

**MINUTES OF THE BOARD OF LIBRARY COMMISSIONERS monthly regular meeting**

**Date** : Thursday, March 6, 2025

**Time** : 10:00 A.M.

**Place** : Massachusetts Library System Offices

 Marlborough, MA

**Board**

**Present** : Vicky Biancolo, Chair; Timothy Cherubini, Vice-Chair; Karen Traub, Secretary;

Kate Chang; George Comeau, Esq.; Debby Conrad; Joyce Linehan; Jessica Vilas Novas

**Staff Present:**

Heather Backman, Library Building Specialist; Andrea Bono-Bunker, Library Building Consultant; Celeste Bruno, Communications Director; Kate Butler, Library Information Systems Specialist; **Jessica Branco Colati,** Preservation Specialist; Tanesha Deane, Contract Specialist; Tracey Dimant, Head of Operations & Budget / Business Office; Allyson Dowds, Consultant to Special Populations; Susan Faiella, Accountant; Al Hayden, Library Advisory Specialist; Jennifer Inglis, State Aid Specialist; Rachel Masse, Assistant to the Director; Cate Merlin, Head of State Programs; June Thammasnong, Communications Specialist

**Staff Present (Zoom):**

Maureen Amyot, Director; Terry D'Angelo, Administrative Assistant / Business Office; Jaccavrie McNeely, Electronic Services Specialist

**Observers Present:**

Marie Letarte, Director, Bigelow Free Public Library, Clinton; Betsy Meaden, Business & Human Resources Director, Massachusetts Library System

**Observers Present (Zoom):**

Farah Ameen, Jones Library Trustee; Courtney Andree, Massachusetts Center for the Book

Ellen Anselone, Jones Library/Amherst; Rita & Sean Burke, Amherst, MA; Richard Carpenter, Amherst Massachusetts; Kathleen Carroll, Amherst; Eileen Chandler, CLAMS Library Network

Kim Charlson, Watertown - Perkins Library; Mary Ann Cluggish, Wellesley Free Library

Elena Cohen, Office of Senator Jo Comerford; Lee Edwards, Jones Library/Amherst; Tamson Ely, Jones Library Amherst; Kent Faerber, Amherst- Jones Library; Deborah Lang Froggatt, MA School Library Association; Eugene Goffredo, Amherst Jones Library Trustee; Arlie Gould, Amherst; Hilda Greenbaum, Jones/amherst; Lynn Griesemer, Town of Amherst Ma; Ginny Hamilton, Amherst Jones Library; Sarah Jackson, Boston Public Library/LFC; Janet Keller, Amherst; Maria Kopicki, Amherst; Rob Kusner, Amherst Resident ; Jeff Lee, Jones Library / Amherst; Kathy Lussier, NOBLE; Sarah McKee, Charleston, SC; Scott Merzbach, Daily Hampshire GazetteRobert Peirent, Amherst; Carol Kinsey Pope, Amherst; Mickey Rathbun, Jones Lbrary Amherst MA; Anita Sarro, Amherst; David Slater, OCLN; Adrienne M. Terrizzi, Resident; A Wehle, Jones /Amherst

**Meeting called to order by Chair Biancolo**

Chair Biancolo called the meeting to order at 10:00 A.M.

**Roll Call of Commissioners**

Commissioner Traub stated that she is required to take a roll call of Commissioners to comply with the Open Meeting Law for hybrid meetings.

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|  | Commissioner Cherubini- Present Zoom | Commissioner Linehan- Present  |
| Commissioner Biancolo - Present | Commissioner Comeau- Present  | Commissioner Traub- Present  |
| Commissioner Chang - Present  | Commissioner Conrad- Present  | Commissioner Vilas Novas- Present Zoom  |

**Approval of Minutes from the regular monthly meeting:**

**March 6, 2025**

Chair Biancolo asked if there were any corrections to the March 6, 2025 as presented.

No corrections were needed.

**Chair Report**

Chair Biancolo provided the following report-

* February 13: Met with the executive board and MBLC staff to discuss adding an item to the agenda, virtual
* February 25: Attended the monthly meeting with the executive board, virtual
* February 27: Met with the ad-hoc subcommittee on Commissioner Roles & Responsibilities, virtual. At this meeting we discussed the intention of the subcommittee and laid out action items
* February 28: Attended the monthly meeting of the MLA Legislative Committee, virtual
* March 1: Visited the Bigelow Free Public Library in Clinton, and got a terrific tour from Library Director Marie Letarte
* March 3: Attended a meeting with the construction subcommittee, virtual

We know that these are challenging days in our country, and especially challenging–and becoming more so–in libraries. Recently, Boston College historian Heather Cox Richardson addressed this online, and I want to share her words with you: “One of the really important things to remember going forward as we fear the rise of authoritarianism in the United States is that authoritarians cannot rise if there are strong communities and people are acting with joy. That is that you need despair and anger in order for an authoritarian to rise. It’s OK to say I’m not going to pay attention to politics for a while, but it is not okay to stop bringing your best to the world… Don’t stop doing the things you love because you’re scared because that actually is a form of resistance.” No matter what happens, we need to keep going. And we need to keep going with joy.

Remember that Massachusetts may be tiny, but we are mighty. Libraries and librarians are strong, and we are especially so when we work together. Every day we are making a difference in people’s lives. Last month, Lieutenant Governor Kim Driscoll shared with us that when preparing her budget, Governor Healey didn’t even consider cutting state support to libraries. If you need to see it, attend one of the three legislative breakfasts running tomorrow, in Andover, Norfolk, and Sudbury, or there’s one next week in Winchendon. This summer, plan to attend a (or all) summer reading events. Attend the ribbon cutting of a new or newly renovated public library. I believe there will be five this year, and if those don’t bring joy, I don’t know what will.

