



**NHLA Executive Board Meeting Minutes**

**October 8, 2019, 2:00**

**NHMA 25 Triangle Park Drive Concord, NH**

Call to order at: 2:02 PM

Members Present: Christine Friese, Amy Lappin, Sarah St. Martin, Deann Hunter, Kim Gabert, Sylvie Brikiatis, Lori Fisher, Sam Lucius, Betsy Solon, Julia Lanter, Deb Hoadley, Caitlin Loving, Randy Brough, Lisa Jose, Carlos Pearman, Emily Weiss, Marita Klements.

Auditors: Kara Fontaine, Todd Haynes.

Motion to approve the agenda as amended made by Lori, seconded by Amy. Motion passed.

Motion to approve August Executive Board minutes made by Carlos, seconded by Lisa. Motion passed.

- Auditors Report
  - Howe, Riley & Howe merged with Wipfli, so will see both names on report.
  - A review was conducted this and last year. The audit will be next year.
  - They did not notice any big changes that needed to be made to numbers.
    - There was an increase in earned revenue due to the success of the Spring Conference. Conference expenses were also up.
    - Accounting fees were down, due to the review vs. audit.
    - Legal fees were up vs. last year, but that is due to an adjustment.
  - There was a new accounting standard implemented this year. Changes are listed in the Financial Statements.
  - There will be a new standard adopted next year as well: Revenue Recognition. Our report might need longer footnotes explaining Membership fees and Conference income. This is a 5 step model for all NH industries, whether nonprofit or for-profit, where previously there were many different standards.
  - Motion to accept Financial Statements as presented made by Deann, seconded by Sylvie. Motion passed.
  
- MacMillan embargo
  - NHLA doesn't buy ebooks. With MacMillan embargo, NHLA can get the word out, and can support decisions from other groups, like NHDB, GMILCS, or others.
  - Macmillan opened up their titles to Advantage libraries, so that might actually strengthen purchasing from libraries if Advantage libraries buy copies.



- ALA has done work with authors, and encouraged State chapters to oppose the embargo. Lori will check with Alan Inouye when she's in DC for ALA Policy Corps to see if there are any updates.
  
- Lynda and LinkedIn Learning updates
  - Libraries who have subscriptions received communication that Lynda is pausing instead of immediately upgrading to the LinkedIn Learning.
  
- President's Report
  - There are two LSR's specifically regarding libraries.
    - LSR 2393 (Relative to employees of public libraries)
    - LSR 2400 (Requiring criminal background checks for persons brought into a library to interact with minors in library-sponsored events).
    - If these LSR's are assigned to a committee, that's when these statements are worked on to become bills.
  - Girlswhocode.com
    - Looking for ways to spread word about their programs they can offer at libraries. Information can be forwarded to NHAIS and YALS.
  - Literacy specialist contacted Christine for book donations to Franklin middle school.
    - Christine will contact Franklin public library. Will also mention CLiF.
  - The December meeting will be 4 hours, from 12:00-4:00, to welcome and orient new board members and look at the past year and coming one.
    - Christine requested that Committee Chairs provide her with the names of all active Committee members (she doesn't need Section names as those are listed on the website).
    - Would like to discuss how Committees are structured and what they are doing.
    - Christine was asked at NELLs about a Tech Services Committee. Discussed at Officers meeting, perhaps could be subcommittee of ITS.
    - Christine was also approached by the NH Society of Genealogists ([nhsog.org](http://nhsog.org)) about potentially having a genealogist entity of NHLA.
  - Journalist Shawne Wickham from the Union Leader heard about libraries being involved in the census, and would like to do an article for a Sunday edition.
  
- [President Elect's Report](#)
  - Fall Conference.



