



**New Hampshire Library Association Executive Board Meeting
Virtual via ZOOM
February 9, 2021, 2:00-4:00pm**

Call to order at 2:02 PM

Members present: Yvette Couser, Denise van Zanten, Mindy Atwood, Kim Gabert, Steve Butzel, Amy Lappin, Lori Fisher, Amber Coughlin, John Locke, Mat Bose, Mark Glisson, Kersten Matera, Todd Fabian, Alex Graves, Heather Rainier, Cyndi Burnham, Randy Brough, Pam Smith, Deb Hoadley, Leigh Ann Hamel, Carlos Pearman, Mike York, Conrad Moses, Marina Buckler, Melissa Huston, Lisa Jose, Angela Brown

Excused absence: Linda Pilla

Motion to approve amended agenda moved by Lori seconded by Amber. Passed unanimously.

Motion to approve the December 2020 Executive Board minutes made by Lori seconded by Heather. Motion passed with Todd abstaining as he was not present.

Note: voting members were polled individually for all votes.

Brief introductions were made with all present sharing name, library affiliation and role on the New Hampshire Library Association (NHLA) Executive Board.

[President's Report](#)

Yvette stated that the items in the President's Report that need discussion are on the agenda.

[Vice President's Report](#)

Denise reported that she attended the most recent New Hampshire Library Trustees' Association (NHLTA) meeting and that she is working with Kim to become a signatory on the NHLA accounts.

Conrad expressed appreciation for Denise's attendance at the NHLTA meeting.

[Past President's Report](#)

Amy reported that she is very pleased about the board positions that have recently been filled, as found in her report.

[Treasurer's Report](#)

Kim shared that the NHLA budget should be submitted for approval by April which means that the sections need to turn in their budgets by the April NHLA Executive Board meeting. Steve will send a reminder to the sections before April.

Kim also reminded the group that occasionally spam messages are sent that appear to be from an NHLA board member. She asked everyone to verify the veracity of the emails by emailing the individual directly to confirm that person really sent an email.



Kim is also working with Lisa Jose to create a checklist for event coordinators to clear out outstanding invoices in Wild Apricot.

Kim also reported that she continues to work to get the current officers added to the Citizens Bank account and reminded everyone that all payment requests should be sent to treasurer@nhlibrarians.org

Steve made a motion to accept the Treasurer's Report. Amber seconded the motion which passed unanimously.

State Library Report

Michael shared that Governor Sununu will present his budget to the legislature on February 11, 2021. The state budget should be signed by the end of June but in past years it has been signed well after the end of June.

Michael also shared that Senator Reed (D-R.I.) has introduced the Library Stabilization Fund Act (SB284), which calls for \$2 billion in federal funding for public libraries nationwide through the Institute of Museum and Library Services (IMLS). These funds are intended to address gaps that were not addressed by CARES money. The New Hampshire State Library, for example, received \$120,000 in CARES funds.

Michael reported that the State Library (NHSL) is open to patrons by appointment only. Inter-library Loan (ILL) is busy and increasing in usage every day. Finally, Michael reported that he submitted the necessary paperwork for NHSL funding from IMLS.

Section and Committee Reports

Most section and committees had nothing to add beyond their submitted reports.

There was discussion and a decision was made to add the Technical Services *ad hoc* committee to the NHLA website and to add the committee meetings to the NHLA calendar. Either Marina can do this or she can provide login access to the committee. In addition, section updates can be sent to Marina (marina.buckler@gmail.com).

Lisa Jose asked for discussion of NH Bill 544 which is scheduled to be discussed in committee on Thursday, February 11, 2021. This bill is a copy of the Trump administration legislation that bans training on the subjects of diversity and inclusion. This bill, should it pass, would directly affect the work of the NHLA Equity, Diversity and Inclusion (EDI) committee.

Randy will reach out to the NHLA lobbyist and ask her to monitor the bill and report on Thursday's proceedings.

Denise shared that the City of Manchester is unaware of this legislation. She will inform the city of this bill and if the City of Manchester has any additional information, she will share it via the NHLA Executive Board email list.

Conrad asked that NHLTA also be kept informed of the bill and the work of the lobbyist and Lori and Randy both indicated that they will do so.



Old Business

- Continuing Education Committee (CEC)

Deb Hoadley gave a summary of the duties of the CEC over the years:

1. Administration of the MacDonald Fund which awards grants of up to \$300 for individuals pursuing continuing education opportunities and contributes NHLA's portion of the New England Library Association (NELA) New England Leadership Symposium (NELLS).
2. Addressing the continuing education needs of the New Hampshire library community by working with the Paralibrarians Section and providing full-day conferences related to identified core competencies

Deb reported that it has proven to be very difficult to continue to provide instructors for the Paralibrarian certification process and core competencies conferences and that many sections have taken on continuing education.

It is her recommendation that NHLA dissolve the CEC and move administration of the MacDonald Fund to the Scholarship Committee.

Kim asked if it would be possible for the EDI or Sustainability Committees to offer continuing education opportunities that are funded by a MacDonald Fund grant and Deb said she felt that is a possibility.

Denise made a motion to accept Deb's recommendation and Yvette seconded the motion.

