference will be in Mystic CT. October 20-22, 2019. The theme will be “Challenging Expectations Together”

NERTCL: The New England Roundtable of Children’s & Teen Librarians will present “Transform Our Communities: Transform Our World.” Here are details:

- **Date:** Friday, March 29, 2019
- **Location:** Nevins Memorial Library (Methuen, MA)
- **Registration fees:** \$60 for NELA members, \$80 for non-members.
- **Keynote speaker:** Rita Meade, Brooklyn librarian, author, and Twitterer (@ScrewyDecimal)
- **Other speakers** include Luke Kirkland (Teen Librarian, Waltham, MA), panels discussing Drag Queen Storytime and Family Place Libraries, and round table discussions of advocacy, youth, and community engagement.

Resume Review Service: The NELA Membership Committee is planning for implementation of an on-line Resume Review service. This is based on the popularity of the Resume Review programs held at Annual Conference over the last few years.

Seeking NELLs Mentors: NELLs participant applications are open until March 15<sup>th</sup>. Now the search begins for a Mentor from each state.

NELA Nominations: Nominations are being sought for NELA Officers, and for Emerson Greenaway Award nominees. Last year’s EG winner was the MLA nominee Keith Michael Fiels.

NETSL: The New England Technical Services Librarians Annual Spring Conference will be held Friday April 5, 2019 at the College of the Holy Cross, Worcester. The 2019 theme is “Back to Basics: Everyday Skills for Technical Services.”

### **State News**

Rhode Island: RILA has incorporated three new sections this past year: Coalition of Library Advocates (COLA), Cornucopia of RI (CORI), and just recently School Librarians of RI (SLRI). “This connection creates a larger advocacy voice for the Rhode Island Library Community”, says Kieran Ayton, President of RILA. “This will allow us to build opportunities around the state with combined networking activities,

programming and professional development.” The RI Coalition of Library Advocates (COLA) works to improve library services through advocacy, education, and public awareness. For over 30 years COLA has supported Rhode Island Libraries through petitions, Congressional testimony, and strategic communications with RI legislators. Cornucopia of Rhode Island (CORI) serves the library community of color. CORI mentors librarians and library staff of color, promotes the development of multicultural services and programs, and professional and educational activities.

Respectfully submitted,

Krista I McLeod, NELA Representative



## **Public Relations Committee Report**

January 29, 2019

The PR Committee has put out the call for PR Awards. Questions are coming in, and a few entries have arrived. Manny Leite at Boyden Library in Foxborough has been receiving them on behalf of the Committee.

Jocelyn Tavares spoke with Anna Popp about Swag Swap program for conference and what it would entail.

Respectfully submitted,

Bernadette Rivard & Jocelyn Tavares, Co-Chairs



## **FEBRUARY 2019 MA/MLA ALA CHAPTER COUNCILOR REPORT TO THE MLA EXECUTIVE BOARD**

Charlotte Canelli, February 5, 2019

- I attended ALA MW in Seattle, Washington January 25-29. I have submitted an expense report requesting \$1903 in reimbursement for hotel, airfare, per diem meals, and airport transportation in Seattle.
- I attended the Chapter Leaders Forum on Friday, January 25 from 9-3. This is an invaluable event for Chapter Leaders that is attended by Councilors and Chapter presidents (elect, current and past) and executive directors.
- There were several important votes during Council sessions I, II, and III on Sunday, January 27 – Tuesday, January 29. A ballot vote was held on Monday, January 28 for members of the ALA Executive Director Search Committee. I voted for Chapter Councilor David Dahl and for Councilor-At-Large Chris Corrigan. Both lost as Chapter Councilor Susan Jennings and Councilor-At-Large Peter Hepburn won overwhelmingly. The vote was started on Sunday, January 27 but was ballots were destroyed and a new ballot began on January 28 because David Dahl had been left off the ballot. A ballot vote was held on Monday, January 28 for new members of ALA Council after hearing from all five candidates (all from academic libraries). I voted for Eboni Henry and Leslie Preddy. Eboni Henry and Karen Schneider won with 67 and 60 votes each. Besides approving reports of committees, Council minutes, and various tributes, there were also several important Resolutions that were voted on by Council: Sunday, January 27 o Resolution for the Adoption of Sustainability as a Core Value of Librarianship: Monday, January 28 I voted YES. The resolution passed. o Resolution on Eliminating Monetary Library Fines as form of Social Justice: Tuesday, January 29 I voted NO. The resolution passed. o Resolution in Support of Civil Rights Protections for People of Diverse Gender Identities: I voted YES. It should be noted that Massachusetts was not included as an endorser. I spoke with Ann Symons and on Monday she asked that Massachusetts and another state be added as endorsers because emails had been overlooked. The resolution passed with Massachusetts added.
- There was much discussion at ALA MW about the reorganization of future MidWinter meetings (2020 and beyond.) There was also much discussion from the Steering Committee on Organizational Effectiveness (SCOE).
- As a member of Council, I am required to attend formal Council I, II, and III sessions during the nearly-week-long event (Sunday, Monday and Tuesday morning sessions). This is where the real work happens with over 150 councilors and members of the executive staff and board. This is where the resolutions are voted on and where we are briefed about finances and governance and vote on reports by all committees, etc. In addition, I attend Chapter Relations meetings, Chapter Councilor meetings, Chapter Leader Forum (all day Friday) and other formal events that are not required but are invaluable. I also try to attend receptions for incoming, current, and outgoing ALA presidents and current councilors. It's a busy, busy time punctuated with networking, ALA events, and fun times.

