

NHLA fall conference business meeting  
Mills Falls Conference Center, Meredith, NH  
November 4, 2021

MINUTES – Approved October 25, 2022.

Meeting was called to order at 11:31 am by Yvette Couser, NHLA President. The meeting agenda was moved by Lori Fisher, seconded by Amy Lappin, and approved by those members in attendance.

Since this meeting does not have a quorum of members in order to conduct business, the approval of the minutes from the November 2019 fall conference was deferred until next fall 2022.

Yvette recognized the Executive Board members in attendance at this meeting: Deb Hoadley, Eric Stern, Jessica DeLangie, Amy Lappin, Lori Fisher, and Carlos Pearman.

Yvette provided an overview of the 2021 NHLA activities and accomplishments in her president's report. The full report is attached. She then noted the open positions on the NHLA Executive Board and asked for individuals to step up to fill those positions: Archivist; Web Site Coordinator, and By-laws chair.

Jessica DeLangie provided a brief verbal Treasurer's report on behalf of Kim Gabert, outgoing Treasurer who sends her regards and apologizes for not being able to be with us today. Jessica indicated that we ended the fiscal year on 6/30/21 with a surplus of \$6098.20 and that going forward the association is operating on a \$0 line budget which means our expenses are planned to equal our income. Therefore our surplus will carry over.

Yvette provided acknowledgment to membership chair Linda Pilla, and provided the membership count as 524 members as of the October 2021 report provided to the Executive Board.

Amy Lappin, Past President, provided a summary of the work of the nominating and awards committees. The nominating committee was composed of members Heather Rainier, Lisa Jose, and Julia Lanter. The following slate of officers were voted upon by the membership via electronic ballot, and will take office on January 1, 2022:

Lisa Houde, VP/President Elect  
Lori Fisher, ALA Councilor  
Mindy Atwood, Secretary  
Amber Coughlin, NELA representative

Amy continued by speaking about the work of the awards committee, whose main task is to award the Ann Geisel Award of Merit, if warranted. They received few nominations for individuals who did great things for their libraries, but the Geisel award is presented for impact on the NH library community at large. The committee decided not to award this honor in 2021. Amy mentioned that the continuing issues with the web site might have played a part in not receiving nominations for the award.

Michael York, State Librarian, presented the state library report. Regarding IMLS ARPA funds, the review panel for sub-grant round #2 (competitive round) is currently meeting and the grant awardees will be announced on December 1<sup>st</sup>. Mike recently met with the Carroll County Library Co-op, and the result of that meeting is an upcoming ILL Virtual Forum that will take place in early December. Notice of this

forum will be sent to all via the NHAIS list. Last, we are watching LSR 2229, which if passed into law would require library trustees to obtain background checks for any new library employee and volunteer. More information will be disseminated to NHLA members through Randy Brough and Lori Fisher, co-chairs of the NHLA Advocacy & Legislative Committee.

Carlos Pearman provided recognition of the 2020 NHLA loan and scholarship recipients and Yvette Couser listed all of the 2021 Paralibrarian certifications (please see President's Report for the full lists).

There was no old business to discuss.

Under new business, Amy Lappin reviewed the by-laws changes that will be disseminated for electronic vote during the week of 11/8, and Lori Fisher provided an overview and handouts (timeline and FAQ document) regarding the NHLA Strategic Plan process.

The meeting was adjourned at 12:17 pm upon motion of Lori Fisher and second by Amy Lappin.