During discussion of the motion, Amber asked about the original guidelines of the MacDonald Fund. The NHLA guidelines for distribution of the funds may be with NHLA Past President Marilyn Borgendale. The guidelines from the original donation should be held by the New Hampshire Charitable Trust. Amber will attempt to get them from the New Hampshire Charitable Trust for review at the April meeting.

The motion passed unanimously.

- By-Laws Committee

Pam stated that the By-Laws Committee was asked to review the by-laws for 1) the changes that would be needed to make EDI a standing committee and 2) an expression that NHLA can have on-line meetings and the ability to move a question, make a motion and vote by email.

Amy asked about making the Sustainability Committee and the tech services *Ad Hoc* Working Group a Standing Committee and wondered if that is something the group wants. Angela will bring the question back to the Tech Services Group and Amy will speak to Brittany Overton about the Sustainability Committee.

Kersten asked NHLA has advice or guidance for when a section should consider making one of their ad hoc committees into a standing committee. Pam said that she is not sure whether or not sections follow NHLA by-laws on this question. Amy made a motion that the Board



recommend that the two *Ad Hoc* committees, EDI and Sustainability, become Standing Committees of the NHLA exec board with a vote to be held by full membership per bylaws on the fall NHLA ballot

Lori seconded the motion which passed unanimously.

Amber made a motion and Lori seconded to approve the bylaws committee recommendations and that these additions shall appear on the NHLA ballot:

Add to Article 3-Executive Board

Amend Section 2

Ten voting board members, attending in-person or virtually, shall constitute a quorum at any Executive Board meeting for the purpose of taking votes and making decision.

Add to Section 3

Executive Board meetings may be held in a physical location, virtually via an on-line platform, or a hybrid of in-person and on-line.

Add Section 7:

The President may call for a question, discussion and a vote by e-mail when issues arise and cannot be deferred to the next Executive Board meeting. The e-mail discussion and vote shall be recorded by the Board secretary and be documented as Board minutes. Voting by e-mail shall require the minimum of 10 voting members.

The motion passed unanimously

- Yvette recorded for the minutes the email vote from Jan. 11, 2021: Motion for the NHLA Executive Board to accept the terms of the new contract with our current lobbyist, Teresa Rosenberger, dated January 6, 2021 (restated by Amy Lappin; seconded by Mindy Atwood. 15-0-0)

New Business

- Support letter for NHSLMA

Karen Abrams of New Hampshire School Library Media Association asked NHLA to draft a letter in support of certified librarians in public schools. Lori has drafted this letter and upon approval it will be sent to all School Administrative Units (SAU).

Lori made a motion to send the letter as drafted. Amber seconded the motion which passed unanimously.

- Support letter re: COVID Vaccine



Amy provided an update from the American Library Association (ALA) standpoint. ALA is working on a joint report on the impact to states if they advocate for library workers to be moved to an earlier phase of vaccination. She also reported that the resolution in front of the ALA Council was about asking the Centers for Disease Control and Prevention (CDC) to put library workers in Level One.

Lori stated her belief that this issue should be addressed at the state and local level. In New Hampshire the issue would be addressed through the Governor's Office and New Hampshire Department of Health and Humans Services (DHHS).

Lori made the point that there are only two professions named in New Hampshire's vaccine schedule, namely the first responders and educators. Lori also shared that the New Hampshire chapter of the National Education Association (NEA) has been advocating for teachers to be moved from New Hampshire Level 2 to Level 1 but without success. NH NEA is an organization with paid staff as opposed the NHLA which is comprised of volunteers.

A lengthy and in-depth discussion ensued with the following opinions expressed:

- Advocating for library workers to be classified either as or similar to first responders could have unintended consequences about the work library workers will be asked to do in the future
- Library workers are not more deserving that many other front-line professions, for example grocery store workers
- It could be problematic to advocate for this when many libraries are not open to the public

John asked what the downside would be to advocate for library workers to be moved to Level 1.

To allow for further discussion, Todd made a motion not to send a letter to the NH Governor and NH DHHS regarding a change in prioritization of library workers' vaccination in the State of New Hampshire and Heather Rainier seconded.

The following responses were shared:

- Lori reported that NHSLMA is not interested in moving school librarians to Level 1 and that she has had four individuals reach out to her directly about asking library workers' prioritization to be moved up.
- Amber made the point that NHLA can advocate for worker safety versus vaccination specifically
- Denise suggested advocacy around what libraries have done during the COVID-19 pandemic and that advocating for library workers to "jump the line" could negate the good work that has been done by libraries these past eleven months
- Todd wondered about the value of advocating for moving library workers to Level 1 given the fact that wider vaccination distribution is on the near horizon

John asked for clarification if the reason NHLA is not advocating for a change in library workers' vaccination prioritization is that NHLA "doesn't want to look bad"?

Amy stated she is happy to look bad when it's a cause she believes in but this is not one of those instances.

Heather shared that on the last NHSL Director's Call, many directors were against advocating for library workers to have priority.



Yvette shared that she spoke with Katrinka, the President of NHLTA, about this subject and Katrinka is also not in favor of asking library workers' prioritization to be moved up. Conrad concurred.

Kim suggested that given the lengthy and in-depth discussion around this topic a letter should be drafted to the NHLA membership that summarizes the conversation and NHLA's position.

Lori and John will draft this letter together.

The motion was voted on and passed with a vote of 16 yesses and 1 no.

