MINUTES OF THE BOARD OF LIBRARY COMMISSIONERS

Date : July 12, 2018

Time : 10:00 A.M.

Place : Massachusetts Board of Library Commissioners Office

Boston, Massachusetts

Present : Mary Ann Cluggish, Chairman; Roland A. Ochsenbein, Vice Chairman; Mary Kronholm, Secretary; Carol B. Caro;N. Janeen Resnick; Gregory J. Shesko; Alice M. Welch

Absent : George T. Comeau, Esq.

**Staff Present:**

James Lonergan, Director; Celeste Bruno, Communications Director; Kate Butler, Electronic Services Specialist; Amy Clayton, Administrative Coordinator; Maura Deedy, Library Advisory Specialist; Tracey Dimant, Head of Operations and Budget; Rob Favini, Head of Library Advisory and Development; Paul Kissman, Library Information Systems Specialist; Rachel Masse, Assistant to the Director; Matthew Perry, Outreach Coordinator; Mary Rose Quinn, Head of State Programs / Government Liaison; Lauren Stara, Library Building Specialist

**Observers Present:**

Patricia Feeley, Interlibrary Loan Librarian, Boston Public Library (BPL); Linda Harper, Library Director, Hingham Public Library; Sarah Sogigian, Interim Director, Massachusetts Library System (MLS)

**Call to Order**

Chairman Cluggish called the meeting to order at 10 A.M.

**Approval of Minutes: June 7, 2018**

* Page 13 line correct to Commissioner Ochsenbein

Commissioner Caro moved and Commissioner Shesko seconded that the Massachusetts Board of Library Commissioners approves the minutes for the monthly business meeting on June 7, 2018 as amended.

**Board voted unanimous approval.**

**Chairman’s Report**

Chairman Cluggish presented the following report:

Since our last meeting, I attended the first Sasaki report review session at the Walpole library. I thought it went well, the attendees were very attentive and the discussion was very thoughtful. I also went to the Summer Reading kickoff at the Waltham Library. As usual, it was a terrific event. It's clear that the Agency staff has the running of the Summer Reading events down to a science. I also participated in the Executive Committee meeting.

At the Sasaki event, I was approached by the Wayland Library Trustee Chair with questions about Charter Commissions and Town Government Study Committees, and changes in Town Government and libraries. Since I have personally been through 3 of these locally, I requested a conversation with James and Roland about the agency's response and what we might do better; James expanded the meeting to include Rob and Mary Rose. We'll be meeting today after the Board meeting.

I'll be speaking at the N. Dartmouth Groundbreaking on Tuesday afternoon, July 17.

This is my last meeting as Chairman. I first want to say that I have thoroughly enjoyed being Chair. It has been a wonderful experience and very gratifying. It gave me the opportunity to work closely with a very talented staff, work on some very interesting challenges, and develop relationships with several key legislators who subsequently helped us with funding,

Looking back over the past two years, it looks to me that the Agency has some significant accomplishments. Such as:

* after two searches, hired a new Director,
* celebrated the MBLC's 125th Anniversary,
* two State Aid review committees that made great strides in solving some knotty problems that had been hanging around for years,
* worked with a consultant to develop a greatly needed thoughtful and thorough Strategic Plan which includes an implementation plan,
* the first phase of the Sasaki study has been completed which may ultimately have enormous implications going forward,
* awarded about 20 construction grants, helped to build or renovate about 20 new libraries. I had the honor of speaking at about 13 of these.
* the leadership of the Agency and Commissioners appears to have resulted in greater and more effective and smarter advocacy,

All of this is very gratifying, and looking back, I'm sure the other commissioners feel the same sense of satisfaction.

All in all it has been an extraordinary experience. I am grateful to have had the opportunity to serve in this capacity. I'll miss it.

**DIRECTOR’S REPORT**

Director Lonergan presented the following report:

Meetings/activities since the last Board meeting:

* June 6—MLA Executive Board meeting, Shrewsbury Public Library
* June 11— MLS Executive Director Search Committee conference call
* June 13—Personal Information Security Policy Review
* June 14—Diversity Awareness in the Commonwealth for Managers Workshop, McCormack Building
* June 18—MLS Executive Board and Executive Director Search Committee Meetings, Marlborough
* June 25—COSLA phone interview regarding IMLS leadership
* June 27—Summer Reading Kickoff, Waltham Public Library
* June 28—Retirement Event for Greg Pronevitz, Harvard Public Library
* July 6—Retirement Event for Rosemary Waltos, MBLC Office
* July 9 and 10—MLS Executive Director Finalist Interviews, Marlborough

**State Budget Update:** Mary Rose will provide an update on where things stand regarding our FY2019 state budget.

**Institute of Museum and Library Services (IMLS):** The Senate Appropriations Committee approved level funding for the Library Services and Technology Act (LSTA) program on June 28, rejecting the administration’s call to eliminate funding for Library Services and Technology Act (LSTA) and IMLS. The Committee approved a $2 million increase for IMLS to cover administrative costs. The full Senate will take up consideration of the spending bill after the July 4 recess, although timing has not been announced.

