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

**Date** : Thursday, November 7, 2024

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

**Place** : Greenfield Public Library

Greenfield, MA

**Board**

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

Secretary; Kate Chang; Debby Conrad; Joyce Linehan; Jessica Vilas

Novas

**Board**

**Absent** : George Comeau, Esq

**Staff Present:**

Maureen Amyot, Director; Heather Backman, Library Building Specialist; Jessica Branco Colati, Preservation Specialist; Andrea Bono-Bunker, Library Building Consultant; Tracey Dimant, Head of Operations & Budget / Business Office; Susan Faiella, Accountant; Robert Favini, Head of Library Advisory & Development / Government Liaison; Jennifer Inglis, State Aid Specialist; Rachel Masse, Assistant to the Director

**Staff Zoom:**

Celeste Bruno, Communications Director; Terry D'Angelo, Administrative Assistant / Business Office; Tanesha Deane, Contract Specialist; Allyson Dowds, Consultant to Special Populations; Lyndsay Forbes, Project Manager & Grants Specialist; Al Hayden, Library Advisory Specialist; Jaccavrie McNeely, Electronic Services Specialist; Cate Merlin, Head of State Programs; Lilli Sutton, Administrative Assistant; Aparna Ramachandran, Data Analyst / IT Support Specialist

**Observers Present:**

Bill Beason, Greenfield Public Library Trustee; Anna Bognolo, Library Director, Greenfield Public Library; Jeanne Cauteau, Greenfield Public Library Foundation; Dorir Cowdrey, Greenfield Public Library Trustee; Sandra Erdeles, Dean, Simmons SLIS West; Eric Poulin, Simmons SLIS West; Sarah Sogigian, Executive Director, Massachusetts Library System

**Observers Zoom:**

Crystal Arias, Lawrence Public Library; Eileen Chandler, CLAMS; Kim Charlson, Library Director, Perkins School Library; Mary Ann Cluggish, Wellesley; Debbie Froggatt, MA School Library Association; Sarah Jackson, Library for the Commonwealth; Kathy Lussier, North of Boston Library Exchange

Meeting called to order by Chair Biancolo

Chair Biancolo called the meeting to order at 10:05 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 | Commissioner Linehan- Present Zoom |
| Commissioner Biancolo - Present | Commissioner Comeau- Absent | Commissioner Traub- Present |
| Commissioner Chang - Present Zoom | Commissioner Conrad- Present Zoom | Commissioner Vilas Novas- Present Zoom |

Chair Biancolo explained that she would be making a motion to comply with a consent agenda. A consent agenda is a board meeting practice that groups routine motions into the consent agenda. If there are no objections, the Chair can declare a motion passed, rather than counting votes for each motion separately.

Chair Biancolo moved to adopt a consent agenda for agenda items #2- Approval of Minutes- October 3, 2024, #7 Consideration of approval of municipalities meeting the requirements for the FY2025 State Aid to Public Libraries based on eligibility established in FY2025 for the Municipal Appropriation Requirement and in FY2024 for the minimum standards, #8 Consideration of approval of the FY2026 Library Services and Technology Act (LSTA) Direct Grant Round Program & Budget; #9 Consideration of appointments to the State Advisory Council on Libraries (SACL); and #10 Updated totals for Small Libraries in Networks Grants and Resource Sharing Grants.

Commissioner Cherubini seconded.

Chair Biancolo asked for a roll call vote of the Commissioners for this motion.

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

The motion passed.

Approval of Minutes from the regular monthly meeting: October 3, 2024

Chair Biancolo asked if there were any corrections or changes from the October 3, 2024 Monthly Meeting.

Hearing no objection, Chair Biancolo declared the motion passed under the consent agenda.

**Chair’s Report**

Chair Biancolo presented the following report:

October was a beautiful, busy month!

October 4: I toured the NEDCC with Maureen, Rob Favini, and Jess Colati of the MBLC. Executive Director Bill Veillette and Director of Preservation Services Ann Marie Willer were very welcoming and gave us an in-depth behind-the-scenes look at the work of the NEDCC, a nonprofit conservation center in North Andover. One highlight for me was meeting IRENE, the software that creates an image file that is then translated by software into an audio file. And it employs a non-contact approach, it is able to digitize damaged and broken media that could not otherwise be played with a stylus.

October 11: I attended the first, I hope annual, MLA Advocacy BootCamp at Worcester Public Library. It was a marvelous event, and every one who attended walked away with a binder of materials; the beginnings of a toolkit. Maureen gave an overview of the MBLC budget lines and the timeline for the state budget, and MLA Legislative Committee members discussed the regional advocacy timeline and how a bill becomes law. Three legislators were there, Reps Higgins and Murray, and Senator Feeney, who gave their perspective and answered questions. A panel of WMLA, MSLA, and CMLA told their stories of advocacy, and the keynote speaker was Kathleen McEvoy from EveryLibrary. We were given lunch, and time to role play advocacy. I hear that MLA is planning to repeat the event next year, and I hope more folks take advantage of this terrific resource.

October 15: I attended the MLA Legislative Committee’s meeting to kickoff a revitalization of MLA's coalition building efforts. With the help of John Chrastka from EveryLibrary, they are looking to include more libraries in more efforts and plans at the statewide level to build the brand of libraries across agencies. They are starting by reviewing statewide workforce development plans, which is work that public libraries especially, and some school libraries, have been doing for a long time. Frankly, I’m impressed with their creative thinking in identifying at what tables libraries belong. We all know that libraries are vital resources, and this is one more way we can make that more widely known.

October 17: I attended the monthly virtual meeting of the Central Mass Library Advocates. Nanci Hill, director at Hopkinton Public Library, will be the new president.

October 18: I  attended the annual meeting of the Western Mass Library Advocates at Erving Public Library. Abby Baines, director at Erving Public Library, will be the new president.

October 25: I attended the MLA Legislative Committee monthly meeting on Zoom.

October 26: I attended the Boston Book Festival. Because of the renovation of Copley Square, the exhibitors were crowded into the space directly in front of the Boston Public Library. However, it was a lovely day, and people were not deterred. I saw only people who were enthusiastic about expressing their appreciation for their library. In the 2 ½ hours I was at the MBLC table, most people came into the booth rather than walking by, and of those the vast majority filled out an appreciation card on the spot.

October 28: I attended the MLS Annual Meeting at Devins. Along with the business meeting, there was a magical keynote from the first black female puppeteer on Sesame Street, as well as a presentation by Culture Ally. You will hear more about Culture Ally from Sarah later. We also heard that the Massachusetts School Library Association has written a policy brief and is starting to look for a sponsor for legislation to get librarians into schools. We will be interested in seeing how this goes.

October 29: I attended the Executive Board meeting on Zoom.

On November 8, we can look forward to CMLA’s Trivia Fundraiser, on November 15, the MLS Annual Teen Summit on Zoom, and on December 5 the evening advocacy event at Worcester Public Library, which will kick off the legislative season. Let me know if you want information about any of these upcoming events.

Finally, I want to invite you, commissioners, to feel free to give the board more information in your monthly report, especially if you have any information about an MBLC committee or if you serve as a board liaison. No one wants these meetings to get much longer, but if there is anything we should know, we should know.