- NH Charitable Foundation Grant program

Yvette was contacted by the New Hampshire Charitable Foundation because a donor has established a fund intended to support the technology needs of libraries in "underserved" and "rural" communities. NHCF would like input from a library representative about the definition of "underserved" and "rural" before they build out the program to ensure that it makes the most sense for libraries' needs.

Randy mentioned that the federal definition covers approximately 99% of New Hampshire libraries.

Lori will follow up with NHCF.

- NYLA Sustainable Libraries Initiative

Amy will ask Brittany to follow up with NYLA regarding Sustainability in Libraries initiatives.

- NH Institute for Civics Education State Coalition

John will ask if anyone on the CLNH board has any interest in working on this project.

- NHLA Strategic Plan

Yvette moved this item to the April agenda.

Yvette made a motion to adjourn. Kim seconded.

The meeting ended at 4:13 PM.

The meeting ended at 4:13 PM.

Respectfully submitted,
Mindy Atwood, NHLA Secretary



NHLA President's Report – February Executive Board Meeting

Yvette Couser

1.12 Attended officers' meeting

1.25 Sent Board updates to Marina Buckner for the website.

1.28 Sent greetings email to all members re: new Board, open positions

1.27 Ran tech for EDI Lunch & Learn

2.1 Zoom call with Ben Amsden and Michael Turmelle from NH Charitable Foundation. A donor recently established a fund to support the technology needs of libraries in “underserved” and “rural” communities. They would like to get input before they build out the program to ensure that it makes the most sense for libraries’ needs – what parameters can be used to define underserved and rural? They don’t want to put out an open call for applications and are hoping that we can help them identify libraries to apply. Possible projects: Life-long learning using technology; modernizing the card catalog and going digital; eBooks; technology training for patrons or for library staff; capital projects to upgrade the pipeline bandwidth coming into the library. They would like to make these grants from the fund (\$200K) in the next 8-12 months, but better if it’s sooner – April 1. – Who can take this on?

2.2 Zoom Call with Jeremy Johannesen, Executive Director NYLA NY Library Association, re: Sustainable Libraries initiative, which is built around aiding libraries in becoming truly sustainable – environmentally, economically and socially. Part of this program is the Sustainable Libraries Certification program which takes libraries through a self-assessment and reflection process that leads to modifications in policies and procedures to maximize sustainable operations. The NYLA are seeking other Library Associations who are ready to go through the process. He would be happy to arrange a virtual meeting with staff from 6-10 interested libraries who would like to form a NH Cohort. – Any interested libraries?

2.4 Participated in Directors’ Call to share thoughts on NHLA support letter advocating for library staff to be included in the COVID-19 Vaccination “essential worker” category. I’ve emailed NHLTA President Katrinka Pellechia for her thoughts; she was aware of the issue and offered to poll the NHLTA membership, but was reluctant to take a stance in support of this due to the political complications it would cause. Plan to include this to the 2.9 Executive Board Meeting Agenda to hear what the Board would like to do.

2.4 NELA President Mike Zeller emailed the various New England state association Presidents, wanting to schedule a video call so that we could update each other on what our Associations are doing and what assistance we might need from NELA. I forwarded this email to Amber Coughlin, our NELA Rep, for suggestions.

2.4 Phone call with Martha Madsen, Executive Director of the NH Institute for Civics Education. Her organization is applying for a grant from CivXNow to form the State Coalition NH Civics Learning Roundtable to consider state policy to improve and increase civic learning opportunities in our state. Because libraries are key to community connection and provide a wide variety of resources and learning to residents –in media literacy, in particular - she would like to recruit someone from the NHLA



membership to participate in the Roundtable. The commitment would be 4 meetings of 2 hours each between March and October of this year (most likely virtual). There are 20 people involved, including some from the NH Bar Association, the NH Historical Society, the NH NEA, principals, superintendents, teachers, and folks from the School Board Association. – Any interested individuals?

NHLA Vice President Report February 2021:

- Attended the NHLTA meeting on February 3rd where they discussed the following:
 - Vacancies on the Board of Directors- seeking Trustees to be on the board from the membership
 - Spring Conference will be virtual and a schedule has been shared by the Educational Committee
 - Answered a question about Omeka- what it is etc.
 - They discussed providing information about budgeting to the membership
 - Working on updating the Trustee Manual
 - Will work on their annual budget at their April meeting so it will be ready for the Annual meeting in May.
 - I shared with them that our Fall Conference is on November 5th, that our Legislative/Advocacy Committee is tracking SB95 about virtual meetings for public bodies (not specific to libraries), NELA Fall 2021 Conference is virtual, Spring NHLA conference has been moved to 2023, and that the new officers are settling into our roles.
- Worked with Treasurer to get added to the NHLA accounts
- Been reading national and local library association's statements on vaccines for library workers while also paying attention to our state's current system for phased vaccinations that is more age based rather than industry driven (outside of healthcare workers and related fields.)

Report of the Immediate Past President

February 2021

We have had a great response from people willing to fill the vacant board positions. With board approval the following people are willing to serve:

Sustainability Committee, Chair - Brittany Overton, Minot-Sleeper Library, Bristol

NHLA Archivist - Melissa Hutson, Enfield Public Library

Center for the Book Representative - Jessica DeLangie, Derry Public Library

Social Media Coordinator - D. Scott Campbell, Plaistow Public Library and Rebecca Berezin, Rogers Memorial Library, Hudson

Bylaws Committee, Member - Amy Lappin until another member can be found (although I'm willing to continue)

We are still looking for a Conference Chair.