At my first ALA MW meeting (Denver) and second at Annual (New Orleans) that I attended as Chapter Councilor, I attended all three Council Forum meetings each. These are informal meetings attended by about 1/3 of the body, and they are often attended by ALA executives but not necessarily all of the executive board and officers. It is a less formal meeting. These meetings are recommended but not required; they can be very informative because there is casual commentary and explanation. However, there was an agenda, there are facilitators, and there are informal notes of the meeting shared.

This MW meeting, in Seattle, I only attended one of the three of these Council Forums. There was a major change in time and venue for Council Forums that has been, in my opinion, frustrating and inconvenient. Instead of being held in a large meeting room with AV support from 8:30-10 on Saturday, Sunday and Monday evenings as they had been in recent years (and possibly forever), it was decided last year to make the meetings more accessible to all; some influential councilors felt that the evening slot made it difficult to attend. Others felt that too much serious business went on at a time when all Council was not in attendance. Personally, I made the time for it in the evening with early dinners and found the evening forums a wonderful learning tool. They covered many topics, and it was easy to hear, and in a comfortable atmosphere in which to comment. It was facilitated and there was an agenda, and notes were shared.

Many of us were frustrated by the times of Forum scheduled this MidWinter - 7:15 am one day; 2 pm the next, and 5 pm the last. We met on one side of the ballroom with no microphones, and terrible acoustics. I chose not to attend the last Forum for several reasons and the difficulty hearing and the uncomfortable seating arrangements were a few of them. Many people feel that the Forums were not well-facilitated and there have been accusations that this last Forum was very poorly facilitated.

It was at this Forum that accusations of racial aggression were made against a male councilor. The male councilor, Chris Corrigan (Digital Reference Librarian at the Library of Congress Library for the Blind and Physically Handicapped in Alexandria, VA) resigned immediately after the Forum. The experience in Forum caused April Hathcock, a Councilor-At-Large (Scholarly Communication Librarian at NYU Libraries) to write several blog posts, Facebook posts and Tweets about the episode.

On Tuesday morning, we walked into an emotionally-charged Council. For those of you who don't know, this is held in a very large ballroom where the executive board sits on a large stage. Large screens project the close-captioned dialog of everyone speaking in the room - those on the stage and those standing at microphones placed throughout the room. 150+ councilors sit at large tables in a crescent shape. Everyone at microphones states his/her name and affiliation. It is very formal. ALA President Loida Garcia-Febo was distraught. She was so distraught that there were times she could not speak and she wiped away tears. The pain and hurt were palpable. She led a discussion that she opened up on the floor by basically saying that there was an incident that had caused pain in the organization. We had much work to do between 9:00 and 11:30 am. Many were leaving on planes that afternoon and the 11:30 am ending time was firm. Many in the room were concerned, confused and confounded that an incident like this (although no specifics were shared, what we were hearing was painful) had stopped ALA governance in its tracks. We heard that there was an incident of bullying and racial aggression against a female, black councilor (April Hathcock identified as such) by a male councilor (assumed to be Chris Corrigan) at the Council Forum on Monday afternoon. Many councilors stood up to speak in defense for April Hathcock stating that they were embarrassed that they had not supported her in the Forum. None of us heard any specifics about what the discussion in the Forum. There were many mixed reactions and comments, assumptions and rumors at Council on Tuesday morning. In the end, Council voted to move on to the agenda after a half an hour debate that included a motion to break into small groups for a ten minute discussion on how to deal with the matter. Many of us felt that 10 minutes was not enough time due to the accusations, background, and overall shock that racial aggression had been charged and accusations against all of the members of Forum who had not spoken up to support April Hathcock in the Forum. **I voted against moving into small groups.**

**From ALA President Garcia-Febo the next morning:** "We should not – and do not - accept harassment, bullying or discrimination of any kind in our profession. These behaviors go against our values. Violations to our code of conduct will not be tolerated. We established a code of conduct because we take the responsibility of being respectful to each other very seriously. I am personally working with Jody Gray, Director of the Office for Diversity, Literacy and Outreach Services to coordinate resources including online and in person sessions at our annual conference. The resources will be for all members and for staff members. I hope to have more details very soon. I want to recognize



that this incident caused a lot of hurt and I am working diligently to ensure that at all ALA events participants are and feel respected."