**Commissioner Activities**

**Commissioner Chang**

* October 26- Attended the Boston Book Festival

**Commissioner Cherubini**

* October 7: Attended the Mass Library System Executive Board meeting
* October 10: Participated in the Mass Library Association Legislative Advocacy Day at the Worcester Public Library
* October 15: Participated in the Mass Library Association Legislative Committee session on coalition building
* October 18: Participation in the Western Mass Library Advocates Annual Meeting & Idea Share
* October 25: Attended the monthly meeting of the Mass Library Association Legislative Committee
* October 28:  Attended the annual meeting of the Mass Library System
* October 29: Participated in the MBLC Executive Committee meeting

**Commissioner Conrad**

* October 8- Attended Talking Book Meeting as liaison
* October 10- Attended Mass Library Association Advocacy Boot Camp
* October 28- Attended MLS Annual Meeting

**Commissioner Linehan**

* October 26- Attended Boston Book Festival

**Commissioner Traub**

* October 4: Meeting with MBLC Advisory Al Hayden and Wendell Trustees
* October 7: Virtual office hours with Al Hayden MBLC advisory
* October 8: Mass Center for the Book award ceremony at the State House
* October 10: Mass Library Association Advocacy Boot Camp
* October 15: Virtual office hours with MBLC preservation
* October 18: Western Mass Library Advocates idea share
* October 19: Mass Library Trustees Association annual meeting
* October 22: Mass Center for the Book board meeting
* October 23: Mass Library System webinar “Handling New and Awkward Patron Behaviors"
* October 24: Reopening of the renovated Millers Falls library
* October 28: Mass Library System annual meeting
* October 29: Executive Board meeting

**Commissioner Vilas Novas**

* Missed the 10/16 SACL meeting but was updated by Lyndsay about the changes to the program
* Hosted a dozen office hours related to the digital equity partnership grant (ECCF), libraries welcome to apply
* 10/28 attended the MLS annual meeting, visited the Great Exchange across the way
* 11/4 attended a feedback session for Merrimack Valley transit ridership enhancements, provided library voice to promote Browse, Borrow, Board
* Thank you for Suzanna Piscitello, served over 50 years as a Lawrence Public Library trustee - she passed away last week

**DIRECTOR’S REPORT**

Director Amyot presented the following report:

Library Advisory and Development Unit

E Rate and Digital Equity Update

Kate Butler organized and participated in a series of demonstrations of several filtering software providers for the Automated Networks. The sessions were designed to provide the latest filtering solutions and how they would work in the Network and library environments. The filtering requirement for federal funding has traditionally been a barrier to libraries. Looking at current filtering software packages will help the Networks evaluate potential solutions for their members.

SACL Fall Meeting

The State Advisory Council on Libraries (SACL) held their virtual fall meeting on October 16, 2024. MBLC LSTA Consultants joined a quorum of SACL members to review the upcoming FY2026 LSTA Grant program and set the date for the in-person grant review session on May 6, 2025.

MLTA Annual Conference

The Massachusetts Library Trustees Association held their annual meeting on October 19, 2025, at the Shrewsbury Public Library. This year’s program focused on the theme “Communication - Your Essential Library Advocacy Tool.” Rob Favini gave a presentation on advocacy basics for trustees followed by a keynote presentation by Jason Homer, Worcester Public Library Executive Director. The day wrapped up with a panel discussion moderated by Al Hayden.

NELA Annual Conference

Unit members Al Hayden and Lyndsay Forbes attended NELA.

Lyndsay co-presented “Touchpoints in Libraries" in New England: How Maine, Massachusetts, & New Hampshire Libraries Are Changing the Heart of Family Engagement with MLS Consultant Christi Farrar.  The session reviewed the work of the MBLC, MLS, and the state libraries of Maine and New Hampshire in their train the trainer workshops in the Touchpoints in Libraries frameworks. The training focused on  how the Touchpoints approach can help library staff meet the library’s goals of supporting families while providing high-quality and developmentally appropriate early learning services.

State Programs Unit

The Construction team has been onboarding the small population grantees and getting them started in their planning and design phase process. In October, Andrea attended the Climate Beacon Conference, and Heather attended the New England Library Association annual conference, where she led a discussion on leadership challenges and attended presentations on sustainability, equity, and showcasing MBLC programming such as the “Dig In” grants and Touchpoints in Libraries. On November 6, Andrea will be a panelist for COSLA’s Equity in Construction Grant Making webinar with peers who are also working on the COSLA Construction Program Toolkit.

The State Aid team continues to work through all State Aid applications, and is excited to present the first batch for certification at today's meeting. Ten libraries are seeking waivers for the FY25 Municipal Appropriation Requirement, which will be presented to the Board in January. Head of State Programs Cate Merlin will be scheduling a training for Commissioners to go over the waiver application process, in preparation for the January Board meeting.

Communications Unit

The Communications Team coordinated the agency’s participation in the Boston Book Festival. The booth featured “Empowered by Libraries”  which is a way for people to share how their library has helped them. Hundreds of responses were received which will be included as part of the FY2025 Legislative Agenda.  
Here’s a few examples:

* Woburn Public Library helped me excel in my classes and as a professional business owner, have a place to gather and brainstorm all the possibilities of growth and success! It’s peaceful and quiet and brings inspiration to our community every day. Thank you WPL.
* Wilmington: I learned how to speak Spanish for free on the library website.

The FY2025 Legislative Agenda is live. <https://www.mblclegislativeagenda.com/> It will be updated with narrative from Rob and updates about library legislation.

The team also worked with Maura Deedy on a recent survey to understand how the library community is using MBLC created materials and what they need more assistance understanding and promoting. The survey updated the 2020 survey and added a series of new questions. The team will review the results in a unit meeting, share them at a PR Committee meeting and post them on the agency website.  
  
The team also worked with MassLegal to coordinate the distribution of materials to libraries about their services. Over 100 libraries ordered materials through the MBLC.

Business Office

* The RFR for Legal Services was posted on October 18, with a goal of a start date of December 1st
* The RFQ for Strategic Planning Facilitator was posted on October 21, with a goal of a start date of December 1st
* Network Grants: due to an error with the motion that was approved last month, we had to hold the network grant payments. The paperwork is ready and will be sent out after the meeting today, once the correct figures are approved. Payments will be made as soon as possible after that. (Payments are made half now, and half in April when our lines are fully allotted.)
* LEA Grants –Contracts have been sent out, and payments are in process. (Payments are made half now, and half in April when our lines are fully allotted.)
* FY2026 Budget Maintenance Exercises were submitted to A&F on October 30. This is the first FY2026 Budget Development Exercise, and is based on our Legislative Agenda requests.

Director Activities

This month, I have been on the road, working on projects in-house, and planning for the future. Here are a few highlights:

* I attended my first Chief Officers of State Library Agencies (COSLA) Fall Conference. It was an opportunity to meet and get to know the small group of colleagues from around the country who do the same job I do here, and to learn from each other. I also got to meet IMLS and Library of Congress staff, and attended some great workshops on leadership, AI in state government, and more. One of the highlights was spending some time at Space Camp – we got to try out their simulators and handle items from their archives. It was a useful and fun experience.
* I attended the groundbreaking at the Fitchburg Public Library, and the Massachusetts Book Awards ceremony at the State House – in the same day. It was “library joy” from beginning to end.
* I worked with the Management Team and Tanesha Deane to launch the RFP for strategic planning and the RFR for legal services for the agency. It is exciting to have both projects in progress, and I will keep the board informed as the process unfolds.
* I attended and spoke at the Advocacy Boot Camp in Worcester, and at the Western Massachusetts Library Advocates annual meeting in Erving about the MBLC Legislative Agenda and state budget process. Both events were well-attended with librarians who are ready for budget season to start.
* I went on my first site visit to a prison library with Ally Dowds this month. She set up a tour and meeting at the Suffolk County House of Corrections in Boston, where I got to meet the library staff and learn about the challenges of prison librarianship and hear about the innovative programming that the Boston Public Library is providing in multiple correctional facilities in the area. It was an impactful afternoon.

The month ahead will feature visits to libraries in Western Massachusetts, along with selection of our Strategic Plan consultant and Legal Counsel. It will be another busy and exciting month for all of us across the entire agency.

**Legislative Report**

Rob Favini, Head of Library Advisory and Development, Government Liaison presented following report:

MBLC Legislative Agenda website:  
The MBLC’s FY2026 [Legislative Agenda website](https://www.mblclegislativeagenda.com/) has been updated to reflect this year’s general theme, *Empowered by Libraries*. The site will be the home to information regarding our specific legislative budget line requests and information related to the legislative agenda. We will continuously update commissioners to content as it is added.

FY2026 Legislative Season Events:  
The Massachusetts Library Association Legislative Committee will once again be tracking legislative events (mostly breakfasts) throughout the FY2026 legislative agenda season. All booked events will be uploaded to the [MBLC Legislative Event shared spreadsheet](https://docs.google.com/spreadsheets/d/1Utc6-cZ6GmtcAvRsnzBcT5_2Ce4wLhITdpR6HX2AUow/edit?usp=sharing). Commissioners and MBLC staff will have access to the spreadsheet where they can learn about events as they are scheduled and enter their names if they are planning to attend.