I will be soliciting members of the 2021 NHLA Nominating Committee and Awards Committee later this month. The committee members will be brought to the Executive Board at the April meeting along with a timeline for elections and award nominations.

Respectfully submitted,

[Amy Lappin](#)

NHLA Treasurer’s Report February 2021

Kim Gabert, NHLA Treasurer

Financial Report

Please find attached a copy of

- NHLA’s January 2021 Profit & Loss Statement
- NHLA’s Balance Sheet as of January 31, 2021
- FY21 Income and Expenses as of January 31, 2021

NHLA’s total assets as of January 31, 2021 were \$235,690.67.

Below is a listing of cash held by each account as of January 31, 2021.

NHLA checking	\$8,304.97
NHLA savings – non-interest	\$9,731.24
NHLA savings	\$55,313.94
CLNH	\$16,226.48
READS	\$4,515.91
PARALIB	\$6,512.18
ULAC	\$3,413.38
YALS	\$5,450.54
ITS	\$1,470.18
WINCHELL LOAN (revolving fund)	\$20,998.55
NORRIS (scholarship)	\$1,089.48
MACDONALD FUND (continuing ed/professional development)	\$15,375.03

Section and Committee reports

- [Advocacy and Legislative Committee](#)
- [ALA Liaison](#)
- Archivist: no report
- [Bylaws Committee](#)
- [CLNH](#)
- Conference Committee: no report (chair role is vacant)
- Continuing Education Committee: no report



- [Database Administrator](#)
- [Equity, Diversity and Inclusion Taskforce](#)
- [Information Technology Section](#)
- Intellectual Freedom Committee: no report
- [Membership](#)
- [New England Library Association Liaison](#)
- [NH Center for the Book Liaison](#)
- [NHLTA Liaison](#)
- [Paralibrarian Section](#)
- [READS](#)
- Scholarship: no report
- Social Media: no report
- [Technical Services Ad-Hoc Committee](#)
- ULAC: no report
- [YALS](#)



Advocacy and Legislative Committee report for NHLA Board Meeting, 12/8/2020

1. NH Legislative Issues

There are no current library LSRs that are being monitored by our lobbyist.

ALA Office for Intellectual Freedom is monitoring two items in our state:

- a. HR7 - resolution calling for the Netflix show "Cuties" to be taken off the air; submitted by Abramson (R) and referred to the state-federal relations and veterans affairs committee on 1/4/2021 [Media Censorship]
- b. HB234 - declares outdoor areas of public institutions of higher learning to be public forums; provides for a right of action against state agencies or legislators who violate an individual's free expression rights as defined by the statute; bars discrimination against religious, partisan, or sectarian student groups; waives sovereign immunity for institutions; submitted by Alexander (R) and referred to the Education Committee on 1/9/2021. [Campus Speech]

2. NHLA COVID-19 Response

The NHLA COVID-19 Resource page on the NHLA web site continues to be updated/expanded regularly, and less valuable resources from earlier in the pandemic continue to be archived in a Google document associated with the advocacy@nhlibrarians.org email account.

3. Advocacy Outreach

Lori presented a webinar for OCLC Webjunction on 1/13/2021 titled "Proactive Advocacy and Communication for Library Trustees & Staff." A link to the recorded webinar and accompanying resources can be found at <https://www.webjunction.org/events/webjunction/proactive-advocacy-communication-library-trustees-staff.html>. Lori will present an abbreviated version of this webinar for United For Library on 2/23/2021 at 2 pm.

Respectfully submitted:

Randy Brough and Lori Fisher, Co-Chairs of the NHLA Advocacy and Legislative Committee

NH ALA Councilor Report from ALA 2021 Midwinter – Virtual 1/29/2021

Submitted by Lori Fisher, NHLA Chapter Councilor

This is the third and final ALA Midwinter conference I have attended as your first-term ALA Councilor. ALA Council is the membership governing body for the American Library Association, consisting of 184 councilors. Representation comes from state chapters, ALA divisions, and ALA Roundtables. NH Library Association is a chapter of ALA.

My report below continues a list of the major agenda items for each Council meeting, with links to reports and resolutions. Unless noted otherwise, I voted yes when the vote occurred. I was there for all discussions, but what is clear to me (having been present) may not be clear to the reader of this report. Please feel free to contact me if you have questions about anything related to this report. ALA Council, or ALA in general: 603-271-2393 or lori.a.fisher@dncr.nh.gov.



Council I – Sunday 1/24/2021

The chairs of the Forward Together Working Group (FTWG) presented their final report, and the names of the next group (the Forward Together Resolutions Working Group) were released. This new group is going to distill down the possible courses of action and present resolutions at ALA Annual to move this governance change forward. In addition, per the resolution passed at ALA Annual 2020, there will be a Constitutional Convention that starts this spring and goes through ALA Annual 2021 Virtual.

