Maryland Library Association

Steering Committee Meeting

Wednesday, August 20, 2025

1:00 PM – 3:00 PM

Call to Order: 1:01 PM

Changes to the Agenda: No changes.

Minutes for the June Meeting Approved via Email: Conni took minutes and sent out for approval. Laura will send Danielle to post on the website.

Treasurer's Report: There was not a lot of income for the first month of the fiscal year. Some membership dues did come in. Income was $2,352.47. There we various expenses, including $11,888 for GrowthZone for the year. Total expenses in July were $26,001.74. The MLA office is now using T-Mobile for internet and Zoom for phones. Comcast is being cancelled. There is $101,406.93 in total in the bank accounts. Longterm reserves are up as compared to last year. Cheryl will be adjusting ALA councilor expenses to the June report and moving GrowthZone into correct line. Keeping those revisions in mind, David asked for a motion. Laura motioned. Joe seconded.

Business Agenda

ACRL-MD Probation Plan: David sent the plan before the meeting for Steering Committee members to review. Small edits were suggested. The plan will need full Board approval.

AI Policy Update: There was discussion, and questions were asked around the policy. Small edits were made. Steering Committee members want more time to think it over. They will continue to make asynchronous edits to ready the document for the September Board meeting. The full Board needs to vote on adopting the policy.

Support MD Libraries Campaign: MLA bought a URL. Tif is putting together a primer on Freedom to Read Act and intellectual freedom to place on the site. We will be doing fundraising through the site. Once we have a rough draft of the site, it will be sent out for review. Josh wants to add something to our membership options as Friend/Trustee has no definition currently. We could potentially add a Supporter tier.

September Agenda Planning: David solicited input on what could be discussed at the September in-person meeting. We will discuss the framework for release statements, the AI Policy, as well as Unit Workplan workshopping. We will ask for Unit Reports to be written in advance.

Immigrant Outreach Group: MSLA wants to partner with MLA for another version of an immigrant outreach cohort that began at UMD iSchool. Josh is having a meeting set up to get more information and see if it logistically makes sense for MLA to get involved.

President's Report: David is working on keeping the MLA chats programming continuing. A small committee of recent MLLI graduates has been formed and met yesterday. The group has a goal of holding one chat before the end of 2025 calendar year. David is attending the September 10th MSLA Board meeting. The Sustainable Libraries Initiative partnership has begun. There are intro webinars available, and David has received positive feedback from members.

Vice President's Report: Conni wants to attend as many unit meetings as possible. She wants to continue to inspire people to step up as leaders. There are many ways to be a leader, not necessarily an officer position.

Past President's Report: On September 11th, Teonja will be speaking on a leadership panel for LDD.

Executive Director's Report: Josh attended the Council of Assistant Library Managers at BCPL for their July meeting as part of a panel. He also went to MACO and gave the summer graduation talk to the FSU iSchool. He started a certified association executive course. On September 5th, Josh will be helping MSLA with LSTA grant reviews.

ALA Councilor's Report: The ALA Chapter Councilors will be meeting online soon to go over a Societal Statements working group report. The ALA Council will not meet again until January. There will be a full report will be in Crab newsletter.

Conference Director's Report: The program proposal form was edited and gone over. The committee talked about steering away from units being tied to presentation submissions. Submissions will be tied to topics to perhaps have tracks at the conference. The group is close to finalizing the theme. The group is also trying to nail down keynote speakers. The meeting in September will be moved due tothe in-person executive board meeting.

Adjournment: 2:50 PM