Spreadsheet link:  
<https://docs.google.com/spreadsheets/d/1Utc6-cZ6GmtcAvRsnzBcT5_2Ce4wLhITdpR6HX2AUow/edit?usp=sharing>

To date the following events have been scheduled

* Thursday, December 5, 2024, at 5:30pm: Worcester Public Library Stand with Libraries This event requires advanced registration by 11/22/24 <https://tinyurl.com/standwithlibraries>
* Friday, February 7, 2025, at 8:00am: Marblehead Abbott Public Library
* Friday, March 7, 2025, time TBD: Andover Public Library
* Friday, March 7, 2025, at 7:45am: Norfolk Public Library

Library Related Bills

Since last month’s Legislative Report there has been no movement on the three library related bills.

* [S.2839](https://malegislature.gov/Bills/193/S2839) An Act to ensure access to library resources and services
* [H.4802](https://malegislature.gov/Bills/193/H4802) An Act addressing challenges facing public libraries and digital resource collections
* [S.2856](https://malegislature.gov/Bills/193/S2856) An Act relative to strengthening Massachusetts’ economic leadership

Of the three bills, S.2856 is still reported to have a chance to be voted on in special session before the new year. The MLA Legislative Committee is working with the Legislative Library Caucus to make plans to reintroduce S.2839 in the next legislative session starting in January 2025. They are also working to find a new sponsor of H.4802, as the Bill’s original sponsor, Rep. Balser, has resigned.

MMA Annual Conference and Trade Show

This year’s MMA Annual Conference will launch with a new name and new location. [Connect 351](https://www.mma.org/connect-351/) will take place from January 23-25, 2025, at the Boston Convention and Exhibition Center in Boston’s Seaport District.

As in past years the MBLC will have a booth in the trade show hall. In addition to the new name and location, the trade show has a new schedule. Connect 351’s trade show will run on Thursday, January 23, from 2:00-5:00pm and on Friday January 24, from 8:00am-4:00pm. There are no Saturday trade show hours scheduled.

As a part of the booth sponsorship the MBLC receives trade show hall passes that are available to MBLC Commissioners and staff. If Commissioners are interested in reserving a pass for any time during the trade show hours, let me know.

Consideration of approval of municipalities meeting the requirements for the FY2025 State Aid to Public Libraries based on eligibility established in FY2025 for the Municipal Appropriation Requirement and in FY2024 for the minimum standards

Jen Inglis, State Aid Specialist, presented for certification 136 municipalities meeting the requirements for the FY2025 State Aid to Public Libraries program.

Ms. Inglis reminded the Commissioners that these awards are half payments. The remainder is paid at the end of the grant cycle. The total first half payments for the first group of municipalities is $4,224,932.82.

Commissioner Vilas Novas moved and Commissioner Traub seconded that the Massachusetts Board of Library Commissioners certifies that the communities on the attached list have met minimum standards of free public library service and awards each a FY2025 Library Incentive Grant (LIG), a FY2025 Municipal Equalization Grant (MEG)and a FY2025 Nonresident Circulation (NRC) offset in the indicated amounts, totaling $ 4,224,932.82, and authorizes any additional FY2025 State Aid to Public Libraries disbursements that may be possible toward the end of the grant cycle.

**Consideration of approval of the FY2026 Library Services and Technology Act (LSTA) Direct Grant Round Program & Budget**

Rob Favini, Head of Library Advisory and Development, Government Liaison presented the LSTA Program and Budget.

The State Advisory Council on Libraries (SACL) met on October 16, 2024, to discuss and recommend the FY2026 grant round. This year’s grant round emphasizes creativity and flexibility to ensure that libraries deliver the programming and services that have been a hallmark of the MBLC’s grant program.

The FY2026 grant round will pilot a new organization of grants based on scope of time and effort needed to successfully execute grants. This new structure is designed to meet the needs of libraries of all sizes and staffing levels. The following types of grants will help libraries to better evaluate the level of commitment that they are able to dedicate to a grant program.

* Explore grants have smaller funding amounts with predefined activities. These grants are designed for libraries with limited capacity and involve less management and reporting requirements. Topics in Explore grants are selected by Library and Advisory staff to address current identified needs impacting libraries and their communities. These grants may act as a first step for future projects.
* Impact grants are like the traditional Direct Grants in scope of programming, execution, and reporting. Funding for these grants falls along traditional Direct Grant amounts.
* Inspire grants target larger scale projects that may extend to two years to complete. These grants may require larger funding amounts and are more complex and demanding to execute, requiring greater staff commitments and would include significant involvement with community partners.

The FY2026 LSTA grant program continues to address the changing needs of libraries across the Commonwealth by funding innovative programs to meet the goals established in our Massachusetts Library Services and Technology (LSTA) [five-year plan](https://mblc.state.ma.us/programs-and-support/lsta/files/lsta-plan-fy27.pdf):

Goal 1: Promote learning and skill development

Goal 2: Enable access

Goal 3: Strengthen libraries

Goal 4: Building thriving communities

The grant round will be announced the week of November 11, 2024, with Letters of Intent for Impact and Inspire grants due December 5, 2024, and those grant applications will be due April 8, 2025. Applications for Explore grants will open on December 16th and those applications will be due January 16, 2025. The budget for the FY2026 program is $500,000. Please contact me with questions or if you would like additional information.

Commissioner Cherubini moved and Commissioner Traub seconded that the Massachusetts Board of Library Commissioners approves the Program and Budget for the FY2026 Library Services and Technology Act grant round in the amount of $500,000 as recommended by the State Advisory Council on Libraries and detailed in the documentation presented in agenda item 8.

**Consideration of appointments to the State Advisory Council on Libraries (SACL)**

Rob Favini, Head of Library Advisory and Development, Government Liaison presented the SACL appointments.

The Statewide Advisory Council on Libraries has appointment and reappointment recommendations for SACL representatives representing academic libraries, school libraries, and public Libraries. The LSTA staff is pleased to present the following candidates:

For appointment:

Representing academic libraries: Gabby Womack, Student Success Librarian, Tufts University, Medford MA.

Representing school libraries: Rose Marz, Library Director, Boston Arts Academy, Boston, MA.

Representing public libraries: Luke Kurkland, Library Director, Ayer Public Library, Ayer, MA.

For reappointment:

Representing school libraries: Stacy Collins, Instructional Librarian & Geographer-At-Large, Oliver Wendell Holmes Library, Andover, MA

Representing public libraries: Hermayne Gordon, Library Director, Woburn Public Library, Woburn, MA

Commissioner Cherubini moved and Commissioner Traub seconded that the Massachusetts Board of Library Commissioners appoint Gabby Womack, Student Success Librarian, Tufts University, Medford MA, Rose Marz, Library Director, Boston Arts Academy, Boston, MA, and Luke Kurkland, Library Director, Ayer Public Library, Ayer, MA to SACL with a term from October 1, 2024 to September 30, 2027.

Commissioner Cherubini moved and Commissioner Traub seconded that the Massachusetts Board of Library Commissions reappoint Stacy Collins, Instructional Librarian & Geographer-At-Large, Oliver Wendell Holmes Library, Andover, MA and Hermayne Gordon, Library Director, Woburn Public Library, Woburn, MA to SACL with a second term from October 1, 2024 to September 30, 2027.

**Updated totals for Small Libraries in Networks Grants and Resource Sharing Grants**

Rob Favini, Head of Library Advisory and Development, Government Liaison presented the updated totals from the October meeting for the Small Libraries in Network Grants.

Program Abstract: For FY2025, $406,399 from the Library Technology and Resource Sharing Account (7000-9506) will be used to support connectivity and network membership through the Small Library in Networks (SLIN) program for 160 libraries.

