

NH & MA Paralibrarian Board Meeting  
April 27, 2018 10:00 AM  
Hooksett Library

Attendance: From MA; Allison Sloan, Gerry Deyermond, Lori Salotto. Sarah Frost-Belmont, Lee Ann Chase-Hooksett, Julie Spokane-Brooklyn, Eileen Gilbert-Brooklyn, Heather Rainier-Hooksett.  
Remotely: Adam Di Filippo-Holderness, Sarah Cornell-Portsmouth, Deb Hoadley- Sandown, Edmund Lowe-Nashua.

Meeting called to order: 10:30

Allison gave an overview of how MA Para group came to be and how they followed what New York had and how they have moved it forward to what it is today.

MA has a library Commission

They have a program called the BLT (Basic Library Techniques) for directors of small libraries under 10,000 if they do not have their Masters of Library Science degree and this is funded by the state. It is through their Continuing Ed it has the basic classes, Administration, Cataloging, Collection Development and Reference. It was asked if this would be something available for NH staff to take but they said no as it is always full.

NH Continue Education will be offering core classes for the five categories of library services similar to the MA BLT.

MA has certified 13 last year and 9 so far this year. NH has certified 6 last year.

NY has a 2-3 day conference for support staff.

Currently every state in the NELA except for RI has a Paralibrarian program.

Before we blend competency of all of our certifications we will need to work between the MA and NH.

Will need to petition NELA. Will need to approval from MLA, MBLC and NHLA.

When we have worked this out we will then move to work with one of the other states.

Not a regional but a reciprocity instead.

We will have a formal meeting to go through all of the guidelines from both states to see what aligns and where changes need to be made. Formal release document that both states would then need to approve.

Discussed what would we use as form, a certification or an award letter that both states would use and be excepted in both states. Was decided that we will use an award letter stating the reciprocity.

Will need to promote to all libraries to let all know about the reciprocity at all conferences, co-ops and where else that we are meeting. On both MA and NH websites.

Question was asked to MA librarians if they have a list of those that have received their certification and they let us know that they do list them on their website. Was decided that we in NH should also list those that have received their certification on our website blog with a link to the list.

If either of the states needs to make a change we will need to meet again.

Deb suggested that we talk with the other state reps to get a discussion going and suggested that we have a meeting at the NELA Conference. She will work it so that there is a session for us and will let the other state reps know so that we can put the idea out there so that they can think about doing the same.

Was decided that we would schedule a meeting for Fall to meet to start the discussion.

Adjourned 11:42

Respectfully submitted, Lee Ann Chase/Hooksett Library.