The House Labor, Health and Human Services (LHHS) Appropriations Subcommittee [approved](https://www.districtdispatch.org/2018/06/federal-library-funding-remains-stable/) level funding for LSTA in mid-June, indicating support for library funding in both chambers of Congress.  The House Appropriations Committee deferred action on the Subcommittee bill until after the July 4 recess.

**Marrakesh Treaty:** The U.S. Senate passed the [Marrakesh Treaty Implementation Act (S. 2559)](https://www.congress.gov/bill/115th-congress/senate-bill/2559/) by unanimous consent on June 28. Because the legislation makes modest amendments to [Section 121](https://www.copyright.gov/title17/92chap1.html#121) (“the Chafee Amendment”), the House Judiciary Committee must give their consent to the amended legislation before it goes to the president for his signature.

The Marrakesh Treaty (known officially as the Marrakesh Treaty to Facilitate Access to Published Works for Persons Who Are Blind, Visually Impaired or Otherwise Print Disabled), adopted by the member states of the World Intellectual Property Organization in 2013, requires countries to enact copyright exceptions that allow the making and distribution of accessible format copies such as braille or audiobooks, including by importation and exportation. The Treaty is largely based on the existing exception in the U.S. Copyright Act, 17 U.S.C. § 121. The Marrakesh Treaty Implementation Act amends the Copyright Act to ensure compliance with the Marrakesh Treaty.

Representatives of the **Special Commission on School Library Services in Massachusetts** and I will be meeting with the new Commissioner of Elementary and Secondary Education, Jeff Riley, on Wednesday, August 1 to discuss areas in which we can work together--including exploring joint funding of statewide databases, e-books/e-text books, and/or other e-content.

**Public Library Ecosystem Study**: We have had three community meetings to date, in Walpole, Athol and South Hadley. A total of 76 people have attended: library directors and other staff, trustees, Commissioners and MBLC staff. We have two more meetings scheduled in Tewksbury and Plymouth, with a total of 89 people registered so far.

A number of things have come up in all the meetings so far. Here is a summary:

* We need to clearly define the library types
* We need an intermediate level between Magnet and Local Core
* In the study, the networks seem to be stand-ins for regions or old reference center areas – how to bring that level of regional support back? Networks as entities don’t / can’t / shouldn’t fill that role, and also not all libraries are members.
* Tiered funding is a double edged sword – could be used by libraries to encourage higher funding from municipalities, OR could be used by municipalities to reduce funding – “people can just go to the Magnet library so why should we increase support to our town library?”
* The study clearly shows the need for a statewide library card
* There is concern/fear about changing funding formulas, esp. State Aid – we don’t want to reduce current levels for anyone. Can we develop new funding streams to implement some of these ideas?
* Within each large network are micro-networks of different types; e.g. areas of Peer-to-Peer networks and Seasonal networks within CW-Mars. Can we do a more detailed analysis?
* We need to take EQV into account
* Where does MLS fit?
* The study presents a good case for reinstating net lender funding
* It’s essential to retain local identity & individuality while equalizing services – there is no one size fits all solution
* There is a very strong desire for us to update the website with new ARIS datasets on an ongoing basis ; and also a desire to repeat the patron survey periodically
* So far we have had 8 people volunteer to serve on a committee

**Trustee orientations**: In the fall, Rob Favini and Maura Deedy will be offering 5 Trustee Orientations around the state. Currently, there are 90 people signed up for these sessions. We will be covering the MBLC’s programs and services, including State Aid, LSTA and Construction. State laws with relevance to libraries will be highlighted, including open meeting law where applicable, conflict of interest and campaign finance. Attendees will be provided with resources and contact information to explore these more in depth. Board best practices and ways to be an effective advocate for libraries tips will be highlighted as well.

We will be visiting the following libraries:

* Monday, September 17, 2018 at Brockton Public Library
* Tuesday, September 25, 2018 at Waltham Public Library (Commissioner Cluggish to attend)
* Tuesday, October 2, 2018 at Sunderland Public Library (Commissioner Resnick to attend)
* Thursday, October 11, 2018 at Eldredge Public Library, Chatham MA
* Tuesday, November 13, 2018 at Ayer Library (Commissioner Ochsenbein to attend)

Our **Summer Reading Kick-Off event** at the Waltham Public Library on Wednesday, June 27was a big success.

* Close to 80 children and caregivers and 9 Bruins prospect players participated.
* Commissioner Ochsenbein welcomed the crowd.
* Activities included a story time in which the players read a story about teamwork, talked about the importance and value of working as part of a team, answered questions about playing hockey and talked about their favorite books.
* Other activities including taking a shot on a prospect player in the goalie net, giant jenga, word puzzles and volley ball.
* Special  thanks to Celeste, Rachel, Matt, Mary Rose, Rosemary, and Lyndsay and the Waltham Public Library staff

**MLS Executive Director Search Committee**: After reviewing applications from 22 people, we conducted six first interviews and revisited a few candidates with second interviews, all by phone. We conducted in-person interviews with the three finalists earlier this week and have invited MLS members to view the presentation portion of the interviews and provide feedback by this weekend. The MLS Executive Board will be meeting next Monday to discuss the finalists and make a hiring decision.