**On January 31**, ALA made a statement. Perhaps reading this article in Inside Higher Ed will be useful to you. I will update you about this issue as more information is given to us.

Charlotte Canelli ALA Chapter Councilor Massachusetts Library Association



**Massachusetts Library Association  
Reference User Services Section  
Bi-Monthly Report  
February 2019**

- We had our third meeting of the year on January 22 at the Massachusetts Library System Offices in Marlborough. In addition to the business portion of the meeting, we had a round table discussion about programming in the libraries and the role that staff plays. It was a great conversation! Other topics that we've explored this year at our meetings are mental health, homelessness, and legal reference.
- Our next meeting is on May 3 at the Massachusetts Library System Offices in Northhampton. In addition to the business portion of the meeting, we'll be discussing about working with aging populations. We're hoping to have a guest speaker.
- Sara Kelso has agreed to serve another year as section secretary.
- We will have two co-chairs next year. Sarah Breen from the Needham Free Library will run as co-chair and we are in the process of looking for a second co-chair. Laura Bernheim will serve as a past chair next year in order to mentor the co-chair who will be serving as the liaison to the MLA Conference Committee.
- RUSS is sponsoring 8 programs at the annual conference: Consumer Health Reference, The Thrifty Programmers, The Accidental Archivist, What Can BPL Do For You?, Family Legacy and Genealogy, Simmons @MLA: The Next Generation, Readers Advisory: Connecting Patrons with Themes, and Volunteers and Interns.

**MBLC Director's Report to MLA Executive Board**  
**February 2019**

Commissioner Mary Ann Cluggish has been reappointed as a member of the MBLC for a five year term expiring January 1, 2024.

Governor Baker has released his **House 1 FY 2020 Budget recommendation**. The entire proposal, which totals \$42.7 billion, can be found at the link below:

[https://budget.digital.mass.gov/bb/h1/fy20h1/?\\_ga=2.79226324.1129955840.1548270806-1823818634.1437055682](https://budget.digital.mass.gov/bb/h1/fy20h1/?_ga=2.79226324.1129955840.1548270806-1823818634.1437055682)

The Governor has proposed a 3% increase for our Admin line (9101) and 1% increases for 9401, 9402, 9406, and 9506. While it may look like 9501 is getting a 2% cut, this is due to the artificial inflation of the line in FY2019 with \$250,000 in earmarks. If we take the earmarks out, the base amount for this line (\$9,362,700) is also getting a proposed 1% increase. The Governor is proposing level funding again for the Center for the Book.

Account	Description	FY 2019 Spending	FY 2020 House 1	Comment
<a href="#">7000-9101</a>	Board of Library Commissioners	1,275,000	1,314,774	
<a href="#">7000-9401</a>	Regional Libraries Local Aid	10,282,140	10,384,961	
<a href="#">7000-9402</a>	Talking Book Program Worcester	454,966	459,516	
<a href="#">7000-9406</a>	Talking Book Program Watertown	2,588,155	2,614,037	
<a href="#">7000-9501</a>	Public Libraries Local Aid	9,612,700	9,456,327	FY2019 included \$250K in earmarks
<a href="#">7000-9506</a>	Library Technology and Automated Resource-Sharing Networks	2,815,928	2,848,279	
<a href="#">7000-9508</a>	Center for the Book	200,000	200,000	

Mary Rose Quinn, Lauren Stara and I met with House Library Caucus co-chair Rep. Brian Murray in Webster and, joined by Commissioner Ochsenbein and Rob Favini, with Caucus co-chair Rep. Natalie Higgins in Leominster after recent **legislative breakfasts** in order to review our FY2020 Legislative Agenda, with a particular focus on the construction bond bill and cap. Rep. Murray told us that he would speak with Rep. Higgins about scheduling a meeting with A&F Sec. Heffernan regarding the bond bill and cap. Senator Dean Tran, who attended the Leominster breakfast, suggested that we draft a letter to the Governor in support of the bond bill and cap and circulate it to state senators and representatives for their signatures. We will discuss this with Sen. Eric Lesser, the Senate Library Caucus co-chair, when we meet with him at the Longmeadow legislative breakfast.