- Only need 6 more to sign up to reach a quorum. Oct 18 deadline, will send out NHAIS reminder, ask Azra to put on social media.
  - Amy drafted a Resolution of the importance of sustainability in libraries. Lori made a motion that as a body we move to bring this Resolution to the membership meeting in November, seconded by Caitlin. Motion passed.
  - Secretary will need reports well before Nov. meeting to send out to the membership. Sarah will ask for them to be due Oct 18.
  - \$100 gift certificate raffling off for the eateries at the Boston Public Library. This is a purchase raffle, with proceeds going to Membership for programs.
  - There are at least 3 raffles, so we need 3 different colored tickets. Sustainability drawings (free entry for carpooling, bring water bottle and name tag), and 2 paid raffles: Scholarship and Membership.
  - Will need 2 checks ready for Conference day, for Rebekkah and Roots Catering.
- [Past President's Report](#)
    - Approval to purchase an annual subscription to Survey Monkey
      - No longer have a month by month option. Basic upgrade is \$372 for annual subscription. Most cost effective option.
      - Discussion of other options, including Google forms (not as automated, more difficult and time consuming), and WildApricot (has survey option, but not as comprehensive as Survey Monkey).
      - Julia made a motion to purchase a 1 year subscription to Survey Monkey, seconded by Kim. Motion passed.
    - Continuing Education options, being able to videotape, record, stream.
      - Have YouTube channel, and can post to membership. Free option, but not for registered/interactive webinars.
      - Zoom seems inexpensive, but needed extra costs for webinar access.
      - GoToWebinar as an add-on to our GoToMeeting subscription. Would cost approximately \$600/year, which would include GoToMeeting, so looking at a \$360 around increase for this year.
      - NELA and MALA both use GoToWebinar, and it works nicely. Might not be able to authenticate with Wild Apricot.
      - Will discuss at Dec. board meeting.
    - Received 117 ballots. Will authenticate once purchase Survey Monkey.



- [Treasurer's Report](#)
  - The balance sheet includes numbers that the treasurer's report doesn't, which explains why the number lower in the treasurer's report.
  - If an event coordinator is cancelling a registration that requires a refund, it's best to contact the Treasurer, who will do the cancellation.
  
- State Library Report
  - DPLA application accepted. Will be taking next steps with partners.
  - ILL system went live today. Any major problems or questions send to helpdesk as someone is always monitoring that email.
  
- New Business
  - Review of Cancellation Policies
    - All NHLA events, including section and committee events, should be following NHLA's Cancellation Policies.
    - Cancellation Policy should be posted for all events, and included on registration page so that when someone registers, they have to click that they have read the policy. Would also like to add the Conference Code of Conduct as a checkbox.
    - Conference templates might be able to be created in Wild Apricot.
    - If someone requests a refund, and they paid by credit card, it's easier to refund that credit card, not send check. Policy currently states all refunds will be sent by check.
    - Christine will rewrite the Cancellation Policy to discuss at the December meeting with no content changes, just clarification of language.
  
- CCC
  - A Dartmouth College librarian contacted Christine to be involved in NHLA's CCC.
  - Christine met with Nicole McKenzie, United States Census Partnership Specialist. She'll be sending information of who's in charge of counties. Christine will send out email to NHLTA and all libraries in State.
  - This month the census is doing recruiting for census jobs, and asking libraries to host sessions and/or to get the word out that Census needs staff.
  
- Section and Committee reports
  - [Scholarship](#)
    - No applications were made, so looking at increasing advertising.



- Can look at NHLA student membership, or send a general email to members.
- Continuing Education Committee
- Membership
  - BPL trip went well, everyone had a good time. There was a small problem with lunch which is why we were given the gift certificate.
  - Lisa will do a 10-15 minute training on Wild Apricot at the Dec. meeting. Will also take names to update permissions.
- [YALS](#): Review submission as lots of changes.
- [CLNH](#): Conference is full, thanks Lisa and Deann for help with payments and WildApricot.
- [READS](#): Over 50 registered for conference.
- [ULAC](#): No report this month.
- Paralibrarian Section
- [Advocacy Committee](#)
- Information Technology Section: No news or updates to report.
- [Intellectual Freedom Committee](#)
- Conference Committee
  - We have signed a contract with Mill Falls for the 2021 spring conference. Deposit has been sent.
- Bylaws Committee: no report
- Legislative Committee: See President's report of LSR's
- ALA Liaison
  - Show and tell of the candidate packet items. Whatever we don't use, NHLA can use going forward. All items paid for by ALA.
  - Primary Event: Looking for another venue as the State Library will not work. Looking at December date.
- New England Library Association Liaison
- [NH Center for the Book Liaison](#)
- NHLTA liaison: no report
- Social Media: no report
- Archivist: continuing to work through archives.