**Staff News**: As previously mentioned, Gregor Trinkaus-Randall, the MBLC’s Preservation Specialist, will be retiring as of July 31. To honor all of the work that Gregor has done throughout his almost thirty-year career at the MBLC the Massachusetts Archives & Commonwealth Museum will be hosting a reception on Wednesday, July 25 from 4:00 pm to 6:00 pm. The Commissioners, state officials, members of the library/archival/preservation community and MBLC staff are invited to attend.

**LEGISLATIVE REPORT**

Mary Rose Quinn, Head of State Programs/Government Liaison presented the following report:

As of the July meeting, the Budget Conference Committee has not released its report, resolving the differences between the House and Senate final budgets. Massachusetts is the only state in the country without an FY 2019 budget. The Committee is ironing out differences between the $41.494 billion Senate budget and the $41.515 billion House budget. Total spending in the two budgets differs by only $22 million, but there are more than $500 million in line item spending differences included in the two budgets. The Mass Taxpayers Foundation estimates there is $304 million in unique House spending and $282 million in unique Senate spending, for a total of $586 million.

Once the Conference Committee completes its work and publishes its budget agreement, the House and Senate individually will vote the budget in an up or down vote in formal sessions. No additional amendments are allowed on the Conference Committee budget. The Governor has ten days from the Legislature’s budget vote to sign the budget. If the Governor vetoes any of the agreed to spending, roll call votes are required in both Chambers for veto overrides and must occur by July 31during formal sessions. Veto overrides begin in the House; the Senate cannot take up any additional overrides and can only override what has first been overridden in the House. Two-thirds of each Chamber must agree to a veto override to pass.

State revenue officials usually announce tax revenue collections for the previous month within the first few days of each new month, but the Department of Revenue does not plan on releasing the June figures until much later in July. They will release the annual revenue figures at the same time. June is usually the second largest month of the year, behind April, for tax collections. Mid-month revenues for June show total collections of $1.717 billion, which were up $370 million or 27.4 percent compared to the same period in June 2017 and suggest that revenues for the year will be well above benchmarks.

The Governor is projecting a $1.2 billion fiscal 2018 revenue surplus which could make an additional $200 million available for budget funding. The state will also be able to deposit funds in the “rainy day fund”. Administration officials project that tax revenue growth for the year may approach 8 percent. As a result of this positive revenue news, Conference Committee negotiators are therefore likely to increase FY 2019 funding levels by more than what either the House or the Senate had originally approved in their separate spending plans.

Commissioners will be informed when a budget compromise has been reached and a final legislative budget has been approved. They will also be notified when the Governor has signed and/or vetoed the budget and when/if any legislative override votes are taken.

**Consideration of approval of the three provisional grant awards under the massachusetts public library construction program**

Lauren Stara presented the three provisional grant awards under the Massachusetts Public Library Construction Program totaling $28,716,079. Ms. Stara noted that all three libraries are potential green incentive grant recipients. She also said that there are still 19 libraries on the waiting list and 2 maybe 3 more libraries could be funded with the current bond.

* Greenfield Public Library $9,378,183
* Hingham Public Library $9,151,270
* Marlborough Public Library $10,186,626

Commissioner Shesko moved and Commissioner Resnick seconded that the Massachusetts Board of Library Commissioners approves the provisional grant awards totaling $28,716,079 to the three library construction projects listed in agenda item 5. The date by which projects must accept their awards is January 12, 2019.

Commissioner Resnick moved and Commissioner Kronholm seconded that the Massachusetts Board of Library Commissioners authorizes Library Green Incentives totaling $1,005,062, the maximum allowed as per 605 CMR 6.00, to the following 3 libraries upon their receipt of LEED (Leadership in Energy and Environmental Design) certification.

* Greenfield Public Library $328,236
* Hingham Public Library $320,294
* Marlborough Public Library $356,532

**The Board voted approval.**

**Consideration of approval of the FY2019 Library Services and Technology Act (LSTA) Grant Awards**

Rob Favini, Head of Library Advisory and Development present the recommendations of the State Advisory Council on Libraries and The Massachusetts Board of Library Commissioners for grants for forty new projects under the Library Services and Technology Act (LSTA) program for Fiscal Year 2019. These recommendations are on your agenda for action on July 12, 2018.

**Access for All**

Program Abstract: The MBLC identified issues for libraries seeking to provide service for people who face special challenges using libraries. Many residents cannot fully utilize libraries for a variety of reasons including disabling conditions such as visual, hearing, mobility, and cognitive impairments. Libraries are encouraged to consider their role as an information access point for all, including those members of the community who are traditionally underrepresented among library users.

Commissioner Resnick moved and Commissioner Caro seconded to approve the following Access for All Grant totaling $7,500 to start no earlier than October 1, 2018.