**Commissioner Activities**

**Commissioner Cherubini**

* February 13 & 25 attended MBLC Executive Committee Meetings
* February 28- MLS Legislative Committee Meeting
* February 14- West Springfield Legislative Breakfast

**Commissioner Comeau**

* March 7- Attending Legislative Breakfast in Sudbury

**Commissioner Conrad**

* February 7 - Legislative Breakfast Bigelow Library, Clinton
* February 19 - Bruins PJ drive Seekonk Public Library
* February 28 - Legislative Breakfast Plymouth Public Library
* March 5 - Small Libraries in Networks advisory committee meeting (virtual)
* March 7 - Southeastern Libraries Legislative Breakfast, Norfolk Public Library

**Commissioner Linehan**

* February 10- Reviewed essay contests for 6th graders
* February 11 & 18- Boston Women’s Heritage Trail Interviewers
* March 3- Construction Committee Meeting

**Commissioner Traub**

* February 7- Marblehead Legislative Breakfast
* February 13- Western Mass Library Advocates monthly meeting
* February 13- MBLC Executive Board
* February 14- Pearle Crawford Library Legislative breakfast in Dudley
* February 21- Mass Library Trustee Association monthly meeting
* February 24- MBLC Advisory office hours for friends
* February 25- MBLC Executive board meeting
* February 27- Roles and Responsibilities sub-committee
* February 28- United for libraries Advocacy for Friends groups

**Commissioner Vilas Novas**

* February 11 - co-led Digital Equity coalition for Essex County where we announced the latest investment in this area, which includes the Sawyer Free Library
* February 26 - attended MA Digital Equity coalition meeting
* February 27 - Participated in ad hoc MBLC Roles and Responsibilities committee meeting

**Consideration of an extension request by the Jones Library, Amherst for the deadline to sign a contract with a general contractor to April 30, 2025. In accordance with the 2015 Massachusetts Public Library Construction Program’s regulations, the deadline for this milestone was June 30, 2024, which was extended at the Town and Library’s request to December 31, 2024 then March 31, 2025.**

Chair Biancolo stated that the following letter was received on February 13, 2025 from Austin Sarat, President of the Jones Library Trustees and Paul Bockelman, Town Manager of Amherst.

With this letter, we are respectfully requesting a one month extension for the Jones Library Project deadline with a revised date of April 30, 2025.

This project is relying heavily on State and Federal funding. The Town of Amherst must complete its Section 106 Historic Preservation Review before it can move forward. To this end, the Town continues working directly with the Massachusetts Historical Commission (MHC) to resolve the Project's adverse effects.

As the attached timeline summary shows, the Section 106 process was begun in October 2023, following the commitments of federal funding received earlier that year. The Town assumed authority for the Section 106 process in August 2024, recognizing that neither federal agency nor the MHC would make a determination and with intent to re-bid the project.

Since the MBLC generously granted a project extension in December, the following steps have been taken toward completing the Section 106 process:

* On December 26, 2024, the Town/Library received written feedback from MHC dated December 19, responding to the Town's Alternatives Analysis. (The Town had submitted this analysis to MHC in November and was awaiting MHC's response when we last met with the MBLC) MHC's response asked the Town/Library to reconsider natural slate roofing, and to forego a book drop by the main entrance.
* Town/Library officials agreed to these considerations, informing MHC, other consulting parties, and federal agencies on January 10. At that time, the Town/Library announced plans for a second Consulting Parties meeting.
* On January 27, 2025, the Town held a second Consulting Parties meeting to discuss measures to resolve the adverse effects of the Project and develop potential mitigation measures to be included in a Memorandum of Agreement (MOA).
* On January 30 2025, the Town/Library filed the e106 documentation with the Advisory Council on Historic Preservation (ACHP), including a draft Memorandum of Agreement (MOA). By regulation, ACHP has 15 days to respond and indicate whether they will or will not participate formally in the consultation. This documentation was also sent to the MHC and all consulting parties and posted publicly, requesting feedback on the MOA by COB on February 12, 2025.
* On February 10, 2025, the Town received an automated email message from Elizabeth Sherva at the MHC, notifying us that she no longer works at the MHC.
* On February 12, 2025, the Town received written comments from the MHC regarding the draft MOA.
* On February 13, 2025, the Town received a letter from the ACHP stating "we do not believe our participation in the consultation to resolve adverse effects is needed."

Next steps are:

* The Town will respond to the MHC regarding the draft MOA during the week of February 17, 2025.
* Negotiations will continue until the final MOA is signed by the required signatories (i.e., Library, Town, MHC).
* The signed MOA must be included as part of the National Environmental Policy Act (NEPA) review required by HUD. The other elements of this documentation are underway. There is a regulatory 45-day review period before HUD can approve the project, which brings us to mid­ April before we can sign with a General Contractor.

We look forward to meeting with you in March in order to discuss this request.

The Jones Library, Amherst, has requested an extension of the deadline to sign a contract with a general contractor to April 30, 2025 in order to meet the regulatory timeline of the Section 106 process. In accordance with the 2015 Massachusetts Public Library Construction Program’s regulations, the deadline for this milestone was June 30, 2024, which was extended twice at the Town and Library's request to December 31, 2024 and March 31, 2025, respectively.