Adjourned at 4:05.

Respectfully submitted by Sarah St. Martin



## **NHLA President Elect Report**

October 2019

Everything is looking in place for the NHLA Fall Conference & Business Meeting, November 1 at the Hooksett Public Library. As of Friday, October 4, registration is at 48. A posting went to the NHAIS list earlier in the week and I will ask Azra to promote the event on social media over the next two weeks. Registration closes on October 18.

The theme of the one day event is sustainability in libraries and Rebekkah Smith Aldrich, our keynote speaker has asked if NHLA would consider adopting a resolution on the importance of sustainable libraries. I have included a draft in this report with the intention of discussing as a board whether or not we would like to send this resolution to the membership for a vote at the annual business meeting.

### DRAFT

#### **New Hampshire Library Association Resolution on the Importance of Sustainable Libraries**

**Whereas**, libraries are essential to the communities they serve; and

**Whereas**, library leaders have a mandate to ensure future access to library services which are environmentally sound, economically feasible, and socially equitable; and

**Whereas**, people who work in libraries and access resources and services in our facilities deserve a healthy environment in which to do so; and

**Whereas**, libraries that demonstrate leadership in making sustainability a priority will stabilize and reduce their long term energy costs, will create a healthy environment for all community members, and will improve the quality of life in the communities they serve; and

**Whereas**, libraries that demonstrate good stewardship of the resources entrusted to them can strengthen their base of support in their communities which leads to sustainable funding; and

**Whereas**, the scientific community has clearly communicated that current trends in climate change are of great concern to all; and

**Whereas**, the American Library Association adopted sustainability as a core value of librarianship at their January 2019 Midwinter Meeting in Seattle, Washington;

therefore be it

**Resolved**, that the New Hampshire Library Association, on behalf of its members recognizes the important role libraries can play in larger community conversations about resiliency, climate change, and a sustainable future; and be it further



**Resolved**, that the New Hampshire Library Association encourages activities by its membership, by itself, and by all types of libraries, to be proactive in their application of sustainable thinking in the areas of their facilities, operations, policy making, technology, programming, and partnerships.

Draft, October 8, 2019

Adapted from the New York Library Association's Resolution on the Importance of Sustainable Libraries (February, 2014), The Vermont Library Association Resolution Concerning Library Sustainability (May, 2017), and the American Library Association Resolution of the Importance of Sustainable Libraries (June, 2015).

Respectfully submitted,

Amy Lappin



**NHLA Past President's Report for October 2019**

Electronic Ballot was sent out on September 4<sup>th</sup>. Voting closed on September 27<sup>th</sup>. We received 117 ballots and I am still authenticating all the votes (see Survey Monkey below). The text of the proposed membership increase/changes was included in the email.

Links to the proposed membership changes/ increases have been included in the reminder emails to conference registrants.

Survey Monkey no longer allows month to month subscriptions at a reasonable rate. I would like board approval to purchase an annual subscription at \$372.00/year.

Researched Webinar options: Preliminary information is as follows:

- GoToWebinar approximately \$600 but includes Gotomeeting so increase would be approximately \$360
- Zoom \$180 less functionality,

We have a Youtube channel. That can be an option for free, non-registered content.

Respectfully submitted by,

Sylvie Brikiatis, NHLA Past President



## NHLA Treasurer's Report

October 2019

Deann Hunter, NHLA Treasurer

### Financial Report

Please find attached a copy of

- NHLA's September 2019 Profit & Loss Statement
- NHLA's Balance Sheet as of September 30, 2019
- FY20 Income and Expenses as of September 30, 2019

NHLA's total assets as of September 30, 2019 were \$230,486.71.