I am still very concerned that under the proposed new governance structure, there will not be a direct, viable way for chapters to communicate their concerns to the executive board. Amy Lappin, chair of the Chapter Relations Committee, sent a letter to the FWTG in November expressing the need for an executive board position from the chapters. I'm happy to say that I worked on a letter from Committee on Library Advocacy and Committee on Legislation that reiterated Amy's request, and that letter was sent by the chairs of those committees to ALA President Jefferson in January.

CD #35 - Forward Together Working Group Final Report

CD #36 – Forward Together Resolutions Working Group Roster

Council II – Monday 1/25/2021

CD #27 from the Committee on Committess (motions 1-5):

1. Establish a Council Committee on Sustainability
2. Discontinue the Library Education Assembly
3. Discontinue the Exhibits Round Table
4. Endorse the creation of the Exhibits Advisory Group
5. Change the charge of the ALA Election Committee

CD#20-20.2 from the Committee on Legislation (COL):



Note I am a member of this committee). This link includes a summary of current committee actions, a list of our FY21 federal legislative priorities, and a **resolution in support of broadband as a human right**. I am happy to report that the resolution was approved unanimously with no dissent or abstentions. A historic moment for Council, and a testament to the thoroughness of COL in preparation of the resolution.

CD#43 – Resolution to Condemn White Supremacy and Fascism as Antithetical to Library Work

This resolution was hotly debated in two areas: the definition of fascism (some insisting the word has been weaponized), and the inclusion of “neutrality” in the resolution. Ultimately the resolution passed with an overwhelming majority. One of the main goals of this resolution is to provide a framework for chapter to use to create their own statements about condemning White Supremacy and Fascism.

ALA Financial Management and Positioning:

Compared to last year, ALA is making strides with greater financial transparency and stabilizing funding streams. The linked documents below provide an overview of both the current situation and the strategy to build a stronger financial foundation for the organization. While ALA is not out of the woods yet, signs are there that stability is achievable.

CD #36 – ALA’s 5-Year Pivot Strategy

ALA Treasurer Maggie Farrell (Report to Council Membership Information Session)

CD#13.1 – ALA Treasurer’s report to Council

Council III – Tuesday 1/26/2021

CD#19.2 – Resolution in Opposition to Facial Recognition Software in Libraries

Amended to remove resolve clause #5 and approved. This was amended because it is not protocol to dictate who (i.e. Congress) is to receive resolve clauses; this is left to the ALA lobbyists and DC office staff to determine the best persons to receive this resolution. I spoke in support of this amendment on behalf of Committee on Legislation. Amended motion approved by majority of Council.

CD#19.3 – Resolution on the Misuse of Behavioral Data Surveillance in Libraries

Amendment proposed to add “by routinely performing privacy audits, and to ensure that...” Comments from those who crafted the resolution stated that they feel this is out of scope for this resolution because it pulls focus in on particular direction, narrowing the impact. I voted no on this amendment because I agree with the idea that we don’t want to narrow the focus or confuse the scope of the resolution. Amendment was defeated. Original motion approved by majority.

CD #13.1 - Concur with the ALA Executive Board and approve the FY2022 Budget Objectives

The FY22 Budget Objectives were approved by majority vote.



CD #45 – Resolution to Classify Library Workers as 1b Workers to be Listed as a Priority Workforce in Receiving the COVID-19 Vaccine

This resolution was fraught with issues related to advocacy and legislative impacts at the state and local level, and basically the resolved clauses in the linked version above were removed and replaced with the following:

Resolved... 1) encourages libraries to continue to share resources, strategies, and success stories in locally reclassifying library workers' priority level; 2) supports the right of library workers to receive vaccination treatment as soon as possible in order to provide safer services for the public and for library workers; and 3) refers this resolution jointly to the Committee on Legislation, the Committee on Library Advocacy, and the Chapter Relations Committee for analysis of impact on state and local contexts and provide a report to Council no later than March 31, 2021; and
4) Affirms that library workers have a fundamental right to a safe work environment. Includes, but is not limited to, a library or other work setting that minimizes an employee's environmental risk of exposure to COVID019.

FYI that I was heavily involved in the creation of the first amendment (which introduced the first 3 new resolved clauses). I have offered to be part of the working group for the three committees listed in clause 2, which will meet soon to research and create a response. In the end, the document was amended twice, and the final vote was 149 yes, 4 no, 2 abstain. Carried.

Bottom lines regarding library workers and vaccines: The CDC guidelines are just that – guidelines for states. States can change eligibility levels to what they want. For example, the CDC guidelines recommend that educators are in level 1, but in NH K-12 school and childcare staff are in level 2b. Some state ALA chapters are issuing statements on this issue, and others are not. Vaccine levels are a state and local issue that has to be handled carefully in each local/state instance so that influence and relationships we count on for other important areas is not diluted or damaged.

Bylaws committee report for February 2021

Members: Amy Lappin, Pius Murray, Pamela Smith

The Bylaws committee met virtually on February 4th, only 2 members were present; one member participated via e-mail.

The discussion concerned request for changes to these changes to the NHLA Bylaws:

1. Add EDI as a standing committee
2. Should the Sustainability committee be added as a standing committee?
3. Add virtual and e-mail meetings, discussions and votes to permissible forms of conducting Board business.