Commissioner moved and Commissioner seconded that the Massachusetts Board of Library Commissioners, recognizing the regulatory review period of the Section 106 process and aware of the financial constraints of the Massachusetts Public Library Construction Program, grants an extension of the deadline to sign a contract with a general contractor to the Town of Amherst for its library construction project for the Jones Library to April 30, 2025.

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|  | Commissioner Cherubini- Yes | Commissioner Linehan- Yes  |
| Commissioner Biancolo - Yes | Commissioner Comeau- Yes | Commissioner Traub- Yes |
| Commissioner Chang - Yes | Commissioner Conrad- Yes | Commissioner Vilas Novas- Yes |

**The motion passes.**

**Consideration of approval of the FY2026 Plan of Service and Program and Budget for the Massachusetts Library System (MLS) and Monthly Report**

Sarah Sogigian, Executive Director of the Massachusetts Library System presented the FY2026 Plan of Service and Program and Budget at the February Meeting.

Betsy Meaden, Business & Human Resources Director is present to answer any questions that the Board might have.

Commissioner Comeau moved and Commissioner Linehan seconded that the Massachusetts Board of Library Commissioners approves the FY2026 Plan of Service and Program and Budget filed on February 6, 2025 for the Massachusetts Library System, with a bottom line of $14,250,000 as presented in agenda item 8.

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|  | Commissioner Cherubini- Yes | Commissioner Linehan- Yes  |
| Commissioner Biancolo - Yes | Commissioner Comeau- Yes | Commissioner Traub- Yes |
| Commissioner Chang - Yes | Commissioner Conrad- Yes | Commissioner Vilas Novas- Yes |

**The motion passes.**

**Discussion/ review of policies for the FY2027 State Aid to Public Libraries Program**

Cate Merlin, Head of State Programs presented the Board policies related to the FY2027 State Aid to Public Libraries program: a) Extending a Grace Period for Increased Population-based Minimum Standards; b) Minimum Standards of Hours of Service for Public Libraries; c) Minimum Materials Expenditure Standard Calculation; d) Materials Expenditure and Hours Open Accommodation Policy; e) Municipal Appropriation Requirement (MAR) Calculation; f) Determining Eligibility for a Waiver of the FY2026 Municipal Appropriation Requirement; g) The Closure of a Public Library; h) Five Year Waiver Plan Policy.

She stated that the proposed policies will be voted by the Board at the April 3, 2025 meeting.

**Presentation and discussion of the FY2026 Plan of Service and Program and Budget for the Library for the Commonwealth (LFC) and Monthly Report**

**Community Learning Department:**

SkillMill update: we have a total of 417 users who have accessed the resource, with a total of 505 courses completed to-date

Excel High School update: There are currently 106 students actively enrolled in the Excel Adult High School program. We have had a total of 53 graduates, with 9 students having graduated already this calendar year.

**Hosted collections added:**

American Antiquarian Society:

* [American Antiquarian Society Institutional Archives from AAS](https://nam11.safelinks.protection.outlook.com/?url=https%3A%2F%2Fwww.digitalcommonwealth.org%2Fcollections%2Fcommonwealth%3A8w32zm01g&data=05%7C02%7Csjackson%40bpl.org%7C32e21fc763cb4ada295008dd5a86ff52%7Cfa735c71d7954c01b0ae09fa7415b2b1%7C0%7C0%7C638766258060502344%7CUnknown%7CTWFpbGZsb3d8eyJFbXB0eU1hcGkiOnRydWUsIlYiOiIwLjAuMDAwMCIsIlAiOiJXaW4zMiIsIkFOIjoiTWFpbCIsIldUIjoyfQ%3D%3D%7C0%7C%7C%7C&sdata=jKOcQ6m2zFSwx9wsdxQEaYmVCBmhpmyR8Ymhx%2FzKTP4%3D&reserved=0) (1 item; manuscript record of gifts and acquisitions from 1813-1829)
* [Historical Collections from AAS](https://nam11.safelinks.protection.outlook.com/?url=https%3A%2F%2Fwww.digitalcommonwealth.org%2Fcollections%2Fcommonwealth%3A1831m115z&data=05%7C02%7Csjackson%40bpl.org%7C32e21fc763cb4ada295008dd5a86ff52%7Cfa735c71d7954c01b0ae09fa7415b2b1%7C0%7C0%7C638766258060523490%7CUnknown%7CTWFpbGZsb3d8eyJFbXB0eU1hcGkiOnRydWUsIlYiOiIwLjAuMDAwMCIsIlAiOiJXaW4zMiIsIkFOIjoiTWFpbCIsIldUIjoyfQ%3D%3D%7C0%7C%7C%7C&sdata=uv2EImcv0hEempv812yACSsKz1mWd%2FpxjYCXKg6yxBc%3D&reserved=0) (1 item; printed copy of an address on Black emigration to Jamaica, from 1844)
* [Political Cartoons from AAS](https://nam11.safelinks.protection.outlook.com/?url=https%3A%2F%2Fwww.digitalcommonwealth.org%2Fcollections%2Fcommonwealth%3Ax920pd141&data=05%7C02%7Csjackson%40bpl.org%7C32e21fc763cb4ada295008dd5a86ff52%7Cfa735c71d7954c01b0ae09fa7415b2b1%7C0%7C0%7C638766258060757643%7CUnknown%7CTWFpbGZsb3d8eyJFbXB0eU1hcGkiOnRydWUsIlYiOiIwLjAuMDAwMCIsIlAiOiJXaW4zMiIsIkFOIjoiTWFpbCIsIldUIjoyfQ%3D%3D%7C0%7C%7C%7C&sdata=b2L%2FDZ2CNzn870dtlNiE7iWcSALRvUo9ISNJZLmTbY4%3D&reserved=0) (10 items; political cartoons from 1760-1800)
* [School Catalogs from AAS](https://nam11.safelinks.protection.outlook.com/?url=https%3A%2F%2Fwww.digitalcommonwealth.org%2Fcollections%2Fcommonwealth%3Atb09rg772&data=05%7C02%7Csjackson%40bpl.org%7C32e21fc763cb4ada295008dd5a86ff52%7Cfa735c71d7954c01b0ae09fa7415b2b1%7C0%7C0%7C638766258060777650%7CUnknown%7CTWFpbGZsb3d8eyJFbXB0eU1hcGkiOnRydWUsIlYiOiIwLjAuMDAwMCIsIlAiOiJXaW4zMiIsIkFOIjoiTWFpbCIsIldUIjoyfQ%3D%3D%7C0%7C%7C%7C&sdata=ZoUKGKV2Fbkx2epomq6zIoHkog2q9vj7p305zG5QCvg%3D&reserved=0) (1 item; Hillsboro Academy catalog from 1839)