### Wild Apricot Clean Up

I have been working with the Membership Chair and the Treasurer-Elect on cleaning up overpaid Wild Apricot accounts. There is still work to be done.

### Document Retention

I have finished shredding financial documents according to the guidelines set forth in NHLA's Document Retention Policy.

Below is a listing of cash held by each account as of September 30, 2019.

NHLA checking	\$4,024.60
NHLA savings	\$64,053.50
CLNH	\$16,489.99
READS	\$4,883.00
PARALIB	\$5,120.52
ULAC	\$2,312.94
YALS	\$5,488.16
ITS	\$960.02
WINCHELL LOAN (revolving fund)	\$26,998.55
NORRIS (scholarship)	\$2,778.95
MACDONALD FUND (continuing ed/professional development)	\$13,614.22



**Continuing Education Committee Report**

October 4, 2019

The CE Committee has not met since our last Executive Board Meeting. I have been out on family medical leave for a couple of months, and have not been able to hold a meeting.

One of our members, Sarah Smith (Rochester Public Library) resigned from the CE Committee this summer. I would like to thank Sarah for her time and input while she was on the committee.

Nothing else to report.

Submitted by Deb Hoadley, Chair



### Membership Chair Report

NHLA Executive Board Meeting - Tuesday, Oct. 8<sup>th</sup>, 2019

- Summary as of 10/3/19:

**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	<u>3</u>	<u>1</u>	<u>2</u>	<u>2</u>	-	-	-	-	-
First Time Member	<u>97</u>	<u>61</u>	<u>30</u>	<u>33</u>	<u>3</u>	-	-	-	<u>2</u>
Library Run by 1 Person	<u>21</u>	<u>12</u>	<u>9</u>	<u>9</u>	-	-	-	-	-
Lifetime Member	<u>48</u>	<u>48</u>	-	-	-	-	-	-	-
Retired Librarian	<u>5</u>	<u>3</u>	<u>2</u>	<u>2</u>	-	-	-	-	-
Salary \$25,000 - \$50,000	<u>230</u>	<u>194</u>	<u>36</u>	<u>34</u>	-	<u>1</u>	<u>1</u>	-	-
Salary over \$50,000	<u>139</u>	<u>113</u>	<u>26</u>	<u>26</u>	-	-	-	-	-
Salary under \$25,000	<u>174</u>	<u>128</u>	<u>41</u>	<u>41</u>	<u>3</u>	<u>1</u>	<u>1</u>	-	-
Trustee/Friend /Student	<u>44</u>	<u>29</u>	<u>15</u>	<u>15</u>	-	-	-	-	-
Unemployed Librarian	<u>2</u>	<u>1</u>	<u>1</u>	<u>1</u>	-	-	-	-	-
<b>Total</b>	<b><u>763</u></b>	<b><u>590</u></b>	<b><u>162</u></b>	<b><u>163</u></b>	<b><u>6</u></b>	<b><u>2</u></b>	<b><u>2</u></b>	-	<b><u>2</u></b>

- Wrapped up loose ends from Boston Public Library trip held on Sun., 8/18/19:
  - Emails regarding partial refund for catering order completed with Alyssa at The Catered Affair
  - Recorded final numbers for income & expenses
  - Billed cancellation fee to all no-shows/cancellation notifications
  - Submitted payment forms to Treasurer
  - Consulted with President, Past President, & President Elect on plan for Membership to raffle off gift certificate for BPL eateries at Fall Conference
- Membership Committee meeting is Fri., Oct. 4<sup>th</sup> (GoTo Meeting)
- Processed new NHLA renewals/applications & payments
- Processed NHLA Fall Conference payments
- Added section memberships upon request
- Merged duplicate contacts
- Monitored email bounce-backs for Wild Apricot
- Submitted the September & October NELA/NHLA Joint Membership Reports to NELA
- Re-directed other NHLA event payments on the state van that made their way to me
  - Emailed respective event coordinators with registrant's name, check #, amount, and date before sending on van



