

Maryland Library Association

Agenda

Executive Board/Advisory Council Meeting

Wednesday, July 16, 2025

1:00 PM – 3:00 PM

Virtual

Call to Order and Welcome: 1:03 PM

Changes to the Agenda: If we make it into reports before 2:00 PM, the Past President's Report will be moved to the top of the list.

May Minutes Approved via Email Vote: Approved and posted.

Treasurer's Report: There is \$124,629 in checking account. \$475,310 was the total income for the last fiscal year, which was 98.47% of the targeted income. Our total expenses for the last fiscal year were \$468,908. Teonja motioned to approve the report, pending audit. William seconded the motion. The motion carried.

Business Agenda

Sustainable Libraries Initiative: SLI presented information about their organization. There was a motion to vote on adoption of MOU. Conni seconded. The motion carried.

Unit Work Plans Reminder: The form to submit workplans was shared by Josh. The link will also be sent out via email and plans are due October 1st.

ACRL-MD: This is the second year in a row ACRL-MD has had a vacant president position. There have not been any standalone programs sponsored by the division in the last year either. David recommends we place the division on probation. There was a motion to place ACRL-MD on probation by Laura. William seconded. The motion carried.

Appointment Approvals: Leah Sims was appointed as the new archivist. Laura motioned to approve the appointment. William seconded. The motion carried.

President's Report: David attended ALA Annual. There is a committee putting together a statement framework. Mary Anne Bowman leads that effort. There will be a tentative framework draft to review and provide feedback on at the September Board meeting. David is also looking into a way to continue MLA Chats.

Vice President/President Elect's Report: Conni attended the Chapter Leaders Forum at ALA. She learned about legislation that is affecting libraries across the country. Conni is planning to attend as many unit meetings as possible this year.

Past President's Report: Teonja gave Josh his Annual Performance Review. She will be speaking on a panel for LDD about Leadership. Teonja is attending her first official Marketing Committee Meeting tomorrow and is also attending the EDI Panel Meetings.

Executive Director's Report: MLA had a booth at ALA. Josh spoke at chapter leader forum. He also spoke with students in middle/high school on 3rd spaces in the US. Josh was asked to speak with the summer graduating class at Florida State University iSchool. He also attended an International Council of Library Association Executives meeting. The MLA office telephones have moved over to Zoom phones. Josh is going to MAPLA on July 17th.

ALA Councilor Report: Joe's report will be in the summer issue of the Crab. There were 3 meetings of ALA council at the most recent ALA Annual Conference in Philadelphia. If there are any questions, reach out to Joe.

Legislative Update: We're still in the quiet time. There was a meeting in July to get started for the year.

Conference Director's Report: The conference committee had its first meeting of the year on July 16, 2025. They reviewed the timeline and documentation. The next meeting is on August 20th. The conference is back at the Hyatt for two years. They are scheduling a site visit in February. The theme will be narrowed down by next month.

Unit Leader Reports

OSIG: It has been a very quiet couple of months. The group is still posting on Facebook and LinkedIn to good success. The next partnership meeting with MSLA Outreach and Marketing group is on August 21st at 2:00 PM. Sabine will not be able to attend the next board meeting.

MIG: MIG has begun to hold meetings on MLA Connect. The first meeting of the fiscal year was in July. Laura is working on a virtual program with a presenter from the IUG conference.

LAIG: LAIG is hosting a one-day conference next week on Thursday, July 24: Maryland Library Advocates Unite: A Library Advocacy Conference. The LAIG Chair, Tif Sutherland, moved LAIG's monthly meetings to Thursday mornings. This shift happened once last fiscal year and received positive feedback, with attendees noting that Thursday mornings worked better than Fridays for their schedules. On June 24, Tif was on a panel for training for

Baltimore County Public Library's leadership team. The panel discussion focused on various aspects of advocating for library support. During the session, Tif highlighted how the Maryland Library Association can provide professional support to library staff and help them become effective advocates for library support in different capacities.

ASRD: Quarterly meetings have been set up for the months of September, December, March, and June. The meetings in September, December, and March will be hybrid. The meeting in June will be virtual. Anyone wanting to join virtually will be able to do so via MLA Connect. Planning is underway for 2 division-sponsored programs. One is set for March 2026. The other is still in the early planning stages.

IFP: It's been quiet. The next meeting is August 6th.

EDI Panel: They have been working with MSLA on a libguide. They continue to work with Teonja on affinity networks.

PDP: Some programs have started rolling in for this year. The Library Advocacy Conference is upcoming. mla.prodev@gmail.com is the email for questions regarding professional development programs.

ACRL: They are holding the first meeting of the year next week. They will talk about the status of the group.

SSD: They completed updating officer job descriptions. They had their last meeting at the Abingdon library. There was a standalone program at the Arbutus branch on June 17th that had 15 attendees.

LDD: The first LDD meeting of the new year was last week. They have asked different staff from across the state to come and talk about their paths into leadership throughout the year.

YSD: The Blue Crab Award Committee for FY26 has been formed, and monthly meetings are underway. The new co-chairs are Rhiannon George, Baltimore County Public Library and Kristen Kwisnek, Enoch Pratt Free Library. They are publishing a newsletter 4x/year. Submissions to and readership of the newsletter have greatly increased! YSD recruited an Assistant Editor, Anne Finn from Carroll County Public Library, to assist Mina Pincus with putting together the newsletter. They tweaked our publication schedule to coordinate with the Crab so that more of our content can be shared. BEST (Black Eyed Susan Tapestry)-Co-Chairs Joe Farmarco and Noel Knepper are planning for Fall BEST in October. Soon, a planning committee for the Kids Are Customers Too conference will be formed, which is usually held in late March/early April. More info to come.

RAIG: The first meeting of the year was last Friday. There was a good showing, and a new person was present. They discussed book buzz again for the conference. There will be a social event that is off site in Baltimore coming up. RAIG is going to take a standalone program and do it at the conference (Queernorm). There will be another standalone event in the spring.

FOLIG: They met in July. They are working on how they will structure this year, balancing structure with free flow. They are planning a standalone program for October.

LGBT+: They had a meetup last month. The Orioles Pride night social event went well. They are working on goal setting for the year.

TIG: They are working on seeing what people want to see from the group.

SIG: They have an upcoming meeting in August. They are working on a work plan. They are also looking at the SLI MOU and how it dovetails with the work already being done/what it can help with.

Crab: They are getting everything ready to send to Bucky on Monday. The Crab editor position is still open.

Adjourn: 2:58 PM