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| --- | --- |
| **Agency** | **Amount Recommended** |
| Nahant Public Library | $7,500 |
| **Total:** | **$7,500** |

**The Board voted approval.**

**Anytime STEM Learning**

Program Abstract: Libraries offer hands-on, inquiry-based experiential learning and connect STEM to everyday life outside of formal educational settings. Programs introduce young children to a range of opportunities that will promote the next generation of engineers and technologists. Library programs that support the importance of science and technology can help encourage children to take an early look at “frontier occupations” such as alternative energy, green transportation, biotechnology, and robotics.

Commissioner Caro moved and Commissioner Shesko seconded to approve the following Anytime STEM Learning Grants totaling $36,167 to start no earlier than October 1, 2018.

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| **Agency** | **Amount Recommended** |
| Boxford Town Library | $6,167 |
| Dickinson Memorial Library, Northfield | $7,500 |
| Raynham Public Library | $7,500 |
| Springfield City Library | $7,500 |
| West Tisbury Public Library | $7,500 |
| **Total:** | **$36,167** |

**The Board voted approval.**

**Citizenship Corners and Expanded Language Services**

Program Abstract: This grant will help develop a range of services for New Americans. Libraries may choose to set up Citizenship Corners that provide dedicated space for circulating materials and informational resources on citizenship and other immigration related topics. This would include offering a series of workshops at least twice a year to understand the naturalization process.

The library could also seek to expand existing English as a Second Language classes or create a Conversation Circle program they could apply for the higher range of funds. This funding could be used for a part-time volunteer coordinator and to pay for support materials on English language instruction. Libraries would need to commit staff time to organizing and training volunteers and agree to designate at least one staff member as support for this program. In addition, the library would set up a Citizenship Corner and offer informational workshops. Libraries applying for the ESL support program would need to commit to a two-year time frame.

Commissioner Ochsenbein moved and Commissioner Caro seconded to approve the following Citizenship Corners and Expanded Language Services Grant totaling $15,000 to start no earlier than October 1, 2018.

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| --- | --- | --- | --- |
| **Agency** | **Amount Recommended** | **FY19** | **FY20** |
| Oak Bluffs Public Library | $15,000 | $8,708 | $6,292 |
| **Total:** | **$15,000** | **$8,708** | **$6,292** |

**The Board voted approval.**

**Civic Hub**

Program Abstract: Libraries can strengthen their role as a source for dependable print and media resources while serving as trusted spaces to start and continue community conversations. By serving as public forum and civic engagement ‘incubators’, libraries can support informed, issue-oriented public programs and structured opportunities for discussion. Promoting civic literacy requires active engagement around issues specific to each community. Paramount to the vision of an informed community is the democratic values of openness, inclusion, participation, empowerment, and the common pursuit of truth and the public interest.

Commissioner Kronholm moved and Commissioner Shesko seconded to approve the following Civic Hub Grants totaling $22,500 to start no earlier than October 1, 2018.

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| **Agency** | **Amount Recommended** |
| Chelmsford Public Library | $7,500 |
| Forbes Library, Northampton | $7,500 |
| South Hadley Public Library | $7,500 |
| **Total:** | **$22,500** |

**The Board voted approval.**

**Conserving and Digitizing Historical Resources Grant Program**

Program Abstract: This program will support the conservation of library and/or archival research materials with significant research value of long-term significance. Proof of ownership will be required for any project that involves the direct treatment of materials. The institution must commit to maintaining the digital files and making them available to researchers for the foreseeable future both in-house and through the Digital Commonwealth.

Commissioner Shesko and Commissioner Resnick seconded to approve the following Conserving and Digitizing Historical Resources Grant totaling $30,000 to start no earlier than October 1, 2018.

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| **Agency** | **Amount Recommended** |
| Gloucester Lyceum and Sawyer Free Library | $30,000 |
| **Total:** | **$30,000** |

**The Board voted approval.**

**First Contact**

Program Abstract:This grant promotes collaboration between school and academic institutions in the use and integration of primary sources (either as individual documents or as collections or parts of collections) in the classroom. Libraries and educators will identify appropriate collections, e.g. manuscripts, diaries, oral histories, photographs, or other primary sources and make them available (in original or digital format) for classroom use.

Commissioner Welch moved and Commissioner Resnick to approve the following First Contact Grant totaling $7,500 to start no earlier than October 1, 2018.

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| **Agency** | **Amount Recommended** |
| Sturgis Library, Barnstable | $7,500 |
| **Total:** | **$7,500** |

**The Board voted approval.**

**Go Local**

Program Abstract:Libraries have a key role to play in capturing, collecting, and making community stories available and meaningful. They serve as the center of community celebrations and historic events and create valuable records of those events in traditional and new formats. Libraries may draw on their strength in this unique niche by developing projects that use historical documents and artifacts to make new stories and/or generate new records by creating and participating in community events that build the local story.

Commissioner Resnick moved and Commissioner Ochsenbein seconded to approve the following Go Local Grants totaling $60,000 to start no earlier than October 1, 2018.