SLIN grants, though awarded to the network, directly offset the membership cost for eligible member libraries. Each library’s membership offset is calculated from a common base amount ($1,450), a municipal need factor using the library’s federal e-rate discount percentage (20% - 90%), and an additional award if the network membership exceeds 6% of the library’s Total Appropriated Municipal Income (TAMI).

MBLC staff provided each network with an initial list of eligible libraries and offset calculations, which were then confirmed by the networks.

CW MARS’ award includes an additional component for 4 libraries Joining the Network this year: Leyden, Montgomery, Russell, and Sandisfield.

Changes from FY24

The Joining Networks program has shifted from being LSTA funded to being included with the SLIN program from the first year.

The municipal population for baseline program eligibility is checked every year against the latest Department of Revenue socioeconomic data figures (2022). No library’s participation in the program has been affected by a population shift this year.

The Small Libraries in Networks Review Committee Final Recommendations (9/25/2019) had frozen the remaining data inputs for network membership percentages and E-rate discount percentages for three years, FY20-FY22. A new snapshot of data was taken in FY23 -- network membership assessments were checked against the latest TAMI figures available (FY23). Awards for libraries that were no longer above the 6% threshold and for libraries that newly exceeded that threshold were adjusted accordingly. E-rate discount percentages did not change. These remained frozen for FY25.

For situations where the library’s calculated SLIN award would have equaled or even exceeded the library’s membership in CW MARS, thereby requiring no local contribution at all, CW MARS and MBLC have agreed to cap any library’s award at 85% of the actual membership cost, so that the library was responsible for at least 15% of their annual assessment.

Commissioner Traub moved and Commissioner Cherubini seconded to amend the motion previously adopted on October 3, 2024, regarding the Small Libraries in Networks Grant to CW MARS, Worcester, for $295,129, for a grand total of $ 385,678 for FY 2025. Amend to approve the Small Libraries in Networks Grant to CW MARS, Worcester, to $295,879, for a grand total of $406,399 for FY2025.

Small Libraries in Networks Expansion

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| --- | --- | --- |
| Library | Municipality | Award |
| CLAMS | Barnstable | $30,665 |
| CW MARS | Worcester | $295,879 |
| Minuteman Library Network | Natick | $11,615 |
| MVLC | North Andover | $40,295 |
| OCLN | Braintree | $4,250 |
| SAILS | Lakeville | $23,695 |
| Total Recommended: $406,399 | | |

**Report from Massachusetts Library System**

Sarah Sogigian presented the following report.

*Commonwealth eBook Collection (CEC)*

* Total Items in Collection = 295,425 - 80,000 more items added compared to FY23.

-Four months topped over 200,000 circulations!

-350+ magazines added to Sora platform.

* Total Circulation= 2,132,093 - Over 530,000 more circs compared to FY23!
* Total Member Library enrollment= 665 - the largest fee-based service ever offered to MLS members

Interlibrary Loan

* Items Borrowed for MLS member libraries= 11,173 - 73% requests successfully filled
* Items Requested by MLS member libraries = 15,272 - 1,000 fewer compared to FY23
* Items Loaned to other libraries by MLS member libraries = 3,687 - 1,300 more than FY23
* Document Delivery (e-documents) via Boston Public Library's ILLiad = 4,247 - 700 more than FY23
* Borrowed items in over 30 languages, the most popular include: French; Chinese; Russian; German. 90% of items borrowed were in English.
* Borrowed item types included: 83% books; 9% video; 6% sound recordings.

MassCat Library Network

* Total Member Libraries= 37 /Total Patrons= 47,789

-Comparable in size to CLAMS (35) and MVLC (36) networks.

-Of eleven networks, only three are larger: CW MARS (160); SAILS (60); Minuteman (43).

-Seven libraries left the network FY23 due school closures, moving to other vendors / networks, and loss of librarian positions.

* Memberships by type (Academic / Public / School / Special) = 3 / 7 / 20 / 7
* Total Holdings= 445,930 / Total Circulation= 129,924 - slight drops with loss of member libraries
* Total network Holds= 3,102 - slight drop with loss of member libraries

**Report from Library from the Commonwealth**

Sarah Jackson, Metro-Boston Library Network Administrator presented the Board the following report.

Community Learning Department:

Excel Adult High School update:

We have 94 students currently enrolled.

We have had 37 total students graduate.

As a more specific highlight: We had approximately 55 new applicants in the month of October 2024. Of those, 11 have been awarded scholarships and 26 are still in the application process. This is about double the number of applications we saw in each of the previous three months.

Skill Mill:

We’ve had a total of 302 users access SkillMill with a total of 417 courses completed. Recently, the Library has been holding Apprenticeship info sessions – most recently at the Mattapan Branch Library, and 70 individuals came to hear about the Local 12 Plumber’s Union and were given information on how to access SkillMill’s courses relating to training in plumbing.

Poetry Workshop at the Uphams Corner Branch:

Participants had a great time at *Grub @ the BPL: Ekphrastic Poetry Workshop* held at the Uphams Corner Branch on Friday, October 25. The event was hosted by [Grub Street - Center for Creative Writing.](https://grubstreet.org/)

In this generative writing workshop, participants choose an image to have a “conversation” with and are given prompts and questions. After having this dialogue with the art, the participants pick eight of their favorite lines and arrange them into a working draft of an ekphrastic poem.

Other [Grub Street writing programs at the BPL](https://nam11.safelinks.protection.outlook.com/?url=https%3A%2F%2F47h6dyvab.cc.rs6.net%2Ftn.jsp%3Ff%3D0016z6BEXvNz-TlGsrgWYAvubeB7FPOG_wXY1UJsRVbPu5AJfvW30Co2-BjqWJxkOWiAbLxFCVC3elOeELo-Wwbq5LOyKA6JMP0F-13zcMm2u4mOdkc-et1DfiLlvMLmFSwLaYZ7nu-amEGg-a67hkbdQ7NVaVMX9yL6kokwuKlhN7f_RdJv7QeXfLfe2feKKp-%26c%3Dh1sabNBv5jQfGGYpvyjmCeGW0FYU0lCRtQdDY_wkg5-cZcS670bOUA%3D%3D%26ch%3DH5KsWcP9E8tHiBB1j9-QT5CUPYtSo0USBZ7xF27P2NTmNGQbwomT8A%3D%3D&data=05%7C02%7Csjackson%40bpl.org%7C7bcf85ee29b14b8da2fa08dcf9c0fddd%7Cfa735c71d7954c01b0ae09fa7415b2b1%7C0%7C0%7C638659854604403080%7CUnknown%7CTWFpbGZsb3d8eyJWIjoiMC4wLjAwMDAiLCJQIjoiV2luMzIiLCJBTiI6Ik1haWwiLCJXVCI6Mn0%3D%7C0%7C%7C%7C&sdata=KypqZYduTepjcpJJf8s5dYYQPgdoEgBFKmbW7YlHKCA%3D&reserved=0) are also available.

Special Collections Highlights:

In October, Special Collections celebrated the 100th anniversary of Serge Koussevitzky's appointment as the ninth conductor of the Boston Symphony Orchestra. Koussevitzky’s arrival in Boston in 1924 heralded the start of a twenty-five-year tenure that would forever transform both the orchestra he conducted and the state of contemporary classical music in the United States. His personal library is held at the Boston Public Library, including a number of annotated scores. Curator of Music Jared Rex led a number of efforts to commemorate the Koussevitzky centennial, including:

* cataloging and [digitizing over 100 annotated scores and over 200 photographs](https://nam11.safelinks.protection.outlook.com/?url=https%3A%2F%2Fwww.digitalcommonwealth.org%2Fcollections%2Fcommonwealth%3Ahq380t345&data=05%7C02%7Csjackson%40bpl.org%7C39b0dad730ad4cf7d9dd08dcfd176683%7Cfa735c71d7954c01b0ae09fa7415b2b1%7C0%7C0%7C638663524159245447%7CUnknown%7CTWFpbGZsb3d8eyJWIjoiMC4wLjAwMDAiLCJQIjoiV2luMzIiLCJBTiI6Ik1haWwiLCJXVCI6Mn0%3D%7C0%7C%7C%7C&sdata=8F%2BkrVaAllJm9VnWhPVp%2FFRXSVTJJAMZXbFbT0SYQM4%3D&reserved=0) from the Serge Koussevitzky Collection
* curating a[new display in the Special Collections lobby](https://nam11.safelinks.protection.outlook.com/?url=https%3A%2F%2Fwww.bpl.org%2Fcurrent-exhibitions%2F&data=05%7C02%7Csjackson%40bpl.org%7C39b0dad730ad4cf7d9dd08dcfd176683%7Cfa735c71d7954c01b0ae09fa7415b2b1%7C0%7C0%7C638663524159269313%7CUnknown%7CTWFpbGZsb3d8eyJWIjoiMC4wLjAwMDAiLCJQIjoiV2luMzIiLCJBTiI6Ik1haWwiLCJXVCI6Mn0%3D%7C0%7C%7C%7C&sdata=6vzswWbES%2B2JrFrfDXko%2BA23V4dvQrsMT0d4XQEyn7g%3D&reserved=0) on Serge Koussevitzky's time and accomplishments in Boston
* hosting [an open house](https://nam11.safelinks.protection.outlook.com/?url=https%3A%2F%2Fbpl.bibliocommons.com%2Fevents%2F66df3a7e6023b72f00bffd5e&data=05%7C02%7Csjackson%40bpl.org%7C39b0dad730ad4cf7d9dd08dcfd176683%7Cfa735c71d7954c01b0ae09fa7415b2b1%7C0%7C0%7C638663524159291839%7CUnknown%7CTWFpbGZsb3d8eyJWIjoiMC4wLjAwMDAiLCJQIjoiV2luMzIiLCJBTiI6Ik1haWwiLCJXVCI6Mn0%3D%7C0%7C%7C%7C&sdata=43OMuCT3vez8qG6Gr3ZiLdP351Lwf4uZCjSKHUihmAs%3D&reserved=0) with additional items relating to Koussevitzky from collections throughout Special Collections
* giving a talk in Rabb Hall with Boston Symphony Orchestra's Director of Archives, Bridget Carr, on how both institutions' collections document Koussevitzky’s impact on the music world, followed by a short chamber music performance given by BSO musicians.

Jared's talk was the first of three collaborative events with the BSO about Koussevitzky and his legacy. The [third of these will take place on Tuesday, November 19](https://nam11.safelinks.protection.outlook.com/?url=https%3A%2F%2Fbpl.bibliocommons.com%2Fevents%2F66e47b61b3706b995d9673e6&data=05%7C02%7Csjackson%40bpl.org%7C39b0dad730ad4cf7d9dd08dcfd176683%7Cfa735c71d7954c01b0ae09fa7415b2b1%7C0%7C0%7C638663524159311704%7CUnknown%7CTWFpbGZsb3d8eyJWIjoiMC4wLjAwMDAiLCJQIjoiV2luMzIiLCJBTiI6Ik1haWwiLCJXVCI6Mn0%3D%7C0%7C%7C%7C&sdata=P%2BfE5TYq%2BJAyg72aMR69lp09VIHa%2B87Wmp1kjVP4Aew%3D&reserved=0)from 6pm to 7pm at Rabb Hall in the Central Library.

BPL's Digital Commonwealth Repository Shout-Out in *New York Times*:

[Photos](https://nam11.safelinks.protection.outlook.com/?url=https%3A%2F%2F47h6dyvab.cc.rs6.net%2Ftn.jsp%3Ff%3D0013byNOkkGxeOKUxiuKv7P2NtJ14JXelvPeFWpjYg_fFtEmsTL--3aAY-UynbHAOU74TVRbOUUxDrgyEenkHsRxRMfh1KhfKSxFWyfjbGvcLucgQDGGI3P4x5fxxPzRtQu8FoKQt1Oq6V0mULp_8D2RiXA-ntB40d6FMXgs4UTZxBGGv_V69Wr3950FbSKLGETRX5dM3C8YL1FttzD-Dd-OMnS3TlYz0X1%26c%3Dz62mHbNFhtkETqSnor8Ra4roVzS4EJWUlfJL9o_kY9D_LC_E92odYg%3D%3D%26ch%3Du3znxbCsQbRyzAiYswzPnopuE9B-jCP6n4AWiaJuuvuNN3bydCs8EQ%3D%3D&data=05%7C02%7Csjackson%40bpl.org%7Ca91c7dc511e4441ff42b08dceecb1270%7Cfa735c71d7954c01b0ae09fa7415b2b1%7C0%7C0%7C638647803233517077%7CUnknown%7CTWFpbGZsb3d8eyJWIjoiMC4wLjAwMDAiLCJQIjoiV2luMzIiLCJBTiI6Ik1haWwiLCJXVCI6Mn0%3D%7C0%7C%7C%7C&sdata=KDkuSJ3mzl4s46DFYbNgmhVDBq%2BZ6XRiTBWPEpPuv6Y%3D&reserved=0) drawn from an unlikely place - the U.S. Army's Natick Soldier Systems Center - and hosted on Digital Commonwealth were published in a new book by Matthieu Nicol, *Fashion Army*, which documents recently declassified military attire designed and tested just a few miles outside of Boston. You'll be surprised how in vogue these soldiers' clothes are! The BPL's Digital Commonwealth repository got a shout-out in the October 14 *New York Times* article [Formerly Classified Documents Get the Fine Art Treatment](https://nam11.safelinks.protection.outlook.com/?url=https%3A%2F%2F47h6dyvab.cc.rs6.net%2Ftn.jsp%3Ff%3D0013byNOkkGxeOKUxiuKv7P2NtJ14JXelvPeFWpjYg_fFtEmsTL--3aAY-UynbHAOU7YE6yfcIieFdtU5JRQv9K_VpGbtIsro63I9kuqOuAAlVhsVk4leeuEVVbC0w-5lsJPM7uIvJj39SPTbOG5yB14s3bVBA1PUjsT_dr3WkwHMj2XLRG_NX76RlbDQt7oNCzvV_1atJhG5DUdyfc93pKET38kkVM24NpVkDIIv5Gpmvf4ITsfJPEfA%3D%3D%26c%3Dz62mHbNFhtkETqSnor8Ra4roVzS4EJWUlfJL9o_kY9D_LC_E92odYg%3D%3D%26ch%3Du3znxbCsQbRyzAiYswzPnopuE9B-jCP6n4AWiaJuuvuNN3bydCs8EQ%3D%3D&data=05%7C02%7Csjackson%40bpl.org%7Ca91c7dc511e4441ff42b08dceecb1270%7Cfa735c71d7954c01b0ae09fa7415b2b1%7C0%7C0%7C638647803233533065%7CUnknown%7CTWFpbGZsb3d8eyJWIjoiMC4wLjAwMDAiLCJQIjoiV2luMzIiLCJBTiI6Ik1haWwiLCJXVCI6Mn0%3D%7C0%7C%7C%7C&sdata=uvkxAhSvs3Gsr3sT2zOXRtd2YR5rhRgeMTyW5poVoOU%3D&reserved=0), which highlights this book. The BPL's Digital Commonwealth repository digitized all of the images that are referred to in this article as well as those used in the book.

