

Maryland Library Association

Steering Committee Meeting

Wednesday, February 18, 2026

1:00pm-3:00pm

Hybrid: Hyatt Regency-Cambridge/Zoom

Call to Order: 1:03 P.M.

Change to the Agenda: The Future of Outreach will be moved to the end of the Business Agenda. Teonja will share her report at 1:50 PM.

Minutes for December Meeting Approved via Email: Cheryl took December minutes and sent them to David and Josh. They will be re-shared for everyone to look over and approve.

Treasurer's Report: We had income in January 2026 from the annual conference, fundraising, and programming income. The total income was \$29,973.66. As far as expenses, we paid our yearly archives fee, credit card transaction fees, and two scholarships. There were also some computer replacements under office expenses. Our total expense was \$39,825.63. As a reminder, we spent a large chunk due to payroll being processed by Cecil County. Moving forward, we are using QuickBooks so this will be a monthly expense rather than quarterly. Longterm reserves are up 5.21 % from last year. There was a motion to file report pending audit from Conni. Joe seconded.

Business Agenda

Legislative Day Feedback: It was a successful day. The cost of catering went up compared to last year. We will have to adjust sponsorship levels next year to account for that. A decent number of representatives and their aides came out. One thing that came up post Legislative Day was that some MAPLA directors feel like we should do evening reception. We don't have a contract right now for next year yet. There are concerns about the time gap between finishing meetings with representatives and the start of an evening reception.

Support MD Libraries: We officially launched the Support MD Libraries campaign.

Statement of Professional Ethics: While putting together the Code of Ethics, David came across a Statement of Professional Ethics in the MLA manual. It was introduced in 1981 and last updated in 2016. It is copy and pasted from the ALA Code of Ethics. The Steering Committee agreed that the Board should continue to review any updated ALA Code of Ethics before pasting it into the MLA manual.

Future of Outreach/Advocacy Discussion: Conni brought up that MLA has a gap in succession planning. If we know we have a gap in leadership, we should find new ways to advocate for MLA to our members. There are also have an external advocacy events. Do we need an events calendar for MD events MLA could table at? Could we re-think Marketing Committee or LAIG to be purposed for these things? Discussion ensued. No firm decisions were made.

Presidents Report: David was at Legislative Day. He also did an interview with a news service. David went to the documentary preview of The Librarians and participated in the panel afterwards. He is going to be on panel for the College of Information for MLIS students about association engagement. The MSLA Board meeting is upcoming as well as LATI graduations.

President Elect's Report: Conni is working on appointments for next fiscal year. If you have any recommendations, let her know.

Past President's Report: Teonja went to Legislative Day and was the unofficial photographer. Teonja is working on Affinity Network submissions. So far, they have received one. The EDI panel is meeting as a group before bringing the recommendation on that network to the full Board in March.

Executive Director's Report: Josh worked on Legislative Day and Conference things. Danielle and Josh will be at Pratt next week for the SLRC conference. At the end of the month, he will be doing zoom chat about governance pipelines for associations.

ALA Councilor's Report: Joe's report is in the Crab. ALA is working on their ALA Forward plan. ALA eliminated 10 different committees in an effort to lower overhead. Students from UMD who participated in Legislative Day wrote to Joe and said how much they appreciated the experience. Next week is National Library Legislative Day. The focus will be ensuring that IMLS (LSTA) is funded in FY27.

Conference Director's Report: Josh and David tag-teamed delivering this report. The site visit was today. The social committee is still working on their plans. There will be a couple of receptions. Sponsorships are down this year but there are more vendors than last year. Registration has been solid. There is going to be a bookseller this year.

Adjournment: 2:50 P.M.