

Maryland Library Association

Steering Committee Meeting

Wednesday, April 15, 2026

1:00pm – 3:00pm

Zoom

Call to Order: 1:03 PM

Changes to the Agenda: We will add a discussion of the June Steering Committee Meeting to the end of the business agenda.

Minutes for February Approved via Email: They were approved and posted on the website.

Treasurer's Report: There were membership dues of \$35,123.26 in March. There were programs for an income of \$1,825 in March. We made a profit for March. There were ALA Councilor expenses in March. We spent \$72.69 for conference supplies. We paid \$3,894.99 in bank and credit card fees. There was \$191.04 in office expenses. We paid for personnel expenses. There was a positive net income in March. Our total bank account is an increase of 10.83% from last year. Our investments are up 4.14% from last year. There was a motion to approve pending audit from Conni. It was seconded by Joe.

Business Agenda

AI Policy: David is still working on the draft AI policy. He will have it done by May board meeting. It will be sent out to the steering committee in advance.

Special Election Update: There is an LDD VP Vacancy. On election ballot we allowed for write-in candidates. We had 4 names written in. They tied at 1 vote a piece. We do not have a written procedures on how to handle write-in candidates. We reached out to the people who did have their names written in to see if they were interested in running in a special election. There will be two candidates will be running. It will be open for two weeks and the winner can be announced at Conference. We will work on having it go live on Monday, April 20th and close on May 1st. The Committee agreed to tighten up bylaws around elections, especially about the future of write-in ballots, potential bad-faith candidates, and proxy voting.

Budget Discussion: Credit card fees keep going up. We should encourage ACH payments and charge more for paying monthly. Josh is suggesting a COLA for personnel. There is more money proposed for business travel as well as future fundraising events. The scale

for professional development offered by MLA will be looked at. Josh is looking into Amazon Business and other non-dues revenue generating avenues. The budget will be available to vote on post-conference.

Card Reward Points Proposal: MLA has not use credit card points in many years. Josh submitted a proposal on how to use those points this year. Conni motioned to accept the proposal. Laura seconded.

Amazon Business Prime Partnership: Josh presented a partnership that can be had with Amazon Business. The whole board should vote on it and this will happen in the future.

President's Report: David participated in panel about MLA for academic libraries in USMAI. The most frequent question was “what does MLA do for academic libraries?” David shared some things that MLA is doing with them. He talked about membership on three different labels: engaged, activated, and invested. He is looking forward to volunteering at Maryland Day.

President Elect's Report: Conni has two meetings coming up with members who replied to her call for interest. They are both interested in the Crab Editor position. She also just received another email from someone who expressed interest in how to get involved in MLA. Conni will send an email out to schedule Leadership Day.

Past President's Report: William and Teonja will be conducting the Affinity Group Facilitator Training on April 30th at 9:00 AM. There will be one attendee who will receive CEUs. Teonja is also working on the MLA involvement poster board for the MLA/DLA Conference.

Executive Director's Report: Josh is working on the MLA/DLA Conference and budgets. He took a meeting with Amazon, is going to MAPLA, and going to CML on April 18th. Josh explained that our one click politics subscription is ending and that it's uncertain if we will renew with ALA's new company for activism. We could piecemeal things together using GrowthZone if there is a need for this type of work in the future. The MD General Assembly site is user friendly and updated regularly. It has its own bill track.

ALA Councilor's Report: ALA had a meeting in March called the Council 4 meeting. There is a write-up in the Crab. Joe worked on getting individuals to send Dear Appropriator letters for LSTA and IAL. Maryland Day is coming up. William Wallace was voted to the ALA Council as a member at large.

Conference Director's Report: Josh reported for Paula. The group had its last meeting this morning (April 15th). They invited volunteers to go over what is expected. The conference

recruited some last-minute sponsors. The keynotes are ready to go. The food order is going in next week.

Adjournment: 2:59 PM.