Digital Commonwealth Update:

Hosted collections added:

* Boston Public Library - [Berkshire Agriculturist, and Weekly Family Gazette](https://nam11.safelinks.protection.outlook.com/?url=https%3A%2F%2Fwww.digitalcommonwealth.org%2Fcollections%2Fcommonwealth%3Apc28h652b&data=05%7C02%7Csjackson%40bpl.org%7C259f63e8c8174999033508dcfa8e6e40%7Cfa735c71d7954c01b0ae09fa7415b2b1%7C0%7C0%7C638660736911214461%7CUnknown%7CTWFpbGZsb3d8eyJWIjoiMC4wLjAwMDAiLCJQIjoiV2luMzIiLCJBTiI6Ik1haWwiLCJXVCI6Mn0%3D%7C0%7C%7C%7C&sdata=WgftQY0zm9Zr5lhc1snf3M7kxYnegJf1bmDbd%2Bf1G5A%3D&reserved=0) (104 items; issues of the weekly Pittsfield newspaper from 1848-1849)
* Boston Public Library - [Cape Ann Breeze](https://nam11.safelinks.protection.outlook.com/?url=https%3A%2F%2Fwww.digitalcommonwealth.org%2Fcollections%2Fcommonwealth%3A7w62mz30j&data=05%7C02%7Csjackson%40bpl.org%7C259f63e8c8174999033508dcfa8e6e40%7Cfa735c71d7954c01b0ae09fa7415b2b1%7C0%7C0%7C638660736911241108%7CUnknown%7CTWFpbGZsb3d8eyJWIjoiMC4wLjAwMDAiLCJQIjoiV2luMzIiLCJBTiI6Ik1haWwiLCJXVCI6Mn0%3D%7C0%7C%7C%7C&sdata=HgcSd6Pn5FK7DGVjSPga%2BqnavnkfwkwId3uKjiW51Uw%3D&reserved=0) (1,147 items; issues of the daily Gloucester newspaper from 1887-1901)
* Boston Public Library - [Cape Ann Evening Breeze](https://nam11.safelinks.protection.outlook.com/?url=https%3A%2F%2Fwww.digitalcommonwealth.org%2Fcollections%2Fcommonwealth%3Ac534nd09t&data=05%7C02%7Csjackson%40bpl.org%7C259f63e8c8174999033508dcfa8e6e40%7Cfa735c71d7954c01b0ae09fa7415b2b1%7C0%7C0%7C638660736911262363%7CUnknown%7CTWFpbGZsb3d8eyJWIjoiMC4wLjAwMDAiLCJQIjoiV2luMzIiLCJBTiI6Ik1haWwiLCJXVCI6Mn0%3D%7C0%7C%7C%7C&sdata=nbuyHjuy5vgppJ%2Fng%2FzVgCh5cI5QQznoTjUy2eGS%2FYo%3D&reserved=0) (139 items; issues of the daily Gloucester newspaper from 1884-1887)
* Boston Public Library - [The Cape Cod Bee](https://nam11.safelinks.protection.outlook.com/?url=https%3A%2F%2Fwww.digitalcommonwealth.org%2Fcollections%2Fcommonwealth%3A5138r256q&data=05%7C02%7Csjackson%40bpl.org%7C259f63e8c8174999033508dcfa8e6e40%7Cfa735c71d7954c01b0ae09fa7415b2b1%7C0%7C0%7C638660736911282188%7CUnknown%7CTWFpbGZsb3d8eyJWIjoiMC4wLjAwMDAiLCJQIjoiV2luMzIiLCJBTiI6Ik1haWwiLCJXVCI6Mn0%3D%7C0%7C%7C%7C&sdata=1HZmNiiyJ9vweyUglOBpzOhY6I5HBgwioIYK5cqcg9U%3D&reserved=0) (604 items; issues of the weekly Barnstable newspaper from 1884-1897)
* Boston Public Library - [The Cape Cod Item and Bee](https://nam11.safelinks.protection.outlook.com/?url=https%3A%2F%2Fwww.digitalcommonwealth.org%2Fcollections%2Fcommonwealth%3Aw950bp02f&data=05%7C02%7Csjackson%40bpl.org%7C259f63e8c8174999033508dcfa8e6e40%7Cfa735c71d7954c01b0ae09fa7415b2b1%7C0%7C0%7C638660736911301539%7CUnknown%7CTWFpbGZsb3d8eyJWIjoiMC4wLjAwMDAiLCJQIjoiV2luMzIiLCJBTiI6Ik1haWwiLCJXVCI6Mn0%3D%7C0%7C%7C%7C&sdata=OZyVJ8wnDcojNg7dciKWmtLu%2FIxOqqlN2%2B30%2B0XjGzs%3D&reserved=0) (74 items; issues of the weekly Barnstable newspaper from 1897-1898)
* Boston Public Library - [Clinton Daily Item](https://nam11.safelinks.protection.outlook.com/?url=https%3A%2F%2Fwww.digitalcommonwealth.org%2Fcollections%2Fcommonwealth%3Ajm21bd39j&data=05%7C02%7Csjackson%40bpl.org%7C259f63e8c8174999033508dcfa8e6e40%7Cfa735c71d7954c01b0ae09fa7415b2b1%7C0%7C0%7C638660736911320862%7CUnknown%7CTWFpbGZsb3d8eyJWIjoiMC4wLjAwMDAiLCJQIjoiV2luMzIiLCJBTiI6Ik1haWwiLCJXVCI6Mn0%3D%7C0%7C%7C%7C&sdata=KqWsSquOVhm3kM9C8VVGZVHkhQ3DANZkFR3w7wIvzTU%3D&reserved=0) (2,422 items; issues of the daily newspaper from 1893-1901)
* Boston Public Library - [Culturist and Gazette](https://nam11.safelinks.protection.outlook.com/?url=https%3A%2F%2Fwww.digitalcommonwealth.org%2Fcollections%2Fcommonwealth%3A1j92nw841&data=05%7C02%7Csjackson%40bpl.org%7C259f63e8c8174999033508dcfa8e6e40%7Cfa735c71d7954c01b0ae09fa7415b2b1%7C0%7C0%7C638660736911340266%7CUnknown%7CTWFpbGZsb3d8eyJWIjoiMC4wLjAwMDAiLCJQIjoiV2luMzIiLCJBTiI6Ik1haWwiLCJXVCI6Mn0%3D%7C0%7C%7C%7C&sdata=FDUL%2F43LI4y3h4%2BN2hgxwqOs5EO3SNyiSSApFx0UmXM%3D&reserved=0) (1,243 items; issues of the weekly Pittsfield newspaper from 1850-1857)
* Boston Public Library - [Essex Register](https://nam11.safelinks.protection.outlook.com/?url=https%3A%2F%2Fwww.digitalcommonwealth.org%2Fcollections%2Fcommonwealth%3A8w32xk55d&data=05%7C02%7Csjackson%40bpl.org%7C259f63e8c8174999033508dcfa8e6e40%7Cfa735c71d7954c01b0ae09fa7415b2b1%7C0%7C0%7C638660736911360101%7CUnknown%7CTWFpbGZsb3d8eyJWIjoiMC4wLjAwMDAiLCJQIjoiV2luMzIiLCJBTiI6Ik1haWwiLCJXVCI6Mn0%3D%7C0%7C%7C%7C&sdata=IrHPR5TJWMCuJ1gt5u6rRtXHsplV18USQouMvt0OM0Y%3D&reserved=0) (1,152 items; issues of the weekly Salem newspaper from 1807-1826 and 1838-1840)
* Boston Public Library - [Evening Standard](https://nam11.safelinks.protection.outlook.com/?url=https%3A%2F%2Fwww.digitalcommonwealth.org%2Fcollections%2Fcommonwealth%3A2r370r04h&data=05%7C02%7Csjackson%40bpl.org%7C259f63e8c8174999033508dcfa8e6e40%7Cfa735c71d7954c01b0ae09fa7415b2b1%7C0%7C0%7C638660736911380186%7CUnknown%7CTWFpbGZsb3d8eyJWIjoiMC4wLjAwMDAiLCJQIjoiV2luMzIiLCJBTiI6Ik1haWwiLCJXVCI6Mn0%3D%7C0%7C%7C%7C&sdata=dQsUVVCXutjR6vNOFGifL84CvWv9nKtY5NTFEwTG%2F2Y%3D&reserved=0) (229 items; issues of the daily New Bedford newspaper from 1901-1902)
