



MLA Executive Committee Meeting Minutes

Friday, August 11, 2023, 10 – 12
Virtual Meeting via Zoom

Attending: Michelle Filleul (President), Noelle Boc (Vice President/PIE), Sarah Breen (Treasurer), Danielle Savin (Assistant Treasurer), Bernadette Rivard (Past Treasurer), Nora Blake (By-Laws), Nanci Milone Hill (ALA Councilor), James Lonergan (MBLC), Sarah Sogigian (MLS), Esme Green (Conference), Kristen Collins (Association Manager), Robert Hayes (Program Planners), Meena Jain (Program Planners)

Call to order at 10:05am

Motion made to approve the June 9, 2023 minutes by Bernadette Rivard, seconded by Michelle Filleul. Motion approved. Danielle Savin and Nanci Milone Hill abstained.

President's Report—Michelle Filleul

- Currently, the PR committee does not have a co-chair. We are asking that section or committees appoint someone to help with PR or see if they have members willing to help. There is also a possibility that some from the Administrative Committee can help oversee it.
- Website updates—trying to look at switching to another vendor; is big project and we might need to make a list of what are actual needs are for a website. Kristen is creating a short survey for members to see what people want from it. Consider having some more static content that can lead to dynamic content. Kristen met with StarChapter to see what they offer and we may do a demo with them. ALA sent us a list of other platforms that other chapters use. There is a limit to what we can afford. Let Michelle know if you are interested in being on the website committee.

Treasurer's Report—Sarah Breen

- We did get some membership income and a very small amount from conference in the past month. Lost about \$14K in July; investments did go up.
A motion to accept the Treasurer's Report was made by Esme Green and seconded by Michelle Filleul. Motion is approved. Nanci Milone Hill abstained.
- Bernadette Rivard reported that we lost money on conference this year, and need to look at pricing for next year, especially in regards to meals. Kristen Collins explained

venues often make their money off minimums for food and beverages at conferences. Conference wants to do a deep dive into the finances. The Conference Committee will meet with the Administrative Committee to talk about options as a loss at conference is not sustainable.

Association Manager's Report—Kristen Collins

- Records maintenance still in progress and duplicate memberships are being deleted. Our membership seems a bit low.
- Call for proposals will be deployed today for conference. Starting to think about 2025 and properties to look at for the event. A new Committee Hub for the website was created.

Conference Update—Esme Green

- A lot of new members have joined the committee
- Sessionize is a new platform that we will be able to collect proposals on.
- Need liaisons from the different sections to Conference Committee

Committee Reports

- **MBLC—James Lonergan**
Got at least 10% increase in the state budget for all of the lines except Mass Center for the Book (who got 5%).
September board meeting is both virtual and in person in Northampton and will be the budget discussion meeting. Looking tentatively at asking for the increase to state aid as the big ask.
Anti-book banning bills are being worked on in the Senate and House at present.
Lots of retirement in the works for the MBLC, including for director. Usually have a MLA person on the search committee.
- **MLS—Sarah Sogigian**
Hired a new consultant to focus a lot on leadership and management.
Annual meeting is November 6th
Understanding Teen Behavior sessions coming up end of summer
New Action Plan just announced.
- **ALA Councilor—Nanci Milone Hill**
Attended ALA conference—big discussion was of course book bans and attacks on librarians
Discussion around how Montana State Library Commission decided to cancel their membership in ALA due to objection to leadership. The councilors signed a resolution condemning discrimination against library workers.
ALA has sent out a letter of support to all chapters.

IFLA is going to be held in Dubai, but they have told ALA they could be no topics on LGBTQ+ topics.

New Business--none

Old Business--none

Motion to adjourn made at 10:48 by Esme Green.

**Next meeting: Friday, October 13, Virtual*

Respectfully submitted,
Noelle Boc
MLA Vice President