Proposed changes to the Bylaws:

Update Article 3 -Executive Board

Section 1 Standing committees:

Add Equity, Diversity and Inclusion

Article 5 – Committees

Section 1

Add Equity, Diversity and Inclusion



Article 3-Executive Board

Amend Section 2

Ten voting board members, attending in-person or virtually, shall constitute a quorum at any Executive Board meeting for the purpose of taking votes and making decision.

Add to Section 3

Executive Board meetings may be held in a physical location, virtually via an on-line platform, or a hybrid of in-person and on-line.

Add Section 7:

The President may call for a question, discussion and a vote by e-mail when issues arise and cannot be deferred to the next Executive Board meeting. The e-mail discussion and vote shall be recorded by the Board secretary and be documented as Board minutes. Voting by e-mail shall require the minimum of 10 voting members.

Submitted 2/4/21 by Pamela Smith
Bylaws Committee

CLNH Report

On January 22nd the CLNH board met to talk about our overall plans for the first half of 2021. We're planning a big membership push in February, complete with prize raffles, followed by a children's librarian craft/gift exchange in March to build member relationships, then a continuing education opportunity in April, and finally a virtual conference in May.

We also discussed the state of the Children's Librarian of the Year award (the old plaque was full), and tried to drum up volunteers to help out with CLNH social media.

Our next CLNH board meeting will be on Friday, February 12th.

Respectfully submitted,
John Locke

NHLA Database Administrator Report Executive Board Meeting (Online) – Feb. 9th, 2021

- Added & reviewed administrative privileges for Exec. Board members, chairs, & committee liaisons
- Set up EDI event page, registration form, and emails
- Assisted Membership Chair with troubleshooting account statuses due to new renewal season
- Forwarded and/or processed stray membership payments per direction of Membership Chair
- Re-directed membership emails along to Chair as they were received
- Replied to emails re: WA functionality for directors
- Worked with Treasurer & READS re: how to clear overdue accounts from cancelled events
- Set estimated timeline with Treasurer to establish new step-by-step training documentation for section treasurers and event coordinators

Respectfully submitted,
Lisa Jose
Wild Apricot Database Administrator



EDI February 2021 Report

The EDI Committee had its first event (outside of the business meeting), as a ‘lunch and learn’. Participants were encouraged to watch two videos, either in a group viewing (the day of the discussion), or independently, and then come together for a group discussion centering around questions that a member of the committee (Justin) wrote up. While we were initially in a large room, participants were split up into break-out rooms, to aid in more focused discussion, before coming back together to share what was learned in the larger group. This event was also to act as a sort of fundraiser, with an optional donation to attend. We had 30 people register, 16 attend, and raised \$140 to go towards speaker fees for future workshops. As EDI doesn’t have a line in the budget, this will temporarily go into membership’s funds (with the full permission of the membership chair) until we have an official line in the ‘21-’22 fiscal year.

This is the first of several events we’re aiming to hold this year (including another fundraiser). We will also continue to regularly update the ‘EDI Resources’ page, with the help of Marina Buckler, Website Coordinator. This page can be found by clicking on the ‘Equity, Diversity, and Inclusion’ menu item, on the NHLA website.

Also, due to time constraints, Elizabeth will no longer be able to serve as co-liaison.

In Solidarity,
Leigh Ann Hamel
on behalf of the EDI Committee

Membership Report

Member list

Summary										
Keyword search										
Advanced search										
Saved searches										
Level	Total	Active	Renewal overdue	Lapsed	Pending			New in last		
					New	Renewal	Level change	7 days	30 days	
Business Membership	1	-	1	1	-	-	-	-	-	
First Time Member	84	35	44	44	5	-	-	6	14	
Library Run by 1 Person	19	11	8	8	-	-	-	-	-	
Lifetime Member	47	47	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	
Retired Librarian	8	7	1	1	-	-	-	-	1	
Salary \$25,000 - \$50,000	247	143	102	100	3	1	-	1	4	
Salary \$50,000-\$75,000	130	69	60	57	-	3	1	1	2	
Salary over \$75,000	32	23	6	6	2	-	1	-	1	
Salary under \$25,000	170	77	91	91	1	-	1	-	1	
Trustee/Friend/Student	44	10	34	34	-	-	-	-	-	
Unemployed Librarian	3	-	3	3	-	-	-	-	-	
Total	785	422	350	345	11	4	3	8	23	

The NHLA Membership cycle begins in the middle of November when we send out the renewal email. Membership payments received from December 1 onwards count toward the following year’s membership.



There are currently 422 active members, 35 first-time members and 47 life-time members. The “pending” status means that the member has renewed their membership, but the payment has not yet been processed. Online payments are processed immediately. Payments made by check are seeing a substantial delay this year – COVID19 is directly or indirectly responsible for many of those delays.

Respectfully submitted,

Linda Pilla
NHLA Membership Chair

**NHLA-ITS
ITS Co-Chairs Report to NHLA
2-9-2021**

On Wednesday, January 13th the ITS group hosted a panel discussion about Virtual Conference Platforms. Over 30 librarians attended the online Zoom discussion and it was recorded and disseminated to NH Librarians via the NHAIS Listserv and ITS Google Group. Thank you to the five NH Librarians that volunteered for the panel and made it such a success, including: Bobbi Slossar, NH State Library; Laura Hartwood-Benton, Portsmouth Public Library; Cab Vinton, Plaistow Public Library; Mark Glisson, Hooksett Public Library; Kandace Knowlton, Chester Public Library. The recording of the panel discussion is available for upload to YouTube if NHLA wants to make more use of the platform for hosting continuing education experiences.