- Processed some event payments for other sections due to multiple event payments being included in one check sent to me (acquired permission from event coordinators before processing)
- Sent instructions to Exec. Board & some event coordinators on how to include “mail to” information on members’ profile invoices, and the event pages
- Began copying incoming Membership Chair on relevant emails with information for future.
- Assisted Past President with adding registration type & code for event
- Solved issues with several Wild Apricot accounts that the Treasurer & incoming Treasurer needed assistance with.

Respectfully Submitted,

Lisa Jose  
NHLA Membership Chair



### **October 2019 YALS President's Report**

The YALS Fall Conference took place on September 26, 2019 with 66 teen librarians from across the state and in attendance. Edwards Award winner M. T. Anderson was an excellent speaker and YALS highly recommends him for future conferences. Attached is the President's Report and the newly updated and approved YALS Bylaws.

YALS officials now take office on January 1<sup>st</sup>. YALS officers now for the first time officially have terms of office. Most members of the Executive Board are officers for 2 years, with the exception of Treasurer, Vice President, President and Past President which are part of a three year term. The Board has added a Social Media and Website Chair and the two teen awards are now chaired by one individual who sits on the board as chair of the newly merged "Teen Awards Committee" which represents both the Isinglass and Flume award. Justine Farfara is the new Teen Awards Chair, Barb Ballou and Marijo Siergiej are now co-Social Media and Website Chairs and Alex Graves is incoming Vice President and we now have a new Secretary, Jennifer Hartshorn.

YALS will not hold its Fall Conference on years when the NHLA Spring Conference is held.

Respectfully Submitted,  
Julia Lanter  
October 2, 2019



## **CLNH Section Report for NHLA Executive Board**

CLNH met on September 13th.

The CLNH Fall conference will take place October 24th. The registration deadline is 10/7. Presently we have 118 library workers registered. The conference will include a panel on changes in summer reading, break out discussions on topics our members requested during our session at the NHLA spring conference, and the KBA performers showcase.

Kris Murphy of Nashua Public Library has joined the board as our new NERTCL representative. John Locke of the Meredith Public Library has been nominated for Vice President. Voting will take place at the fall conference.

The board reviewed the nominations for Children's Librarian of the Year and selected this year's recipient. The award will be presented at the fall conference.

President Sam Lucius represented CLNH at the Collaborative Summer Library Program (CSLP) annual meeting in Indianapolis. There are many exciting changes coming to summer reading including a redesigned manual, more inclusive terms of use for summer artwork, and more relevant products and incentives for purchase.

The board approved \$100 to be spent on a new CLNH logo. We have received several excellent options from the designer already and will seek member feedback on the final design and color.

Respectfully submitted,  
Sam Lucius  
CLNH President



## **READS President Report October 8, 2019**

The READS Executive Board met on September 13, 2019 at LGC in Concord. The board discussed the 2019 Fall Business Meeting and the READS Award of Excellence. We talked about setting up a “Steal This Content” resource for READS members to access for their own Social Media pages and will continue that discussion at our November meeting.

### **Other news from READS:**

- On September 13<sup>th</sup> we had 197 active members. The emailed August newsletter reached 186 members and was opened by 49% of them. The next newsletter will go out on 10/8/19.
- A Facebook event page was created for the Fall Conference as was a survey of Spring Roundtable topic ideas.
- READS-TO-GO has weeded 4 kits and added 2 more. There are 4 more kits pending. The READS-TO-GO website has been transferred to the READS section of NHLA’s site and the domain names have been transferred to a new Go Daddy account with the [rtgchair@nhlibrarians.org](mailto:rtgchair@nhlibrarians.org) email. The old READS-TO-GO blog will be decommissioned soon.

**Next READS Executive Board meeting:** Friday, November 8<sup>th</sup> at 10am at the Local Government Center in Concord. This will be our “transition” meeting for new officers.