Lori Fisher  
(standing in for Mindy Atwood, NHLA Secretary)

### **NHLA Fall Business Meeting – President's Report**

#### **GOALS:**

- Request to create marketing plan and update our logo – we should do a strategic plan and include this as part of it
- Continue with 2020 President Amy Lappin's goals – she had created a State EcoSystem Task Force (Lori and Amy) Improve communication between other library associations that NHLA works with
- Return focus to establishing the Sustainability Committee

#### **Accomplishments for 2021**

- Retained our NH Lobbyist Teresa Rosenberger of Bernstein Shur under her new contract.
- We followed a lot of legislation and sent letters when appropriate: HB 544/HB 2 Section 330 passed. Letter sent to NH Committee of Conference (Randy Brough, Lori Fisher, Leigh Ann Hamel – Intellectual Freedom chair) Also watched HB111 which removes immunity for employees/municipal officials providing good faith services in the course of their duties.
- Sent a letter to all SAUs in support of NHLMA and certified librarians in the schools.
- Sent letters to Representative Pappas, Representative Kuster, Senator Hassan re: Build Libraries Back; LSTA funds; Thank you to Lori for drafting these letters!
- EDI, Advocacy drafted and sent a letter condemning HB 544
- Recruited Jessica DeLangie as Treasurer-Elect, Deb Hoadley as Conference Chair,
- State EcoSystem Task Force: Continued to welcome reps from NHLTA, (Conrad Moses); NHCUC NH College & University Council (Anne Jung-Matthews)

- Discontinued the Continuing Education Committee at the recommendation of the Chair, Deb Hoadley. The administering of the MacDonald fund was moved to Scholarship and continuing education and training opportunities are being offered by the Para-Librarians, READS, CLNH Sections and the Technical Services, Sustainability, and EDI Committees.
- Developed the EDI, (Leigh Ann Hamel and Sondra Von) Sustainability (Brittany Overton) and Technical Services (Angela Brown) from Task Forces to full Committees. Each of these groups presented their mission and goals to the Board in the spring. \$1000 from the MacDonald fund has been earmarked to the EDI and Sustainability Committees each
- Continue to support NELLs (New England Library Leadership Symposium) New England Emerging Leaders (\$500)
- Clarification on the MacDonald Fund (Amber) it can fund new initiatives
- Hired Piper Mountain Webs, LLC and worked with Dale Dormody to assist with the website migration. Thanks to Marina Buckler and to Mark Glisson
- Social Media Coordinators and managers of the Librarians of the 603 FB page – D Scott Campbell, Azra Palo, Rebecca Berezin and the whole FB Admin Team - well done!

#### Continuing projects for next year

- Strategic Plan – please fill out the survey from Lori and other members of this working group.
- Ongoing discussions with NHLMA as part of building our NH Library EcoSystem. As past president I will be part of this working group and other members will be added as we move forward – CLNH and YALS.
- Explore different website content management system that will better serve the organization's needs
- Documents should be archived in Google Drive, not the website
- Continue to see how we can make NHLA membership valuable for our members
  - NHLA Executive Board should receive EDI training
  - We'll continue to watch legislation. Teresa Rosenberger will be attending the NHLA Board meeting in December which is when the Board transitions. We are looking at LSR 2229 in regards to background checks being required for employees and volunteers.
- Current Board Openings: Archivist, Website Coordinator, 2<sup>nd</sup> Social Media Coordinator, By-Laws

It's been an honor to serve you, my colleagues, in this role.

#### Recognition of ParaLibrarian Certifications from March 16, 2021 Paralibrarian Section meeting:

- Approved the following candidates for certification:
  - Dianna Levesque, Fuller Public Library Hillsboro- Level 1
  - Laura Wing, Fuller Public Library Hillsboro- Level 2
  - Krista Bordeleau, Pelham Public Library- Level 2
  - Hope Garner, Griffin Free Public Library- Level 2
  - Patrick Arnold, Derry Public Library- Level 2

- Dawn Mazur, Derry Public Library- Level 2
- Marie Mehegan, Pembroke Town Library- Level 2
- Samantha Gallo, Fuller Public Library- Level 4

Recognition of Scholarship Recipients:

The scholarship committee met virtually on April 9, 2021 to discuss applications received during the Spring 2021 application cycle.

The committee decided to award the Rosalie Norris grant to:

- **Nicholas Gagnon**, currently employed at the Durham Public Library and the Rochester Public Library
- **Meredith Telschow**, currently employed at the Salem (Kelley) Library

The F. Mabel Winchell Loan was awarded to:

- **Effat (Arefe) Koushki**, currently employed at the Merrimack Public Library