We are planning an informal ITS Zoom meetup for Wednesday, February 17th at 10:30 a.m. At the meeting we’ll encourage attendees to share their tech problems and success stories, and we’ll discuss email newsletter platforms with an emphasis on LibraryAware.

Our next quarterly meeting will be on Wednesday, April 14th at 10:30 a.m. We are investigating potential topics (i.e. virtual programming, online reference, etc.) and speakers for the meeting.

Respectfully submitted,

Mathew Bose and Mark Glisson

NELA report for NHLA — February 2021

- The NELA Executive Board met on January 22, 2021.
- The Treasurer of NELA is applying for the 2nd round of PPP loan funding.
- NELA is exploring doing administrative work for State Associations. They have an agreement with the Connecticut Library Association (CLA) to do bookkeeping, various reports for the board, some correspondence, website updates, membership support, admin/financial support for event planning, and the storage of financial documents. CLA is pleased with the agreement, which is bringing in additional revenue for NELA.(Over \$17,000 this year.) NHLA could also access these services, for a cost, as could other state associations. If this is of interest, I can reach out to Bob Scheier and learn more. The needs of the organization will determine the cost.
- NELA voted to keep 2021 extended membership rates at \$20.



- Callan Bignoli was appointed ALS chair, and Andrea Puglisi as IFC co-chair.
- 2021's conference offerings will be primarily virtual, with the possibility of a small, socially distanced in person event in the fall if circumstances permit. The online events will be focused on one broad topic per day. The theme will be something along the lines of Choose Your Own adventure. There is a possibility that the emerging leaders virtual cohort will possibly lead an unconference as part of this.
- The events coordinator has reached an agreement with MassMutual in Springfield to push the fall conference contract with NELA to 2023.
- NELA will strive to not compete with virtual state conferences.
- It is hoped that an in-person conference will be more attractive to vendors.
- Some venues have been willing to hold spaces in the fall, but both NELA and the venue may cancel at any time. Very up in the air.
- The Intellectual Freedom Committee is hoping to hold an online event about social media and big tech censorship. More to come.
- The emerging leaders virtual cohort is shaping up. This will take the place of NELLs this year. The emerging leader cohort will cost money, but how this will be funded is still up in the air. There is uncertainty about the financial capacity of the state associations. It may be institutionally funded, or self-funded like NELLs2. They are considering taking 5 people per state, once a week for a number of weeks this summer. They don't want the experience to duplicate NELLs, but want it to be selective and intensive nevertheless. This will take place in late summer. NELLs attendees would be eligible to join.

Respectfully submitted,
Amber Coughlin
NELA Representative

New Hampshire Center for the Book Liaison Annual Report 2020

In 2020 the Center for the Book continued with the Ladybug Picture Book Award. Because of the pandemic and the operating status of NH libraries, nominees were featured in blog posts and in a pdf voter's guide. While there was only about half of the normal participation, there were still 10,953 votes cast at about 100 sites. The winner was *There Are No Bears in This Bakery* by Julia Sarcone-Roach. This year the nominating and committee work will be done virtually. Felicia Martin, the committee chair, is soliciting nominations from NH librarians via an online survey. They are hoping to create video readings of the nominated books and are looking for any suggestions on how to put these together from librarians throughout the state who may have done some video story times. They can reach out to Mary Russell (mary.a.russell@dncr.nh.gov – 603-271-2866) at the state library if they have done so.

The NH Author Database has been temporarily suspended as the cost of the platform it was housed on became too prohibitive and the State did not renew the contract. All the data has been saved and Mary is hoping to illicit suggestions for a manageable platform that can handle the 12,000ish entries and also allow public searching.

The Book Notes Blog, and its Book of the Week, continued uninterrupted through 2020. They will be reinstating a Q&A Author Index, as well as a series of posts for National Poetry Month featuring recommended reads from NH poets.



Respectfully Submitted,
Jessica DeLangie
Center for the Book Liaison

NHLA Paralibrarian Section Report to the Board

Virtual meeting held on January 19, 2021.

- Our Education Chair, Eileen Gilbert, has been responsible for offering a variety of workshops for our Paralibrarians every spring and fall. With her guidance, our newly appointed Education Committee is planning to offer new online classes this spring in lieu of in-person workshops.
- The Education Committee will pursue collaboration with other sections to increase the scope of professional growth opportunities offered.
- We're asking all Paralibrarians to send photos of themselves, alone or with colleagues, with their latest Certificate of Completion so we can celebrate their accomplishment via a collage post on our website.
- We're working to expand our mentoring program to provide support for new Paralibrarians in completing the application process.

NHLTA Liaison Report of New Hampshire Library Executive Meeting on December 8, 2020

(New Hampshire Library Trustee Association Meeting February 3, 2021)

I was able to completely access the NHLA Executive Board virtual meeting. I was able to connect visual, but not with sound. I tried to use my cell phone for sound. This didn't work because of the area I live in doesn't have good receptions, as I am between two towers that bounces from one to other. I could only stay connected for a few seconds at a time. For my report I use the materials and minutes of the meeting.