Boston Public Library:

* [Allan Rohan Crite Collection](https://nam11.safelinks.protection.outlook.com/?url=https%3A%2F%2Fwww.digitalcommonwealth.org%2Fcollections%2Fcommonwealth%3Anc587365p&data=05%7C02%7Csjackson%40bpl.org%7C32e21fc763cb4ada295008dd5a86ff52%7Cfa735c71d7954c01b0ae09fa7415b2b1%7C0%7C0%7C638766258060793910%7CUnknown%7CTWFpbGZsb3d8eyJFbXB0eU1hcGkiOnRydWUsIlYiOiIwLjAuMDAwMCIsIlAiOiJXaW4zMiIsIkFOIjoiTWFpbCIsIldUIjoyfQ%3D%3D%7C0%7C%7C%7C&sdata=OO%2Fr3RXjwkvyTLBhBG5%2BKGk26zoHeP9lfcaibKj9PI8%3D&reserved=0) (16 items; paintings from the Boston-based African-American artist)
* [The Boston Traveler](https://nam11.safelinks.protection.outlook.com/?url=https%3A%2F%2Fwww.digitalcommonwealth.org%2Fcollections%2Fcommonwealth%3Azc780x32d&data=05%7C02%7Csjackson%40bpl.org%7C32e21fc763cb4ada295008dd5a86ff52%7Cfa735c71d7954c01b0ae09fa7415b2b1%7C0%7C0%7C638766258060809630%7CUnknown%7CTWFpbGZsb3d8eyJFbXB0eU1hcGkiOnRydWUsIlYiOiIwLjAuMDAwMCIsIlAiOiJXaW4zMiIsIkFOIjoiTWFpbCIsIldUIjoyfQ%3D%3D%7C0%7C%7C%7C&sdata=yIsw3GCLTO1OeDFJwoPDK8GmHw83%2FFrhH63JeA3PQB4%3D&reserved=0) (3,885 items; issues of the daily newspaper from 1914-1925)
* [Boston Traveler and Evening Herald](https://nam11.safelinks.protection.outlook.com/?url=https%3A%2F%2Fwww.digitalcommonwealth.org%2Fcollections%2Fcommonwealth%3Af4758m73r&data=05%7C02%7Csjackson%40bpl.org%7C32e21fc763cb4ada295008dd5a86ff52%7Cfa735c71d7954c01b0ae09fa7415b2b1%7C0%7C0%7C638766258060825652%7CUnknown%7CTWFpbGZsb3d8eyJFbXB0eU1hcGkiOnRydWUsIlYiOiIwLjAuMDAwMCIsIlAiOiJXaW4zMiIsIkFOIjoiTWFpbCIsIldUIjoyfQ%3D%3D%7C0%7C%7C%7C&sdata=%2Bd4%2BUXMOvPLtJr%2Byu6Ukuvc7tpm8eO1GIknA9nzXyhc%3D&reserved=0) (339 items, issues of the daily newspaper from 1913-1914)
* [Literary Portraits by Yousuf Karsh](https://nam11.safelinks.protection.outlook.com/?url=https%3A%2F%2Fwww.digitalcommonwealth.org%2Fcollections%2Fcommonwealth%3A0k22cr49j&data=05%7C02%7Csjackson%40bpl.org%7C32e21fc763cb4ada295008dd5a86ff52%7Cfa735c71d7954c01b0ae09fa7415b2b1%7C0%7C0%7C638766258060841363%7CUnknown%7CTWFpbGZsb3d8eyJFbXB0eU1hcGkiOnRydWUsIlYiOiIwLjAuMDAwMCIsIlAiOiJXaW4zMiIsIkFOIjoiTWFpbCIsIldUIjoyfQ%3D%3D%7C0%7C%7C%7C&sdata=JBVP6NrL2cG1E35OiEZT4SJ8TTw7kv5fl1NrXxvKGvM%3D&reserved=0) (47 items; photographs of prominent writers and thinkers from 1941-1990)
* [Our Bodies Ourselves](https://nam11.safelinks.protection.outlook.com/?url=https%3A%2F%2Fwww.digitalcommonwealth.org%2Fcollections%2Fcommonwealth%3Aww72jn567&data=05%7C02%7Csjackson%40bpl.org%7C32e21fc763cb4ada295008dd5a86ff52%7Cfa735c71d7954c01b0ae09fa7415b2b1%7C0%7C0%7C638766258060857573%7CUnknown%7CTWFpbGZsb3d8eyJFbXB0eU1hcGkiOnRydWUsIlYiOiIwLjAuMDAwMCIsIlAiOiJXaW4zMiIsIkFOIjoiTWFpbCIsIldUIjoyfQ%3D%3D%7C0%7C%7C%7C&sdata=2sYtdkvGWJqOq7rdzsLp7tDZ7C7t1IKQCAMz766vDsU%3D&reserved=0) (3 items; early editions of the groundbreaking women's health publication from 1970-1972)