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| --- | --- | --- | --- |
| **Agency** | **Amount Recommended** | **FY19** | **FY20** |
| Jones Library, Amherst | $15,000 | $8,095 | $6,905 |
| Bellingham Public Library | $15,000 | $12,950 | $2,050 |
| Malden Public Library | $15,000 | $8,950 | $6,050 |
| West Falmouth Public Library | $15,000 | $7,500 | $7,500 |
| **Total:** | **$60,000** | **$37,495** | **$22,505** |

**The Board voted approval.**

**IdeaLab**

Program Abstract: As a unique place to design and create, the IdeaLab serves as a discrete learning space to use new tools and material not available at home. It can be a place to produce videos, learn about electronics, or try out new skills. Community-based technology centers in libraries provide access for people of all ages to pursue their interests, gain expertise, share municipal information and have meaningful experiences.

Commissioner Caro moved and Commissioner Resnick seconded to approve the following IdeaLab Grants totaling $58,500 to start no earlier than October 1, 2018.

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| **Agency** | **Amount Recommended** |
| Cambridge Public Library | $15,000 |
| Griswold Memorial Library, Colrain | $8,000 |
| Hubbard Memorial Library, Ludlow | $15,000 |
| Elizabeth Taber Library, Marion | $7,500 |
| Snow Library, Orleans | $13,000 |
| **Total:** | **$58,500** |

**The Board voted approval.**

**Innovative/ Open Project**

Program Abstract: This category is being offered to allow librarians to satisfy needs that are not now being met by current programs. It has always been a priority of the federal program to encourage innovation and risk taking. It is also an interest of the Massachusetts Board of Library Commissioners to provide librarians with opportunities to help fulfill their long range plan goals and objectives. The Innovativeprogram will allow applicants to apply new methods to solve problems, build programs, and best carry out their library’s mission and plan. These projects must meet the needs of a specific target audience. Applicants can seek awards for projects that otherwise do not fall under the current LSTA program offerings, whether the project is innovative or a project that is being adapted. The InnovativeProgram offers libraries an opportunity to exercise maximum creativity to implement unique services in a flexible and collaborative grant-making environment.

Commissioner Ochsenbein moved and Commissioner Kronholm seconded to approve the following Innovative Grants totaling $33,844 to start no earlier than October 1, 2018.

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| **Agency** | **Title** | **Amount Recommended** |
| Brockton Public Library | Brockton Kids Can Code | $10,529 |
| Somerville Public Library | Food for Thought: A Community Gardening Initiative | $8,315 |
| Dennis Yarmouth School Libraries | Literacy and Our Town, Perfect Together | $15,000 |
| **Total:** |  | **$33,844** |

**The Board voted approval.**

**Manuscript Arrangement and Description Program**

Program Abstract: Much of the archival materials housed in public libraries remain unorganized and inaccessible because most library staff and volunteers do not have the archival training to organize and make it available to patrons for their research. This program will provide funding for planning, organization, and description of archival materials by working with an archival consultant to arrange, describe, rehouse, and catalog their manuscript materials and making them available in a secure environment. Furthermore, since many libraries that house these materials do not have local history/special collections/archives’ collection development policies, the consultant and staff will also develop and/or refine such policy for these materials.

Commissioner Kronholm moved and Commissioner Resnick seconded to approve the following Manuscript Arrangement and Description Grant totaling $10,000 to start no earlier than October 1, 2018.

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| --- | --- | --- | --- |
| **Agency** | **Amount Recommended** | **FY19** | **FY20** |
| Thomas Crane Public Library, Quincy | $10,000 | $7,270 | $2,730 |
| **Total:** | **$10,000** | **$7,270** | **$2,730** |

**The Board voted approval.**

**Mind in the Making**

Program Abstract: This grant allows public libraries to carry out a program to establish or enhance play spaces for children ages 0-6 in public libraries. These play spaces are aimed at early learning and social interaction among children and their caregivers. Funds may be used to support a limited amount of additional staff hours.

Commissioner Shesko moved and Commissioner Caro seconded to approve the following Mind in the Making Grants totaling $69,947 to start no earlier than October 1, 2018.

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| --- | --- |
| **Agency** | **Amount Recommended** |
| Bedford Free Public Library | $9,947 |
| Jonathan Bourne Public Library, Bourne | $10,000 |
| Rutland Free Library | $10,000 |
| Hazen Memorial Library, Shirley | $10,000 |
| Shrewsbury Public Library | $10,000 |
| Waltham Public Library | $10,000 |
| Wellesley Free Library – Fells Branch | $10,000 |
| **Total:** | **$69,947** |

**Commissioner Cluggish abstained for Wellesley.**

**The Board voted approval.**

**Pathways to Success**

Program Abstract: Libraries have traditionally provided resources for career development and job information. This grant enables libraries to jump-start or expand this increasingly important role. Libraries will collaborate with local agencies, organizations, and businesses to initiate special focused programming and outreach activities including workshops on topics such as changing careers, networking, and continuing education.

Commissioner Welch moved and Commissioner Resnick seconded to approve the following Pathways to Success Grant totaling $7,500 to start no earlier than October 1, 2018.