Respectfully submitted,

Betsy Solon  
READS President



### **Paralibrarian Section Report for NHLA Executive Board**

The Paralibrarian Board met on August 16, 2019

Elections are underway and the results will be made available at our October 11 meeting. Positions up for election are:

- 2019 Vice President/President Elect by Write-in vote (vacated earlier this year and still open)
- 2020 Vice President/President Elect

Although we expect to have an incoming candidate to fill the vice president/president position for 2020, it is possible that because the 2019 vice president resigned earlier this year, and no replacement was found, that we may not have a president in position for 2020.

We have received the signed copies of the reciprocal agreement made with the Massachusetts Paralibrarian Section. They will be scanned and entered into the Paralibrarian Folder on the NHLA shared Google Drive.

The Paralibrarian Section will be offering the following classes:

- October 10 - Library Management: the nuts and bolts with Amanda Reynolds Cooper in Hampton
- October 28- Local History Collections/Programming with Nicole Cloutier in Portsmouth
- November 4 - Volunteers in Public Libraries with Lori Fisher in Hooksett
- November 8 - Preparing Your Paralibrarian Certification Application Info. Session with Para Board Members in Laconia

Three new Paralibrarian Certifications were awarded:

- Level 1 to Mary Hubbard from Peterborough Town Library
- Level 1 to Aimee LaRue from Peterborough Town Library
- Level 1 to Stacy Desrosiers from Goffstown Public Library

The first Para Mini Conference is happening on October 4 at the Audubon Center in Concord. At last check, we were up to 39 registrations.

Our next meeting date is scheduled for Friday, October 11, 2019

Respectfully submitted,

Lisa Cutter

Paralibrarian Section President



## **Advocacy Committee report for NHLA Board Meeting, 10/8/2019**

### **1. ALA & NH Primary initiative overview/tasks**

The presidential candidate packages are being put together, and the majority of two-pagers are completed (I will send the pdfs of ALL when I receive them to the NHLA Exec Board Google list as well as those libraries who are mentioned in them). We have run into a snag regarding the date of the event, which was supposed to occur on 10/19. Governor Sununu does not want the event held at NHSL (we are looking at alternative venues) and ALA legal counsel is concerned over the format given ALA's IRS status. There are meetings and phone calls scheduled this week, so we hope to have a new date and firmed-up format ready to disclose soon. The NH Secretary of State's office plans to announce the filing period dates for the NH Primary this week too, so that will help us plan.

### **2. Strengthening contact with NH Congressional District offices in NH**

Due to my fractured foot, I emailed the September through December events lists to the four NH Congressional delegation district offices. They were all appreciative! I will be starting the Jan – March 2020 event lists in November, with a plan to visit the district offices before Christmas. If your library would like to contribute an event to this calendar that dovetails with the following issue areas, please email [lori.fisher@dncr.nh.gov](mailto:lori.fisher@dncr.nh.gov): Veterans; Seniors; Workforce Development; STEM/STEAM; Community Collaborations; Civic Engagement.

### **3. Engage platform – promotion and additional coordinators**

Mary Cronin and Rebecca Stockbridge have taken time to attend webinars and “play” with our Engage platform. There will be an Engage campaign going out prior to 11/21, since the federal FY 20 budget has a continuing resolution from the US House and US Senate until that time, and the Senate has yet to vote on the proposed funding levels for IMLS. If you haven't signed up to receive alerts, please visit <http://cqrcengage.com/alanh/home?0> and register as an NHLA Advocate.

### **4. Ebooks and Macmillan activities**

Since the NHLA exec board approved having NHLA president Christine Friese send a letter to Macmillan stating our position that we oppose their embargo, I asked Christine if she could provide an op-ed in a major NH paper to that effect as well. ALA tasked the Policy Corps to write op-eds, but I didn't feel that an op-ed coming from me would have the impact we want. Using ALA's template and stats obtained from Bobbi Slossar, I created a draft letter which Christine edited. We've sent it to the Concord Monitor, and if they don't respond by 10/2 we will send it to the Union Leader next. In addition, Mary Cronin and I tried to create an Engage campaign about the #ebooksforall petition, but have found that Engage really is only useful for contacting legislators. Instead, I created and sent a message through Wild Apricot to reach our members, and asked Azra to send out a FB post and Tweet regarding the petition.