While in Seattle for a COSLA meeting and ALA Midwinter, I met with representatives from MSLA (including their consultant Greg Pronevitz) and EveryLibrary, a library advocacy organization, to discuss our continuing efforts towards implementation of the **Special Commission on School Library Services'** recommendations (please see <https://mblc.state.ma.us/programs-and-support/youth-services/school-libraries-study.php> for the full report and recommendations). MSLA leaders and I have a meeting scheduled with DESE Commissioner Jeff Riley on March 11<sup>th</sup> to discuss MSLA's 2019 advocacy priorities, which include:

- the appointment of a School Library Curriculum Specialist at DESE in order to strengthen school library services in support of excellent education for Massachusetts students; and
- conducting a thorough, detailed census of public school library programs to determine exactly where the inequities lie with regard to student access to a school library, librarians and staffing, funding, information technology, physical and electronic resources, and other factors related to school library services in the Commonwealth.

**Construction:** Stoughton Public Library will be the subject of the Massachusetts Certified Public Purchasing Official program's annual "Story of a Building" – the first time a library has been featured. It's part of the coursework for MCPPO certification. Lauren Stara will be on the panel on March 12. More info: <https://www.mass.gov/service-details/story-of-a-building-stoughton-public-library>

**Joint MLS/MBLC Consultants Meeting:** Consultants from the MBLC and the MLS met at the MBLC offices for a day-long planning meeting on January 16<sup>th</sup>. The meeting began with the entire group discussing topical areas of overlap and interest that were generated during our first group meeting last fall and decided to focus on the following: Small Libraries, Assessment Tools, Website tools and guides, and Partnerships. After the group discussion, consultants broke into smaller groups by topic to discuss possible programs and activities and to plan for continued sub-group meetings and communications. The next group meeting is scheduled for May 15, 2019 at the MLS offices in Marlborough. The agenda will feature reports from the topical sub-groups.

The **Trustee Institute** will take place on Saturday, April 27 at the AC Hotel in Worcester (tentative timing 9:30-3:00). The theme will be advocacy and the keynote speaker will be Kathi Kromer, Associate Executive Director, ALA Washington Office. There will also be a session sponsored by the MLTA featuring political/fund raising campaign consultant Libby Post. We hope to round out the program with a panel discussion about library foundations.

Rob Favini has been sending out highlights of the newly updated [Massachusetts Public Library Trustee Handbook](#) on a weekly basis to the Trustee and PubDir emailing lists, with plans to cover the entire handbook over the next year or so. The highlighted sections in the emails are particularly useful for discussion at public library trustee board meetings and have been well-received by directors and trustees.

**OCN Campaign:** The MBLC is working with OCLN for the third year in a row in a campaign designed to reach residents. This year's campaign is *WIRED to REACH* and highlights that networks and libraries across the Commonwealth, including OCLN, are wired together to create opportunities for residents to gain access to more than 53 million items. There are ready made social media posts with suggested text for libraries to use and residents can go to a website created for the campaign and share their comments. This campaign dovetails nicely into the FY2020 Legislative Agenda in which funding to 9506 is a priority. Resident's comments will be shared with legislators which is important because while technology has changed a lot in 20 years, state funding to support technology in libraries is actually 36% lower than it was in 2001.

**#LibraryLovers:** The MBLC has also launched the 3<sup>rd</sup> annual #LibraryLovers Campaign –again, this is a campaign designed to reach residents. They simply fill out a paper Valentine to their library or go to [lovemasslibraries.com](http://lovemasslibraries.com) and share why they love their library. MBLC shares the valentines with legislators. In 2 years, we've sent 12,000 valentines to about 150 legislators.

**Partnership with JFK:** We're in our 3<sup>rd</sup> year of a partnership with JFK Library and Museum. This year, to support the Summer Library theme of space, MBLC staff has worked with JFK to create posters, social media posts and resources on [mass.gov/libraries](http://mass.gov/libraries). Massachusetts libraries can order the posters they need—this is currently happening. But the

posters were also made available to state libraries across the country. 24 states ordered posters (including Alaska and Hawaii). JFK is funding the printing and shipping costs for these posters.

**PJ Drive:** The Boston Bruins PJ drive is currently underway, with 135 libraries participating. Bourne has a new rival in Norwood Public Library and seven central MA libraries have started a friendly competition as well. This year's PJ Celebration will be held at Lawrence Public Library on Feb 21 from 1:30 to 2:30. Special Guests include: First Lady of Commonwealth Mrs. Lauren Baker, Bruins Foundation President and alumni Bob Sweeney and Bruins Mascot Blades. Everyone is welcome.

**New eBook Program:** MBLC staff is working with the Statewide PR Advisory Committee to develop some identity for the new eBook program. They hope to have logos for Network feedback soon.