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| --- | --- |
| **Agency** | **Amount Recommended** |
| Mashpee Public Library | $7,500 |
| **Total:** | **$7,500** |

**The Board voted approval.**

**Preservation Assessment Grant Program**

Program Abstract: Libraries will contract with an outside consultant to conduct a preservation survey of their collections and buildings. The purpose is to determine individual item conservation requirements and needs for proper storage, care, and handling. The survey will result in a description of the problems observed and recommendations on how to rectify them and how to proceed to develop a long-range preservation plan to extend the life of their holdings. Each library will then develop an action program, based on the survey’s recommendations that will address these issues.

Commissioner Resnick moved and Commissioner Shesko seconded to approve the following Preservation Assessment Grant totaling $4,200 to start no earlier than October 1, 2018.

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| **Agency** | **Amount Recommended** |
| Rockport Public Library | $4,200 |
| **Total:** | **$4,200** |

**The Board voted approval.**

**Preservation Assessment Grant Program- MBLC REcommendation**

Program Abstract: Libraries will contract with an outside consultant to conduct a preservation survey of their collections and buildings. The purpose is to determine individual item conservation requirements and needs for proper storage, care, and handling. The survey will result in a description of the problems observed and recommendations on how to rectify them and how to proceed to develop a long-range preservation plan to extend the life of their holdings. Each library will then develop an action program, based on the survey’s recommendations that will address these issues.

Commissioner Caro and Commissioner Kronholm seconded to approve the following Preservation Assessment Grants totaling $8,400 to start no earlier than October 1, 2018.

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| **Agency** | **Amount Recommended** |
| Cambridge Public Library | $4,200 |
| Parlin Memorial Library, Everett | $4,200 |
| **Total:** | **$8,400** |

**The Board voted approval.**

**Preservation/Conservation of Library & Archival Materials**

Program Abstract:This program will support the preservation/conservation of library and/or archival research materials with significant research value, including informational materials in print, non-print, manuscript, or other format or medium. The completion of a Preservation Assessment and a Library Preservation Long-Range Plan are required to be eligible for this program.

Commissioner Ochsenbein moved and Commissioner Caro seconded to approve the following Preservation/Conservation of Library and Archival Materials Grant totaling $30,000 to start no earlier than October 1, 2018.

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| --- | --- | --- | --- |
| **Agency** | **Amount Recommended** | **FY19** | **FY20** |
| Newburyport Public Library | $30,000 | $21,215 | $8,785 |
| **Total:** | **$30,000** | **$21,215** | **$8,785** |

**The Board voted approval.**

**Serving ‘Tweens and Teens Grant Program**

Program Abstract: Across Massachusetts, eager and hopeful teens enter the library each afternoon, looking for a place to be with their friends, to relax, and to work on homework. They may also be seeking a place to expand their world, to volunteer in the community, and to pursue new projects. The need for programs and services for middle school and senior high school age students is apparent. The average school day ends between two and three in the afternoon and almost every teenager in America must find somewhere to go and something to do after school. At-risk, underserved youth need programs that intervene before these adolescents get into trouble. The purpose of this LSTA program is to help public libraries develop innovative programs and strategies to serve their “tweens and teens.”

Commissioner Kronholm moved and Commissioner Shesko to approve the following Serving ‘Tweens and Teens Grants totaling $30,000 to start no earlier than October 1, 2018.

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| --- | --- | --- | --- |
| **Agency** | **Amount Recommended** | **FY19** | **FY20** |
| Emily Williston Memorial Library, Easthampton | $15,000 | $8,442 | $6,558 |
| Ventress Memorial Library, Marshfield | $15,000 | $8,200 | $6,800 |
| **Total:** | **$30,000** | **$16,642** | **$13,358** |

**The Board voted approval.**

**Town-Wide Preservation Assessment**

Program Abstract: This program provides the first step in the process of preserving, arranging and describing, and eventually digitizing historically significant local collections in Massachusetts for access through the Digital Commonwealth. Through this program, the public library and other local repositories will receive an assessment conducted by a certified preservation consultant.

Commissioner Shesko moved and Commissioner Caro seconded to approve the following Town-Wide Preservation Assessment Grant totaling $20,000 to start no earlier than October 1, 2018.

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| --- | --- |
| **Agency** | **Amount Recommended** |
| Reading Public Library | $20,000 |
| **Total:** | **$20,000** |

**The Board voted approval.**

**REPORT FROM THE MASSACHUSETTS LIBRARY SYSTEM**

Sarah Sogigian, Consulting and Training Services Director, (MLS) presented the following report:

**Executive Board Activities – June 18, 2018**

**Letter from Greg Pronevitz**

June 29, 2018

Dear Friends and Colleagues,

This is my final update as MLS Executive Director and I’d like to thank you for your support, collaboration, and dedication to library services. I am retiring on July 5 and plan to do some consulting part-time and I hope that our paths continue to cross. It has been such a rewarding experience working with library people at all levels from academic, school, special, and public libraries as well as our associations, automated networks, and the Board of Library Commissioners. Thank you for the work you do!