President Amy Lappin created a new ad hoc committee, "State Ecosystem Committee". This committee is to improve and streamline communication and participation with library associations and organizations. This will be a long term ongoing project. The committee is chaired by Lori Fisher and Amy is a member of the committee.

One of New Elect President Yvette Couser objectives is to reenact the Sustainable committee. Her other objectives are to implement a marketing publicity plan, including logo, and a strategic plan, She wants to continue some of the goals Amy stated such as improving communication with groups that collaborates with NHLA. Her focus for NHLA will be the State Ecosystem Committee, EDI (Equity, Diversity, and Inclusion) Committee, and Budget. Also reach out to NHLA members to support members and improve relationships.

NHLA's Advocacy and Legislative Committee priorities for 2021 is to continue to provide advocacy, resources, and training for all NH libraries personnel, trustees, and supporters. This would include active Advocacy Bootcamp, especially store telling. "NH/US legislative overview, how the process work; where do librarians, NHLA, Advocacy committee fit in on both state and federal level. Co-op and state wide level webinars and presentations, as well as advocacy related virtual training." This section was taken from Randy Brough and Lori Fisher Advocacy and Legislative Committee Report



Lori Fisher is asked to be a member of the ALA's United for Libraries Advocacy Committee. The This committee is the Trustees, Friends, and Foundations organization. The current President of United for Library is David Paige, who is a Trustee at Conway Public Library.

Respectfully Submitted,
Conrad V. Moses
NHLTA Director



**READS President Report
For February 9, 2021**

The READS Executive Board met virtually on January 8, 2021. Our newest board members are Jane Martina (Publicity) and Jessica DeLangie (Treasurer). The board set its meeting calendar and 2021 goals.

Other news from READS:

- On January 8, we had 44 active members and 55 pending (including seven new members)
- READS has gone live with the READS Repository. As a way to introduce and solicit content, we invited libraries to share their Curb-side pickup graphics/infographics. This timely content, along with shareable docs, posters, graphics etc. can be found on our website under Resources/READS Repository. We are excited about this sharable resource for tech training materials, social media memes, promotion graphics, etc. Submissions are welcome: READSrepository@gmail.com.
- We are currently working on a READS Adult Programming database with reviews and ideas for virtual and face-to-face programming. READS is in the process of collecting reviews and programming ideas. If you have programs you'd like to have included in this database, please contact me.
- One of our goals this year is to update our READS Handbook and READS Transition Guide. These are great resources for READS Officers and Committee Chairs.
- Emily Weiss from NHLA's EDI Committee reached out to us and will be joining us at our next meeting.

Next READS Executive Board meeting: March 12th at 10AM – virtual meeting.

Respectfully submitted,
Kersten Matera
READS President



**Technical Services Ad Hoc Committee Report
February 5, 2020**

The Technical Services Ad Hoc Committee met virtually on December 11, 2020. Discussion topics included tools used to schedule meeting rooms, use of TikTok in the library, OCLC Connexion records, yearly reports, and other technical services related topics. The group decided to have recurring bimonthly meetings on the 2nd Friday of the month at 10 AM. The next meeting is scheduled for Friday, February 12. A member asked if information about the TS Ad Hoc Committee could be posted on the NHLA website, to generate more interest in the committee. I agree that this is a good idea. If this is possible, it would be useful for the committee to be included under Sections & Committees on the NHLA website and to at least have a page with information about committee meetings. I could then ask the committee members what kind of content they would like to see on a web page. For example, at meetings people often suggest resources and tools that are useful to their work, so maybe the web page could include some of this information. Additionally, it would be good to have the committee meetings added to the NHLA calendar on the website.

Respectfully Submitted,
Angela Brown
Technical Services Ad Hoc Committee Chair

YALS Report to NHLA

February 2021

The Teen Awards Committee has added Teen Book Award Ambassadors to help select the award short lists.

The committee had 40 applications, and has selected four teens serving terms through March 2022. The committee is planning to add four more teens in March/April, so there will be eight teens (four for each award) starting with the 2023 award cycle. The committee will meet on March 18th to select the short list titles for the 2022 award.

At the YALS board meeting in January, an ad hoc committee was formed to work to create a long range plan for YALS. This will give YALS a coherent plan for our future, helping us gain a better understanding of what our members need and how we can address those needs. Julia Lanter has been appointed the committee chairperson.

YALS will be holding a Teen Summer Reading Idea Share event on Thursday, February 11th at 10:00 AM. The description of the program is:

Teen Summer Reading planning is always a challenge, and with so many unknowns in 2021, we could all use a little help! Let's join forces and talk about what we have planned so far, and where we could use some advice. Please bring ideas (in any stage of planning) to share with the group...we're all in this together!

The event is happening virtually via GoToMeeting. Invitations went out on the YALS listserv and on our social media accounts.



In January, one of our board members was targeted in an email scam that sent an email claiming to be from Alex Graves, but was sent from the account officepresident80@gmail.com. The board member purchased gift cards as a result of the scam; YALS opted to reimburse them and use the gift cards as raffle prizes for our next conference. We wanted to make others aware that this type of scam is targeting email addresses listed on the NHLA website.

The next YALS meeting is Thursday, March 25th at 10:00 AM via GoToMeeting.

Respectfully submitted,
Alex Graves
YALS President