* Boston Public Library - [The Impartial Register](https://nam11.safelinks.protection.outlook.com/?url=https%3A%2F%2Fwww.digitalcommonwealth.org%2Fcollections%2Fcommonwealth%3A5d86vm66s&data=05%7C02%7Csjackson%40bpl.org%7C259f63e8c8174999033508dcfa8e6e40%7Cfa735c71d7954c01b0ae09fa7415b2b1%7C0%7C0%7C638660736911399651%7CUnknown%7CTWFpbGZsb3d8eyJWIjoiMC4wLjAwMDAiLCJQIjoiV2luMzIiLCJBTiI6Ik1haWwiLCJXVCI6Mn0%3D%7C0%7C%7C%7C&sdata=TpoBrl2WgqRxHGXz3nWBY%2FZtekDSMC%2F%2BqFgbizo1YZc%3D&reserved=0) (23 items; issues of the weekly newspaper from 1800)
* Boston Public Library - [North End Slides](https://nam11.safelinks.protection.outlook.com/?url=https%3A%2F%2Fwww.digitalcommonwealth.org%2Fcollections%2Fcommonwealth%3Amk61z562d&data=05%7C02%7Csjackson%40bpl.org%7C259f63e8c8174999033508dcfa8e6e40%7Cfa735c71d7954c01b0ae09fa7415b2b1%7C0%7C0%7C638660736911421991%7CUnknown%7CTWFpbGZsb3d8eyJWIjoiMC4wLjAwMDAiLCJQIjoiV2luMzIiLCJBTiI6Ik1haWwiLCJXVCI6Mn0%3D%7C0%7C%7C%7C&sdata=DsVZap57QShmEJjH7ARQ%2B9kyBz2y2MYOKfY%2FMNJT%2B2s%3D&reserved=0) (729 items; 35mm slides focused on people and places in Boston's North End neighborhood taken circa 1950-1975)
* Boston Public Library - [Old Colony Memorial](https://nam11.safelinks.protection.outlook.com/?url=https%3A%2F%2Fwww.digitalcommonwealth.org%2Fcollections%2Fcommonwealth%3Arf564z80d&data=05%7C02%7Csjackson%40bpl.org%7C259f63e8c8174999033508dcfa8e6e40%7Cfa735c71d7954c01b0ae09fa7415b2b1%7C0%7C0%7C638660736911441956%7CUnknown%7CTWFpbGZsb3d8eyJWIjoiMC4wLjAwMDAiLCJQIjoiV2luMzIiLCJBTiI6Ik1haWwiLCJXVCI6Mn0%3D%7C0%7C%7C%7C&sdata=Oozj3xXFbf205HqKzRqluZCyHHHtcQUtCo2Dla1JlkY%3D&reserved=0) (52 items; issues of the weekly Plymouth newspaper from 1832-1835)
* Boston Public Library - [The Pine and Palm](https://nam11.safelinks.protection.outlook.com/?url=https%3A%2F%2Fwww.digitalcommonwealth.org%2Fcollections%2Fcommonwealth%3A5712sv871&data=05%7C02%7Csjackson%40bpl.org%7C259f63e8c8174999033508dcfa8e6e40%7Cfa735c71d7954c01b0ae09fa7415b2b1%7C0%7C0%7C638660736911461438%7CUnknown%7CTWFpbGZsb3d8eyJWIjoiMC4wLjAwMDAiLCJQIjoiV2luMzIiLCJBTiI6Ik1haWwiLCJXVCI6Mn0%3D%7C0%7C%7C%7C&sdata=WqrxbivxHsnBwSmSfNnSt4N0IEsX%2Fen7A4JOa95Dd38%3D&reserved=0) (52 items; issues of the weekly abolitionist newspaper from 1861-1862)
* Boston Public Library - [The Salem Gazette](https://nam11.safelinks.protection.outlook.com/?url=https%3A%2F%2Fwww.digitalcommonwealth.org%2Fcollections%2Fcommonwealth%3A5x220z24w&data=05%7C02%7Csjackson%40bpl.org%7C259f63e8c8174999033508dcfa8e6e40%7Cfa735c71d7954c01b0ae09fa7415b2b1%7C0%7C0%7C638660736911480818%7CUnknown%7CTWFpbGZsb3d8eyJWIjoiMC4wLjAwMDAiLCJQIjoiV2luMzIiLCJBTiI6Ik1haWwiLCJXVCI6Mn0%3D%7C0%7C%7C%7C&sdata=AyheM6TuqDxBcR2bIIz76Kjs%2BCRfxwvn4mWOUFLdcgo%3D&reserved=0) (1,251 items; issues of the weekly newspaper from 1826-1837)
* Boston Public Library - [The Salem Impartial Register](https://nam11.safelinks.protection.outlook.com/?url=https%3A%2F%2Fwww.digitalcommonwealth.org%2Fcollections%2Fcommonwealth%3Avh543h54w&data=05%7C02%7Csjackson%40bpl.org%7C259f63e8c8174999033508dcfa8e6e40%7Cfa735c71d7954c01b0ae09fa7415b2b1%7C0%7C0%7C638660736911499942%7CUnknown%7CTWFpbGZsb3d8eyJWIjoiMC4wLjAwMDAiLCJQIjoiV2luMzIiLCJBTiI6Ik1haWwiLCJXVCI6Mn0%3D%7C0%7C%7C%7C&sdata=HwcMpPbKsQb9t%2F3yJ3kQFKi3uEYc7xFd9TS4yrakAPA%3D&reserved=0)(149 items; issues of the weekly newspaper from 1800-1801)
* Boston Public Library - T[he Salem Mercury](https://nam11.safelinks.protection.outlook.com/?url=https%3A%2F%2Fwww.digitalcommonwealth.org%2Fcollections%2Fcommonwealth%3Amk61z623x&data=05%7C02%7Csjackson%40bpl.org%7C259f63e8c8174999033508dcfa8e6e40%7Cfa735c71d7954c01b0ae09fa7415b2b1%7C0%7C0%7C638660736911538143%7CUnknown%7CTWFpbGZsb3d8eyJWIjoiMC4wLjAwMDAiLCJQIjoiV2luMzIiLCJBTiI6Ik1haWwiLCJXVCI6Mn0%3D%7C0%7C%7C%7C&sdata=xSntxJuYtus5BB3w7tRZbq3vOKRTrMkKVkW5TMEA564%3D&reserved=0) (90 items; issues of the weekly newspaper from 1788-1789)
* Boston Public Library - [The Salem Mercury: Political, Commercial, and Moral](https://nam11.safelinks.protection.outlook.com/?url=https%3A%2F%2Fwww.digitalcommonwealth.org%2Fcollections%2Fcommonwealth%3Awm11f836n&data=05%7C02%7Csjackson%40bpl.org%7C259f63e8c8174999033508dcfa8e6e40%7Cfa735c71d7954c01b0ae09fa7415b2b1%7C0%7C0%7C638660736911557241%7CUnknown%7CTWFpbGZsb3d8eyJWIjoiMC4wLjAwMDAiLCJQIjoiV2luMzIiLCJBTiI6Ik1haWwiLCJXVCI6Mn0%3D%7C0%7C%7C%7C&sdata=ymvfnfml4UBohwdyxl2D%2BJkoDQu5S592TIV1sUAKSaI%3D&reserved=0) (78 items; issues of the weekly newspaper from 1786-1788)
* Boston Public Library - [The Salem Register](https://nam11.safelinks.protection.outlook.com/?url=https%3A%2F%2Fwww.digitalcommonwealth.org%2Fcollections%2Fcommonwealth%3Axp68s232p&data=05%7C02%7Csjackson%40bpl.org%7C259f63e8c8174999033508dcfa8e6e40%7Cfa735c71d7954c01b0ae09fa7415b2b1%7C0%7C0%7C638660736911579138%7CUnknown%7CTWFpbGZsb3d8eyJWIjoiMC4wLjAwMDAiLCJQIjoiV2luMzIiLCJBTiI6Ik1haWwiLCJXVCI6Mn0%3D%7C0%7C%7C%7C&sdata=sHoUClwF8z89BCAw%2FOf43NJF3ukmcnna%2F%2Ftg0aZJLO4%3D&reserved=0) (1,717 items; issues of the weekly newspaper from 1802-1807 and 1842-1882)