It has been a privilege and a pleasure working with you to make libraries the best that they can be over the past 20 years in Massachusetts. The success of the automated networks in promoting automation and resource sharing was long established when I arrived and their work has continued to improve services over the years. The collaboration among members in the regional systems that merged into MLS eight years ago provided the physical delivery to compliment the networks’ work along with additional services which are now essential to our multi-type library membership. I owe a great debt to my regional library system colleagues for building the foundation for MLS services. The leadership and staff at the MBLC provided rock solid support for our work and direct assistance to libraries in so many different ways. Together, these organizations provide an invaluable fabric of infrastructure and support for 1,600 libraries across the Commonwealth.

The 2009 economic crisis forced the merger of regions and provided MLS the opportunity to carry on regional work on a statewide level. I was proud to be appointed as MLS’ founding executive director and I thank you for your support and encouragement. MLS needs the active engagement of members to be successful and I encourage you to be active and participate in MLS. MLS also requires the work of many talented and dedicated staff members to provide services to the membership. I’m very impressed and proud of the accomplishments of our leadership and staff in our first eight years. And, I’m grateful for the support and encouragement of the Executive Board.

Massachusetts’ success with resource sharing and library services requires strong support for all of the fibers in our library fabric. I would like to encourage all library supporters to stay in touch with elected officials at the local, state, and federal levels to tell them how important libraries are to our communities, schools, and campuses and to encourage support. I would like to echo the sentiment of Mary Ann Cluggish, Chair of the Massachusetts Board of Library Commissioners, and ask you all to encourage five or ten friends and colleagues to make their voices heard and amplify our message to elected officials in support of libraries. You can make a difference!

Best wishes,

Greg

Greg Pronevitz

Executive Director

508-357-2121 x303 (until July 5)

**Sarah Sogigian named as Interim Executive Director beginning July 6, 2018**

Sarah Sogigian, MLS Consulting and Training Services Director has been named Interim Executive Director beginning July 6, 2018, as Greg Pronevitz retires (see his letter to the membership below). Sarah has been with MLS since its formation in 2010, first as an Advisor for Youth Services and promoted in 2015 to Director of Consulting and Training Services when she became an integral part of the MLS Leadership Team, regularly participating in Executive Board.

Her contact info: 508-357-2121 x311 | sarah@masslibsystem.org

**MLS Finalist Interview Schedule**

Dear Massachusetts Library System Members:

The finalists for the position of the Massachusetts Library System Executive Director will take place on Monday, July 9, 2018 and Tuesday, July 10, 2018.  The schedule is as follows:

July 9, 2018

9:00 – 12:00                      Nancy Kirkpatrick

1:00 – 4:00                        Dawn LaValle

July 10, 2018

9:00 – 12:00                      Stephen Spohn

The format will be a presentation to the MLS Executive Board, MLS Members and MLS Staff first beginning at 9:00 a.m.  The presentation time will allow for questions and answers related to the presentation at the end.   At 10:00 a.m. the candidate will meet with the Executive Board alone and then at 11:00 a.m. there will be a meet and greet with the MLS staff.

The schedule will follow the same theme for the afternoon interview only the times will be 1:00 p.m. for the presentation, 2:00 p.m. meeting with the Executive Board and 3:00 p.m. for the meet and greet with staff.

**Please note:  Members will need to register in order to attend.**Registration to attend is done via the online calendar at the above links.

The candidates’ presentations will be recorded and posted on the MLS website.

Members and staff may post feedback to execdirsearch@masslibsystem.org. We would appreciate receiving comments by 5:00 p.m. Sunday, July 15.

**Procurements**

The Massachusetts Library System and Massachusetts Higher Education Consortium have invited interested suppliers to submit proposals for two exciting new programs.  Suppliers may submit proposals for one or both programs.

1. Digital Library Products Cooperative Purchasing Contract
2. Emerging Online Products Innovative Offerings

The Digital Library Products procurement provides a pathway to MHEC's new L54 Digital Library Products Contract.  This offers broad exposure to libraries throughout New England.

The Emerging Online Products RFI is an effort to explore innovative projects and vendor partnerships to launch emerging online products in Massachusetts libraries.

**New MLS Partnership**

MLS has begun an exciting partnership with Harvard University’s Democratic Knowledge Project. The partnership began after Dr. Danielle Allen spoke at the MLS 2017 Teen Summit as our opening keynote. April and Christi have been working with Dr. Allen and post-doctoral fellow, Chaebong Nam, on their IMLS grant proposal, “Young Changemakers in the 21st Century Library”. The grant funding would provide training to library staff to support the civic engagement of youth in Massachusetts. The partnership will focus on professional development, knowledge creation and sharing, and assessment strategies for new civics in library settings. A pilot workshop of “Young Changemakers in the 21st Century Library” was recently held at the Marlborough office with 12 attendees representing school, public and academic libraries from around the state. The workshop introduced the reflection-action framework, known as “The Ten Questions for Young Changemakers,” which was drawn from multiyear research conducted by the MacArthur Foundation’s Youth and Participatory Politics Research Network. The Ten Questions Framework serves as a set of ethical guidelines that young people can count on to meet challenges and derive benefits from the new media environment.

Visit https://yppactionframe.fas.harvard.edu/home to access the Ten Questions and resources including a teaching guide, downloadable mini-posters and instructional videos.