Boston Symphony Orchestra Archives:

* [Boston Symphony Orchestra Historical Score Collection (ca. 1881-1980s)](https://nam11.safelinks.protection.outlook.com/?url=https%3A%2F%2Fwww.digitalcommonwealth.org%2Fcollections%2Fcommonwealth%3A4t64q271z&data=05%7C02%7Csjackson%40bpl.org%7C32e21fc763cb4ada295008dd5a86ff52%7Cfa735c71d7954c01b0ae09fa7415b2b1%7C0%7C0%7C638766258060872989%7CUnknown%7CTWFpbGZsb3d8eyJFbXB0eU1hcGkiOnRydWUsIlYiOiIwLjAuMDAwMCIsIlAiOiJXaW4zMiIsIkFOIjoiTWFpbCIsIldUIjoyfQ%3D%3D%7C0%7C%7C%7C&sdata=9Nc6PAsY%2B5xVm3mWijdBRAh6Rswm84jGln%2BYb%2Fzc5NM%3D&reserved=0) (7 items; annotated scores used by BSO conductors from 1818 to 1919)

Congregation of the Sisters of Saint Joseph:

* [Throw Open the Windows! Digitizing the Experiences of the Sisters of Saint Joseph During the Era of Vatican II](https://nam11.safelinks.protection.outlook.com/?url=https%3A%2F%2Fwww.digitalcommonwealth.org%2Fcollections%2Fcommonwealth%3Ar20810358&data=05%7C02%7Csjackson%40bpl.org%7C32e21fc763cb4ada295008dd5a86ff52%7Cfa735c71d7954c01b0ae09fa7415b2b1%7C0%7C0%7C638766258060888502%7CUnknown%7CTWFpbGZsb3d8eyJFbXB0eU1hcGkiOnRydWUsIlYiOiIwLjAuMDAwMCIsIlAiOiJXaW4zMiIsIkFOIjoiTWFpbCIsIldUIjoyfQ%3D%3D%7C0%7C%7C%7C&sdata=j32tnawaoU%2FiSpPKqpGT3q9Feh0pCRGZAs8ZSP32HGg%3D&reserved=0) (8 items; oral history interviews with members of the Sisters of Saint Joseph of Boston from the 1970s-1990s)

Greater Lowell Technical High School:

* [Greater Lowell Tech Through the Years](https://nam11.safelinks.protection.outlook.com/?url=https%3A%2F%2Fwww.digitalcommonwealth.org%2Fcollections%2Fcommonwealth%3A00006b98g&data=05%7C02%7Csjackson%40bpl.org%7C32e21fc763cb4ada295008dd5a86ff52%7Cfa735c71d7954c01b0ae09fa7415b2b1%7C0%7C0%7C638766258060904341%7CUnknown%7CTWFpbGZsb3d8eyJFbXB0eU1hcGkiOnRydWUsIlYiOiIwLjAuMDAwMCIsIlAiOiJXaW4zMiIsIkFOIjoiTWFpbCIsIldUIjoyfQ%3D%3D%7C0%7C%7C%7C&sdata=9VuPg9I%2Bq%2FRB2b%2BAkb5Dc5qDGc23q0%2FCVhTROd6sc2k%3D&reserved=0) (2,180 items; photographs documenting the history of the school from 1956 to 1998)

Community Art Center, Inc.:

* [Community Art Center, Inc. Archives](https://nam11.safelinks.protection.outlook.com/?url=https%3A%2F%2Fwww.digitalcommonwealth.org%2Fcollections%2Fcommonwealth%3A9019zp025&data=05%7C02%7Csjackson%40bpl.org%7C32e21fc763cb4ada295008dd5a86ff52%7Cfa735c71d7954c01b0ae09fa7415b2b1%7C0%7C0%7C638766258060920967%7CUnknown%7CTWFpbGZsb3d8eyJFbXB0eU1hcGkiOnRydWUsIlYiOiIwLjAuMDAwMCIsIlAiOiJXaW4zMiIsIkFOIjoiTWFpbCIsIldUIjoyfQ%3D%3D%7C0%7C%7C%7C&sdata=mX8NquHS2IoTcJ9M3Wjt0VGx%2FsPuFqpK0g2pYNr9Hyo%3D&reserved=0) (20 items; photographs of Cambridge youths from 1970-1999)

Massachusetts Supreme Judicial Court Archives:

* [Brom and Bett v. Ashley](https://nam11.safelinks.protection.outlook.com/?url=https%3A%2F%2Fwww.digitalcommonwealth.org%2Fcollections%2Fcommonwealth%3Ak356hj019&data=05%7C02%7Csjackson%40bpl.org%7C32e21fc763cb4ada295008dd5a86ff52%7Cfa735c71d7954c01b0ae09fa7415b2b1%7C0%7C0%7C638766258060937103%7CUnknown%7CTWFpbGZsb3d8eyJFbXB0eU1hcGkiOnRydWUsIlYiOiIwLjAuMDAwMCIsIlAiOiJXaW4zMiIsIkFOIjoiTWFpbCIsIldUIjoyfQ%3D%3D%7C0%7C%7C%7C&sdata=pUTqc1it%2BrYIpXOSlubBsYaSyNzwRYOrVW1jdIBzrgk%3D&reserved=0) (14 items; court documents from the first successful freedom suit filed by an enslaved person in 1781)
* [Commonwealth v. Jennison](https://nam11.safelinks.protection.outlook.com/?url=https%3A%2F%2Fwww.digitalcommonwealth.org%2Fcollections%2Fcommonwealth%3A8p58ws13k&data=05%7C02%7Csjackson%40bpl.org%7C32e21fc763cb4ada295008dd5a86ff52%7Cfa735c71d7954c01b0ae09fa7415b2b1%7C0%7C0%7C638766258060952635%7CUnknown%7CTWFpbGZsb3d8eyJFbXB0eU1hcGkiOnRydWUsIlYiOiIwLjAuMDAwMCIsIlAiOiJXaW4zMiIsIkFOIjoiTWFpbCIsIldUIjoyfQ%3D%3D%7C0%7C%7C%7C&sdata=Lx9urnt0DlqIOowv%2BoiSovar8DbN1rs3kFIvkfaMhCU%3D&reserved=0) (4 items; court documents from the "Quock Walker" court cases of 1781-1783, which contributed to the eventual abolition of slavery in Massachusetts)
* [Jennison v. Caldwell](https://nam11.safelinks.protection.outlook.com/?url=https%3A%2F%2Fwww.digitalcommonwealth.org%2Fcollections%2Fcommonwealth%3Am613vc27j&data=05%7C02%7Csjackson%40bpl.org%7C32e21fc763cb4ada295008dd5a86ff52%7Cfa735c71d7954c01b0ae09fa7415b2b1%7C0%7C0%7C638766258060968118%7CUnknown%7CTWFpbGZsb3d8eyJFbXB0eU1hcGkiOnRydWUsIlYiOiIwLjAuMDAwMCIsIlAiOiJXaW4zMiIsIkFOIjoiTWFpbCIsIldUIjoyfQ%3D%3D%7C0%7C%7C%7C&sdata=LiLS7l08A6vrb9x%2F2b5xT9wAhRlGAD2%2FtLBrswN7EIU%3D&reserved=0) (18 items; court documents from the "Quock Walker" court cases of 1781-1783, which contributed to the eventual abolition of slavery in Massachusetts)
* [Walker v. Jennison](https://nam11.safelinks.protection.outlook.com/?url=https%3A%2F%2Fwww.digitalcommonwealth.org%2Fcollections%2Fcommonwealth%3Amg74xz33v&data=05%7C02%7Csjackson%40bpl.org%7C32e21fc763cb4ada295008dd5a86ff52%7Cfa735c71d7954c01b0ae09fa7415b2b1%7C0%7C0%7C638766258060983408%7CUnknown%7CTWFpbGZsb3d8eyJFbXB0eU1hcGkiOnRydWUsIlYiOiIwLjAuMDAwMCIsIlAiOiJXaW4zMiIsIkFOIjoiTWFpbCIsIldUIjoyfQ%3D%3D%7C0%7C%7C%7C&sdata=AmNSaLdNiIgplLDZK%2F%2FQconwGj9jdmeSaXxanK6ixLc%3D&reserved=0) (10 items; court documents from the "Quock Walker" court cases of 1781-1783, which contributed to the eventual abolition of slavery in Massachusetts)

Wayland Free Public Library:

* [The Cochituate Jeep](https://nam11.safelinks.protection.outlook.com/?url=https%3A%2F%2Fwww.digitalcommonwealth.org%2Fcollections%2Fcommonwealth%3A8g84v1268&data=05%7C02%7Csjackson%40bpl.org%7C32e21fc763cb4ada295008dd5a86ff52%7Cfa735c71d7954c01b0ae09fa7415b2b1%7C0%7C0%7C638766258060998726%7CUnknown%7CTWFpbGZsb3d8eyJFbXB0eU1hcGkiOnRydWUsIlYiOiIwLjAuMDAwMCIsIlAiOiJXaW4zMiIsIkFOIjoiTWFpbCIsIldUIjoyfQ%3D%3D%7C0%7C%7C%7C&sdata=Qc1bsBGy3%2Bq35nHT7zvopXHTC2Zft17%2BFKRN7dFwRtA%3D&reserved=0) (27 items; issues of the monthly newsletter from 1945-1946)
* [The Sudbury Citizen](https://nam11.safelinks.protection.outlook.com/?url=https%3A%2F%2Fwww.digitalcommonwealth.org%2Fcollections%2Fcommonwealth%3Ac247n7513&data=05%7C02%7Csjackson%40bpl.org%7C32e21fc763cb4ada295008dd5a86ff52%7Cfa735c71d7954c01b0ae09fa7415b2b1%7C0%7C0%7C638766258061014111%7CUnknown%7CTWFpbGZsb3d8eyJFbXB0eU1hcGkiOnRydWUsIlYiOiIwLjAuMDAwMCIsIlAiOiJXaW4zMiIsIkFOIjoiTWFpbCIsIldUIjoyfQ%3D%3D%7C0%7C%7C%7C&sdata=hAPOPM6RBqIIUoFzfoOTtGqGauVF6ZxyCJqz0E9j3tE%3D&reserved=0) (3 items; issues of the weekly newspaper from 1959)
* [The Village Bugle](https://nam11.safelinks.protection.outlook.com/?url=https%3A%2F%2Fwww.digitalcommonwealth.org%2Fcollections%2Fcommonwealth%3A3t94d535f&data=05%7C02%7Csjackson%40bpl.org%7C32e21fc763cb4ada295008dd5a86ff52%7Cfa735c71d7954c01b0ae09fa7415b2b1%7C0%7C0%7C638766258061029712%7CUnknown%7CTWFpbGZsb3d8eyJFbXB0eU1hcGkiOnRydWUsIlYiOiIwLjAuMDAwMCIsIlAiOiJXaW4zMiIsIkFOIjoiTWFpbCIsIldUIjoyfQ%3D%3D%7C0%7C%7C%7C&sdata=nka8g9cbn8mFaUvfZVRq7E0FVS4cYS4cC31SFTlKIRs%3D&reserved=0) (86 items; issues of the monthly newsletter from 1942-1945)
* [The Wayland Chronicle](https://nam11.safelinks.protection.outlook.com/?url=https%3A%2F%2Fwww.digitalcommonwealth.org%2Fcollections%2Fcommonwealth%3Abz60mb78z&data=05%7C02%7Csjackson%40bpl.org%7C32e21fc763cb4ada295008dd5a86ff52%7Cfa735c71d7954c01b0ae09fa7415b2b1%7C0%7C0%7C638766258061045244%7CUnknown%7CTWFpbGZsb3d8eyJFbXB0eU1hcGkiOnRydWUsIlYiOiIwLjAuMDAwMCIsIlAiOiJXaW4zMiIsIkFOIjoiTWFpbCIsIldUIjoyfQ%3D%3D%7C0%7C%7C%7C&sdata=luY4FIwDlX4ToE4badQE1gGCxt7A8Rtb58rrTfaYxtk%3D&reserved=0) (224 items; issues of the weekly newspaper from 1936-1941)
* [The Wayland Citizen](https://nam11.safelinks.protection.outlook.com/?url=https%3A%2F%2Fwww.digitalcommonwealth.org%2Fcollections%2Fcommonwealth%3Af4758x87z&data=05%7C02%7Csjackson%40bpl.org%7C32e21fc763cb4ada295008dd5a86ff52%7Cfa735c71d7954c01b0ae09fa7415b2b1%7C0%7C0%7C638766258061060675%7CUnknown%7CTWFpbGZsb3d8eyJFbXB0eU1hcGkiOnRydWUsIlYiOiIwLjAuMDAwMCIsIlAiOiJXaW4zMiIsIkFOIjoiTWFpbCIsIldUIjoyfQ%3D%3D%7C0%7C%7C%7C&sdata=bVF%2Fi6Y6gIR9GmTwypodHaaEC9tTV3AfXvXr5yjyN1o%3D&reserved=0) (53 items; issues of the weekly newspaper from 1959-1960)
* [The Wayland News Review](https://nam11.safelinks.protection.outlook.com/?url=https%3A%2F%2Fwww.digitalcommonwealth.org%2Fcollections%2Fcommonwealth%3A05748554b&data=05%7C02%7Csjackson%40bpl.org%7C32e21fc763cb4ada295008dd5a86ff52%7Cfa735c71d7954c01b0ae09fa7415b2b1%7C0%7C0%7C638766258061076791%7CUnknown%7CTWFpbGZsb3d8eyJFbXB0eU1hcGkiOnRydWUsIlYiOiIwLjAuMDAwMCIsIlAiOiJXaW4zMiIsIkFOIjoiTWFpbCIsIldUIjoyfQ%3D%3D%7C0%7C%7C%7C&sdata=ANvgo4WHZ%2FnXidcRjdQzPiyesMdY9984nwiLvwnD2vU%3D&reserved=0) (3 items; issues of the weekly newspaper from 1936)
* [Wayland Town Crier](https://nam11.safelinks.protection.outlook.com/?url=https%3A%2F%2Fwww.digitalcommonwealth.org%2Fcollections%2Fcommonwealth%3Aw3769k69n&data=05%7C02%7Csjackson%40bpl.org%7C32e21fc763cb4ada295008dd5a86ff52%7Cfa735c71d7954c01b0ae09fa7415b2b1%7C0%7C0%7C638766258061093367%7CUnknown%7CTWFpbGZsb3d8eyJFbXB0eU1hcGkiOnRydWUsIlYiOiIwLjAuMDAwMCIsIlAiOiJXaW4zMiIsIkFOIjoiTWFpbCIsIldUIjoyfQ%3D%3D%7C0%7C%7C%7C&sdata=xK5jTRzuNFYkDD8y9v3KPwSxwbYoDJDjkNPgP6DcTd0%3D&reserved=0) (123 items; issues of the weekly newspaper from 1950-1957)

Weston Historical Society:

* [Weston Historical Society, Hook & Hastings Co., Organ Factory Collection](https://nam11.safelinks.protection.outlook.com/?url=https%3A%2F%2Fwww.digitalcommonwealth.org%2Fcollections%2Fcommonwealth%3A0v83gg01j&data=05%7C02%7Csjackson%40bpl.org%7C32e21fc763cb4ada295008dd5a86ff52%7Cfa735c71d7954c01b0ae09fa7415b2b1%7C0%7C0%7C638766258061108790%7CUnknown%7CTWFpbGZsb3d8eyJFbXB0eU1hcGkiOnRydWUsIlYiOiIwLjAuMDAwMCIsIlAiOiJXaW4zMiIsIkFOIjoiTWFpbCIsIldUIjoyfQ%3D%3D%7C0%7C%7C%7C&sdata=fnJv0sLZR%2BsWsGLgMgpNOWVRW6EViB1F%2F0mv0G0dKH8%3D&reserved=0) (78 items; photographs and ephemera from the Weston-based organ factory from 1889 to 1935)
* [Weston Historical Society, Horace S. Sears Estate “Haleiwa” Collection](https://nam11.safelinks.protection.outlook.com/?url=https%3A%2F%2Fwww.digitalcommonwealth.org%2Fcollections%2Fcommonwealth%3As752dt55p&data=05%7C02%7Csjackson%40bpl.org%7C32e21fc763cb4ada295008dd5a86ff52%7Cfa735c71d7954c01b0ae09fa7415b2b1%7C0%7C0%7C638766258061124469%7CUnknown%7CTWFpbGZsb3d8eyJFbXB0eU1hcGkiOnRydWUsIlYiOiIwLjAuMDAwMCIsIlAiOiJXaW4zMiIsIkFOIjoiTWFpbCIsIldUIjoyfQ%3D%3D%7C0%7C%7C%7C&sdata=27K7iuzjInGXYhFifORGMXvWNCp%2FcUQI7WUVbYgJCBg%3D&reserved=0) (27 items; photographs and memorabilia related to the estate of Horace Scudder Sears (1885-1923))