* Boston Public Library - [Salem Register](https://nam11.safelinks.protection.outlook.com/?url=https%3A%2F%2Fwww.digitalcommonwealth.org%2Fcollections%2Fcommonwealth%3A2v242664p&data=05%7C02%7Csjackson%40bpl.org%7C259f63e8c8174999033508dcfa8e6e40%7Cfa735c71d7954c01b0ae09fa7415b2b1%7C0%7C0%7C638660736911599805%7CUnknown%7CTWFpbGZsb3d8eyJWIjoiMC4wLjAwMDAiLCJQIjoiV2luMzIiLCJBTiI6Ik1haWwiLCJXVCI6Mn0%3D%7C0%7C%7C%7C&sdata=fIwij1FcxhnBkSKf%2BIsgCX2eN%2B%2F62MAOQXWWI%2F50w3A%3D&reserved=0) (1,376 items; issues of the weekly newspaper from 1841-1903)
* Boston Public Library - [Salem Register and Essex County Mercury](https://nam11.safelinks.protection.outlook.com/?url=https%3A%2F%2Fwww.digitalcommonwealth.org%2Fcollections%2Fcommonwealth%3Avq2858446&data=05%7C02%7Csjackson%40bpl.org%7C259f63e8c8174999033508dcfa8e6e40%7Cfa735c71d7954c01b0ae09fa7415b2b1%7C0%7C0%7C638660736911620016%7CUnknown%7CTWFpbGZsb3d8eyJWIjoiMC4wLjAwMDAiLCJQIjoiV2luMzIiLCJBTiI6Ik1haWwiLCJXVCI6Mn0%3D%7C0%7C%7C%7C&sdata=%2BD9EJxXJj9c2Oz2Jb40y4pbATxTcP0ABDd5KosUAZMU%3D&reserved=0) (48 items; issues of the weekly newspaper from 1903)
* Boston Public Library - [Serge Koussevitzky Collection](https://nam11.safelinks.protection.outlook.com/?url=https%3A%2F%2Fwww.digitalcommonwealth.org%2Fcollections%2Fcommonwealth%3Ahq380t345&data=05%7C02%7Csjackson%40bpl.org%7C259f63e8c8174999033508dcfa8e6e40%7Cfa735c71d7954c01b0ae09fa7415b2b1%7C0%7C0%7C638660736911639401%7CUnknown%7CTWFpbGZsb3d8eyJWIjoiMC4wLjAwMDAiLCJQIjoiV2luMzIiLCJBTiI6Ik1haWwiLCJXVCI6Mn0%3D%7C0%7C%7C%7C&sdata=FuRGuvUljEC81tSQlloWtkuA2bzge2vkS1bcJFW9eQw%3D&reserved=0) (6 items; scores annotated by the celebrated former conductor of the Boston Symphony Orchestra)
* Boston Public Library - [We, the People and Old Colony Press](https://nam11.safelinks.protection.outlook.com/?url=https%3A%2F%2Fwww.digitalcommonwealth.org%2Fcollections%2Fcommonwealth%3A1j92nv675&data=05%7C02%7Csjackson%40bpl.org%7C259f63e8c8174999033508dcfa8e6e40%7Cfa735c71d7954c01b0ae09fa7415b2b1%7C0%7C0%7C638660736911658852%7CUnknown%7CTWFpbGZsb3d8eyJWIjoiMC4wLjAwMDAiLCJQIjoiV2luMzIiLCJBTiI6Ik1haWwiLCJXVCI6Mn0%3D%7C0%7C%7C%7C&sdata=JnbwzJqQCBH1VVZUPyKZ4cMI%2Fy8qJkw4t3kuvK%2BhasA%3D&reserved=0) (157 items; issues of the weekly Plymouth newspaper from 1832-1835)
* Chelsea Historical Commission - [Arnold Jarmak Collection](https://nam11.safelinks.protection.outlook.com/?url=https%3A%2F%2Fwww.digitalcommonwealth.org%2Fcollections%2Fcommonwealth%3Agb19k018w&data=05%7C02%7Csjackson%40bpl.org%7C259f63e8c8174999033508dcfa8e6e40%7Cfa735c71d7954c01b0ae09fa7415b2b1%7C0%7C0%7C638660736911678753%7CUnknown%7CTWFpbGZsb3d8eyJWIjoiMC4wLjAwMDAiLCJQIjoiV2luMzIiLCJBTiI6Ik1haWwiLCJXVCI6Mn0%3D%7C0%7C%7C%7C&sdata=XUW5AfxIb98B0S2KH90YpOO7AvcYohJowMaqt%2BrXbY4%3D&reserved=0) (395 items; photographs of Chelsea and surrounding cities from 1974-1990)
* 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%7C259f63e8c8174999033508dcfa8e6e40%7Cfa735c71d7954c01b0ae09fa7415b2b1%7C0%7C0%7C638660736911697990%7CUnknown%7CTWFpbGZsb3d8eyJWIjoiMC4wLjAwMDAiLCJQIjoiV2luMzIiLCJBTiI6Ik1haWwiLCJXVCI6Mn0%3D%7C0%7C%7C%7C&sdata=Y6HYqtOXQJQXwqaOgO0znsuKnk4fswWPHszWfIRnxak%3D&reserved=0)(276 items; photographs documenting the everyday lives of Black and Brown children and families in Cambridge, MA from 1970-2003)
* Hadley Public Library - [Margaret Noble Freeman Historical Collection](https://nam11.safelinks.protection.outlook.com/?url=https%3A%2F%2Fwww.digitalcommonwealth.org%2Fcollections%2Fcommonwealth%3Anz80cj068&data=05%7C02%7Csjackson%40bpl.org%7C259f63e8c8174999033508dcfa8e6e40%7Cfa735c71d7954c01b0ae09fa7415b2b1%7C0%7C0%7C638660736911740204%7CUnknown%7CTWFpbGZsb3d8eyJWIjoiMC4wLjAwMDAiLCJQIjoiV2luMzIiLCJBTiI6Ik1haWwiLCJXVCI6Mn0%3D%7C0%7C%7C%7C&sdata=Zrwmes3jl1Ohx%2BxsrspaWo5ewnfRHA8Fw09ZexE3jUk%3D&reserved=0) (40 items; photographs, manuscripts, and ephemera documenting the history of Hadley, Massachusetts)
* Lawrence History Center - [Urban Renewal and Redevelopment Collection, 1949-1977](https://nam11.safelinks.protection.outlook.com/?url=https%3A%2F%2Fwww.digitalcommonwealth.org%2Fcollections%2Fcommonwealth%3Awm11f7045&data=05%7C02%7Csjackson%40bpl.org%7C259f63e8c8174999033508dcfa8e6e40%7Cfa735c71d7954c01b0ae09fa7415b2b1%7C0%7C0%7C638660736911759602%7CUnknown%7CTWFpbGZsb3d8eyJWIjoiMC4wLjAwMDAiLCJQIjoiV2luMzIiLCJBTiI6Ik1haWwiLCJXVCI6Mn0%3D%7C0%7C%7C%7C&sdata=5W%2FKddXBOKyHAxPOGzfAWYt2F8QnDxyeaKtdUkj8Gu8%3D&reserved=0) (5 items; maps related to the Common-Valley-Concord urban renewal project)
* Mashpee Public Library - [The Mashpee Enterprise](https://nam11.safelinks.protection.outlook.com/?url=https%3A%2F%2Fwww.digitalcommonwealth.org%2Fcollections%2Fcommonwealth%3Afj23c870d&data=05%7C02%7Csjackson%40bpl.org%7C259f63e8c8174999033508dcfa8e6e40%7Cfa735c71d7954c01b0ae09fa7415b2b1%7C0%7C0%7C638660736911778745%7CUnknown%7CTWFpbGZsb3d8eyJWIjoiMC4wLjAwMDAiLCJQIjoiV2luMzIiLCJBTiI6Ik1haWwiLCJXVCI6Mn0%3D%7C0%7C%7C%7C&sdata=W5oMTMV4JHReeMCu9%2FT77XUS76X0o4Gb7prSi6uofVM%3D&reserved=0) (1,259 items; issues of the semiweekly Falmouth newspaper from 1992-2008)

Harvested collections added:

No harvests in September

Stats:

Item views: 156,227

Total item-level records: 1,311,717

Total hosted items: 628,617

NEW BUSINESS

There was no new business.

OLD BUSINESS

There was no old business.

ADJOURNMENT

The meeting adjourned at 12:46 PM



Karen Traub

Secretary