**Announcing Project SET Class of 2018**

Congratulations to the newest cohort of Project SET participants.

|  |  |
| --- | --- |
| Name | Library |
| Alyson Cox | Marlborough High School |
| Andrew Meger | Peabody Institute Library, Danvers |
| Benjamin Phinney | Seekonk Public Library |
| Elizabeth Teoli | Northern Essex Community College – Bentley Library |
| Eva Thaler-Sroussi | Needham Free Public Library |
| Heather O’Leary | Ames Free Library |
| Julie O’Brien | Apponequet Regional High School |
| Liz Cashman | Westfield Athenaeum |
| Quincy Knapp | Wellesley Free Library |
| Rhonda Cunha | Stevens Memorial Library, North Andover |
| Supriya Bhat | Chelmsford Public Library |
| Weronika Zawora | Regis College |

Project SET (Skills, Empowerment, Talent) is a learning community established to cultivate new talent amongst the Massachusetts library community and to provide support and encouragement to build participants confidence and strengthen their career paths. Project participants will engage in activities and discussions designed to develop their leadership skills as a trainer in the library community.

**Report from the Library for the Commonwealth**

Patricia Feeley, Interlibrary Loan Librarian presented the following report from LFC:

Library for the Commonwealth Update, July 2018

**Professional Development in April 2018**

* Springfield City Library brought 80 staff members to a 10-3 day that included tours and breakout sessions
* Thomas Crane Library brought 30 staff members for an Art & Architecture Tour as well as a tour of the renovated Johnson Building

**New Website**

* The BPL's new website was launched in June 2018. It is run by the same company that provides our discovery layer, Bibliocommons.

**Branch renovations**

* The Parker Hill Branch in Roxbury closed last June for roof and window work and it is reopening on July 28.
* We are very happy it is reopening on schedule as the nearest branch, Dudley, has been closed for the last year and will be closed for another year while it is being completely renovated.
* The reopening of Dudley is planned for Spring 2020
* A glimpse of what is to come for Dudley is available on the Dudley Projects page of the BPL website
* Roslindale will go into the construction phase on its renovation in January, while Adams St branch is in the design phase.

**Rare Books Renovation**

* The Rare Books renovation also set to go into construction in January
* Construction will probably take about a year, with another 6 months to get everything set up again in the department

**Archival Center**

* We recently migrated to a new inventory software at our Archival Center
* With this migration we are working on a process to make items that meet specific criteria loanable for 21 days- this is the same process we have been rolling out with our closed stacks at Central

**Standing Committee and Liaison Reports**

**COMMISSIONER ACTIVITIES**

**Commissioner Kronholm**

* Participated in the Executive Committee Call

**Commissioner Resnick**

* Attended the WMLA Board Meeting
* Attended the Ecosystem Community Meeting at the South Hadley Public Library

**Commissioner Ochsenbein**

* Attended the Ecosystem Community Meeting at the Athol Public Library
* Represented Commissioners at Greg Pronevitz’s Retirement Event
* Attended Summer Reading Kick-off Event at the Waltham Public Library
* Participated in the Executive Committee Conference Call

**Commissioner Welch**

* Attended the Ecosystem Community Meeting at the Athol Public Library

**PUBLIC COMMENT**

There was no public comment.

**OLD BUSINESS**

There was no old business.

**Election of Officers for FY2019**

After consultation with the current Executive Committee and all the Commissioners, Commissioner Shesko presented the following slate of officers for Board consideration:

1. Commissioner Ochsenbein for office of Chairman
2. Commissioner Cluggish for office of Vice Chairman
3. Commissioner Kronholm for the office of Secretary

This slate may seem unusual since Commissioner Cluggish is staying on the Board as Vice Chair, but these are unusual times. As you are aware, there are a large number of projected departures from the Board over the next several months:

* Commissioners Murphy and Caro’s terms expired February 1, 2018.
* Commissioner Comeau’s term expired June 1, 2018.
* Commissioner Shesko’s term will expire in October, 2018.
* Commissioners Cluggish and Welch’s terms expire in January, 2019.

That is a total of 6 of the 9 current Commissioners.

Commissioner Cluggish has only served a total of 7 years; she has applied for reappointment to the Board.

Since there are so many unknowns, we felt that this slate made the most sense. It is possible that there will have to be another election in as few as 6 months. We just don’t know.

Commissioner Shesko called on Commissioner Resnick to make a motion.

Hearing no objections, Commissioner Resnick moved and Commissioner Kronholm seconded that the Board of Library Commissioners’ Secretary cast one vote on behalf of the entire Board for the slate as presented.

**The Board voted unanimous approval.**

**Commissioner Ochsenbein was elected Chairman, Commissioner Cluggish was elected Vice Chairman, and Commissioner Kronholm was elected Secretary for FY2019.**

**ADJOURNMENT**

There being no further business, Commissioner Caro moved and Commissioner Shesko seconded to adjourn the July 12, 2018 monthly business meeting of the Board of Library Commissioners at 11:20 A.M.



Mary Kronholm

Secretary