**Harvested collections added:**

*No harvests in February.*

**Stats:**

Item views: 156,850

Total item-level records: 1,368,584

Total hosted items: 685,489

**Report from Massachusetts Library System**

**Strategic Initiative 1**

**MLS ensures its services are sustainable, prioritize member needs, and equitably serve all member types.**

|  |  |  |  |
| --- | --- | --- | --- |
| Goal | Actions | Measurement of Success | **Monthly work towards goal** |
| MLS ensures service value to all member types. | MLS will create new avenues for active member engagement, including task forces, class leaders, and project engagements. | *MLS will report to member libraries on an annual basis the number of active member engagements.* | Changes made by the new School Library Membership Policy are being implemented.Sarah Sogigian and Rob Favini (MBLC) launched their 2023 Road Trip program Two Masscat public library members (Huntington and Becket) have signed contracts to join C/WMARS, with support from MLS. |
| MLS will continue to strengthen its partnerships and collaborations to allow MLS to focus on what it does uniquely well. | Utilizing the newly created partnership policy and process, MLS will explore possible partnership work with the Library for the Commonwealth and other organizations. | *MLS will report to member libraries on an annual basis the value of their partnerships.* | We launched the five-part webinar series with ALA on intellectual freedom topics. Three webinars occurred in February with 176 participants at the live events and 94 views of the recordings. Two additional webinars will occur in March. Recordings of the webinars will be available for 18 months.We continued working with MBLC and other organizations to host a webinar series on mental health supports and libraries. One webinar occurred in February and two will occur in March.Staff from MLS, MBLC, public libraries, and other New England state libraries began the *Touchpoints for Libraries* train- the-trainer program to teach the Touchpoints program to Massachusetts library staff. The training will continue in March.We continued working with other New England states on this year’s Summer Summit, to help libraries prepare for the youth and adult summer library program. The event is scheduled for March 31. |
| New services will be designed to deliver the greatest statewide impact, able to expand and contract due to available funding and need. | MLS will evaluate current, new, and proposed services using a new internal service review process. | *MLS will ensure that services are able to expand and contract due to available funding, need, and capacity.* |  |

# **Strategic Initiative 2**

**MLS empowers leaders to emerge at every level of library service, connecting staff throughout the stages of their careers.**

|  |  |  |  |
| --- | --- | --- | --- |
| Goal | Actions | Measurement of Success | **Monthly work towards goal** |
| MLS promotes excellence and continuity by providing professional development, conversation, and community around leadership. | Together with our partners, MLS will lead the planning of learning opportunities on leadership and management topics and ensure networking options in our engagements. | *MLS will report to member libraries on an annual basis the leadership and management learning opportunities hosted and the reflection from participants.* | We scheduled a series of four workshops with the Employers Association of the NorthEast on HR topics relevant for libraries (employment Law, interviewing, performance management, and documentation skills). They will take place March through May.We are working with EANE to schedule four community chats on HR related topics. |
| Leadership, professional development, and networking opportunities will have flexible offerings in order to include participants from various library types, library sizes, and resources. | MLS will explore the creation of grants and/or scholarship opportunities to support member library staff in their professional development work. | *MLS will report to member libraries on an annual basis the number of opportunities available, awarded, and the reflection from participants.* | We launched the Language Learning Grant program and approved 20 applications in February. |

# **Strategic Initiative 3**

**MLS will take the lead in facilitating important conversations, and support member-facing initiatives focused on DEI: diversity, equity, inclusion, accessibility and social justice.**

|  |  |  |  |
| --- | --- | --- | --- |
| Goal | Actions | Measurement of Success | **Monthly work towards goal** |
| MLS will integrate the core values of diversity, equity, inclusion, accessibility and social justice into its policies, practices, procedures, and programs. | Utilizing learnings from our work last year, MLS will continue its review of documents, resources and practices to ensure they align with core values.In partnership with trusted experts, MLS will begin an accessibility audit of MLS services. | *MLS will demonstrate both increased resource allocation as well as substantive, visible progress in representation throughout MLS services.* |  |
| Following the lead of trusted experts, MLS will build awareness in using the DEI tenets with member library staff to identify and eliminate barriers to inclusive library services. | Utilizing established services, MLS will showcase member libraries that are using the core values of DEI within their communities. | *MLS will report to member libraries on an annual basis the DEI learning opportunities hosted and the reflection from participants.* |  |

**Unfinished Business and General Orders**

**PUBLIC COMMENT**

**OLD BUSINESS**

There was no old business.

**ADJOURNMENT**

The meeting adjourned at 10:54 AM



Karen Traub

Secretary