

Maryland Library Association  
**Minutes**  
Executive Board Meeting  
**Wednesday, May 17, 2023**  
1:00 p.m. – 3:00 p.m.

**VIRTUAL MEETING**

<https://marylandlibraries.zoom.us/j/93442067028>

**In Attendance:** Conni Strittmatter (Secretary), Josh Stone (Executive Director), Nay Keppler (President), Carl Olson (GIIG; Treasurer), Anita Crawford (Conference; Membership), Julie Fitzpatrick (Crab), Laura Bandoch (MIG), Meg Faller (RAIG), Natalie Edington (Leg Panel), Jake Ciarapica (TIG), Andrea Boothby Rice (IFP), Jennifer Jones (PSD), Cathy Hollerbach (Awards), Kelsey Hughes (Conference), Chelsea Shockley (SSD), Sabine Simonson (OSIG), Sharon Morris (BCMLA), Summer Rosswog (CSD)

**Excused Absence:**

**Call to Order and Welcome**

Nay Keppler

**Changes to the Agenda**

Josh missed adding Mary Anne Bowman to the agenda for the past president's report. It is now added.

**March Minutes Approved via Email Vote**

Conni Strittmatter

They are currently on mdlib.org

**Treasurer's Report**

Carl Olson

- Balance Sheet
  - Bank Balances ended April at \$288,783.48, 12.8% higher than in April of 2022
  - Long term reserves ended at \$127,647.60, down a bit over 2.5% from conference time last year
  - Total assets come in at \$420,126.08, a little bit over 7.5% from April 2022
  - Accounts payable was negligible
  - Retained earnings are at \$262,409.28, just a bit more than 4% over last year
  - Net income was \$157,717.51, just under 14% higher than last year
  - Total Liabilities and equity are in at \$420,126.08
- Budget vs. Actuals

- Annual conference income, just before conference began, was at \$204,020.59, 97.15% of the target
- Fundraising income got to \$4,905.24, which is 19.24% of the budget goal
- Jobline income was \$3,275, 109.17% of the goal
- Membership dues, inclusive of all varieties, are at \$113,256, which is 133.24% of the budget, largely due to the addition of affiliate memberships
- Program income ended April at \$14,603.75, or 60.85% of the budget goal
- Total income and gross profit are at \$344,685.64, or 85.83% of the budget for the year
- Annual conference expenses as of April are at \$12,151.37, just 9.35% of the budget goal
- Banking and credit card fees stand at \$12,090.88, against a budget of \$8,000, which is 151.14% of the target
- Committees expenses stand at \$2,283.99 against a budget of \$5,000, around 46% of the budget
- Scholarships are at \$1,250
- Office expenses are at \$15,726.84, which is 95.31% of the budget
- Personnel expenses stand at \$111,404.32 against a budget of \$170,000, or 65.5% of the budget goal
- Program expenses stand at \$6,584.04, against a target of \$4,000
- Total expenses are at \$189,059.59, or 46.48% of the budget so far
- Dividend income totaled \$2,110.21
- Net income reaches \$157,736.26 against a projected loss of \$5,150
- Questions & Comments
  - Nay thanked Carl Olson for being the treasurer as this is Carl's last executive board meeting in this role

## Old Business

- Affiliate Membership
  - This membership was soft launched in mid-March
  - There are 8 systems so far – St. Mary's, Carroll, Charles, Baltimore, Montgomery, Prince George's .....
  - With these 8 members alone, we've hit our membership goal for the year
  - Hopefully, real registration can open later this month. We are still waiting on Naylor, our membership software
  - Reach out to Kate and Josh if your system is interested in adding this membership for your system
  - The University System of Maryland and Affiliate Institutions (USMAIN) is looking into finding a way to sign up academic library staff as well, which could bring in an additional 500 members
  - Anita brings up that while this influx of new members is exciting, we should consider how we get them involved
  - Josh suggests leaders at MLA should be extra vigilant about reaching out to new interested members when we get the list from Leah
  - We could also consider a "Welcome to MLA" orientation session like the Conference Orientation
  - Leah is already working on wording for a "Welcome to MLA" email
  - How do new members via affiliate membership select what they're interested in joining?

- When you log into your MLA account and go into your profile area, you can select in there. We may need to run a report monthly with this approach to determine who is interested in each unit
- Meg Faller emphasized the importance of not assuming new members know all the organization lingo
- Conference Review
  - Went well! No major crises and lots of attendees
  - Many remarked this was the most welcome they've ever felt at MLA. This is likely due to all the EDI work MLA has been doing and the addition of the BCMLA
  - Josh mentioned that the only issues he encountered were very behind the scenes. Some of the vendors were a bit unsatisfied with hotel related issues
  - The survey for MLA will be open until the 22nd. We've already had over 1,000 session surveys filled out and around 90 for the conference as a whole
  - The 50/50 raffle brought in over \$500
  - Sharon asked how we will have access to the photos from the conference
  - Amber will upload them by the end of this week and we will share them out on MLA Connect and Facebook
- Elections
  - Election results have been formally announced at the conference
    - MLA Vice President/President-Elect: Tiffany Sutherland
    - ALA Councilor – Joe Thompson
    - MLA Treasurer – Cheryl Naridello
    - ACRL Vice President – Alex Dodd
    - ACRL Secretary – Kate Strain
    - Children's Service Division Vice President – Summer Rosswog
    - Children's Service Division Secretary – Karen Earp
    - Leadership Development Division Vice President – Matthew Louder
    - Leadership Development Division Secretary – Kalyn Au
    - Public Services Division Vice President – Pam Taylor
    - Public Services Division Secretary – Tina Pickens
    - Support Staff Division Vice President – Lou Sica
    - Support Staff Division Secretary – Traci Montgomery
    - Sharon asked if we'd be adding the BCMLA election results to these in any future announcements
    - Josh will make sure to do this

## **New Business**

- Centennial Carnival
    - We have a save the date out for November 3<sup>rd</sup>
    - Josh and Nay are doing a site visit at the location today
    - They are looking at using the meeting room for sponsored carnival booths and games for attendees to participate in
    - There will be catering, beer and wine, a themed cocktail
- Information will go out soon for a logo contest submission for the event

- Leadership day
  - This will be Thursday, June 29th at the Miller branch of Howard County
  - Doors will open at 9:30 with the day starting at 10 and ending at 3pm
  - Pizza will be provided
  - KennethWayne is working on contacting the speakers
  - Josh is working on the Board Orientation portion
  - Look out for more communications soon

**President's Report**

Nay Keppler

- Nay and Josh are switching gears to planning the centennial carnival and transition the new leadership into their roles

**Vice President/President Elect's Report**

KennethWayne Thompson

- KennethWayne Thompson could not attend the meeting this month

**Past President's Report**

Mary Anne Bowman

- Mary Anne could not attend the meeting this month

**Executive Director's Report**

Josh Stone

- The past two months have been focused on conference and the November Centennial Carnival
- Josh and others are working on additional fun activities and fundraisers for the centennial
- We made \$350 on centennial pin sales

**ALA Councilor's Report**

David Dahl

- David Dahl could not attend this meeting

**Legislative Update**

Natalie Edington

- At the state level, session is over
- Young Readers Grant Program passed
- Regional Library Governance updated structure
- Additional clarification language in other bills
- Collective bargaining bills did not pass
- Lifelong Readers bill did not go through
- SLRC Funding got lost in the shuffle and did not go through
- At the federal level, continuing to ask for funding for LSTA
- Thanks for all who reached out to their legislators with Dear Appropriator letters

- There was a Parents' Rights bill that would have required schools to comply with a variety of rules in order to get funding. This passed the House by around 5 votes, but was largely along party lines. The bill is not expected to go into the Senate
- The Right to Read Act would ensure students have a library and a media specialist running it. It also provides funding and protects constitutional right to read, and extends liability coverage for educators and librarians in regard to book challenges

### Conference Director's Report

Kelsey Hughes

- All updates were covered in above section

### Unit Reports

- Carl Olson (GIIG) – They got a mid-year program off the ground this year. Carl is looking forward to more people to be involved when the USMAI staff have membership. The program involved a speaker from the US Census Bureau
- Lisa Kenyon (Author Award) – Next year's theme is adult fiction. If you are interested in being on the team, reach out to Lisa. You can also send her recommendations for books to read
- Andrea Boothby-Rice (IFP) – They sponsored a pre-conference with LAIG. They need to reschedule a program on intellectual freedom and challenges. The last roundtable discussion was on soft censorship and was a very successful discussion
- Cathy Hollerbach (Awards) – All the awards have been given out. Everything went smoothly. There are two new people interested in joining for next year. Cathy would like to suggest two new awards – Project of the Year and Libraries Change Communities. We can add this to the July Executive Board meeting agenda
- Chelsea Shockley (SSD) – They had four sessions at the conference this year and are looking forward to the feedback. SSD members have asked in the past for more conversation like the "Let's Talk About Stuff" session between conferences – they are hoping MLA Connect can provide that
- Jake Ciarapica (TIG) – Kevin and Jake are working on passing the chair role over to the two new co-chairs. Sessions at the conference went well. They are starting to plan Kids Are Customers, Too with CSD
- Jennifer Jones (PSD) – They sponsored nine programs at conference. They also had a mid-year session on social media trends for 2023 that went very well. They already have a program scheduled and approved for the fall – emerging adults un-conference on September 14th at the Sollers Point branch of BCPL in the afternoon
- Julie Fitzpatrick (Crab) – The upcoming issue looks very good. Julie has talked with a few units about having a regular column in each issue – IFP, FoLIG, etc. You don't need to submit quarterly, though. Consider submitting a review of a session you attended or sponsored at the conference
- Meg Faller (RAIG) – Before conference, RAIG did a session on emerging and resurging genres presentation that went very well. They also had two successful programs at conference this year
- Sabine Simonson (OSIG) – OSIG co-sponsored a session on book festivals that was very successful with 60 attendees

- Laura Bandoch (MIG) – They have had around four meetings now. Interest continues to grow and they had good networking interactions at conference. The two sessions at conference went very well
- Summer Rosswog (CSD) – There has been a lot of staff turnover throughout the state leading to a drop off in CSD attendance through the pandemic, but things are ramping back up. CSD sponsored nine sessions at conference. The presenters provided a preview at meetings leading up to the conference, which better prepared them and the hosts. May 31st is the deadline to sign up for the Blue Crab committee. They already have 10 people involved from throughout the state. They are recruiting for the Kids Are Customers, Too Conference planning committee. Members include reps from various units throughout MLA. Joe Farmarco from Montgomery County and Noel Knepper are continuing as co-chairs for the Black Eyed Susan Tapestry program
- Sharon Morris (BCMLA) – conference programs were well attended, as was the Harriet Tubman tour. The meet and greet for BCMLA recruited 30 new members. June 9th will be a leadership transition meeting and to start planning for the next year. BCMLA will have a representative on the Kids Are Customers, Too conference planning team. They will be at the SLRC conference to present on safe spaces at the end of the month.

#### **Adjournment**

Nay motions to adjourn, Conni seconds, all approve. Meeting adjourned at 2:30pm