### **5. ALA Policy Corps**

The fall meeting of ALA Policy Corps will take place Oct 21 – 23 in Washington DC. Cohort II (which I am a part of) will be interacting with Cohort I on Monday and early Tuesday, and then the rest of the time will be devoted to honing presentations skills, particularly on video (oh boy).

Respectfully submitted: Lori Fisher, Chair of the NHLA Advocacy Committee



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New Hampshire Library Association | [nhlibrarians.org](http://nhlibrarians.org)



**Intellectual Freedom Committee Report**

**Tuesday, October 8<sup>th</sup>, 2019**

I shared resources for Banned Books Week on the NHAIS list and asked libraries to send pictures of their displays to share. I received several responses and I'll be posting them to the NHLA Facebook page and the IFC page of the NHLA site.

Respectfully submitted,

Caitlin Loving

Chair, Intellectual Freedom Committee

10/8/2019



## **NELA report for NHLA –**

Executive Board Meeting,  
September 20, 2019; Nevins Library, Methuen, MA 01844

- Prior to this meeting, the strategic plan committee assigned a member to interview various members of the NELA Executive Board about a draft version of their new strategic plan. I spoke with Kimberly Usselman, Bylaws Chair about the plan, over the phone in early September. I asked for clarification of aspects of the plan regarding finances and stressed the importance of NELA to directly emphasize service to its members as a key aspect of its plan going forward.
- NERTCL, the children's and teens services section of NELA has revised its bylaws and those will be approved by the board in a virtual meeting.
- Mary Etter & Maureen Sullivan are hosting a program at the NELA conference to introduce NELS to next generation. NELS flyers will be handed out as well. NELS II is tentatively scheduled for Aug. 11-13, 2020 at Rolling Ridge. Maureen Sullivan looking for a doctoral candidate to perform a study of the career impact of NELS on its participants.
- Jessica Miller will be the new membership committee chair. The membership committee sought the executive board's input on how to handle out-of-New England resume review requests. Two resume reviewers received submissions from librarians in Chicago. NELA appreciates volunteers' willingness to review resumes and understands that their time is valuable but does not expect them to review resumes from across the country. To prevent this, the following sentence was added to the web page: "This service is available to all New England librarians and library students." Any outside reviews can be done at the resume reviewers discretion. The word "staff" was also added to the resume review service description to be more inclusive to paraprofessionals.
- Deb Hoadley was able to get two vendors to sponsor a ticketed pizza-and-a-movie night at NELA in support of scholarship funding.
- Chuck McAndrew of ITS and the helpdesk is investigating ways to make the NELA website more secure with encryption. There is more help desk training and orientation planned.
- ITS is looking for a new Chair. Chuck McAndrew is transitioning from ITS Chair to help desk.
- NERTCL is in need of several section members.
- NETSL (New England Technical Services Librarians) has elected a new executive board.
- Michelle Sampson, the Maine state representative, reported that a year-long



statewide Reciprocal Borrowing Pilot Program began recently. If patrons in good standing belong to 1 of 3 Maine library networks, they may return books and/or use their home library card to check out items at any participating library within those systems. Approximately 60 libraries are participating.

- RILA (Rhode Island Library Association) reported that they were able to secure a \$200,000 increase to State Aid for Public Libraries. Working with Senator Hanna Gallo, Chair of the Senate Education Committee, they wrote and introduced S978, a bill that would require that the library-media program outlined in the Rhode Island Basic Education Plan (BEP) in section G-13-1.3.11 be staffed by a school librarian with certification from an American Library Association (ALA) accredited program. The bill was introduced late in the session and faced opposition from the Rhode Island Department of Education (RIDE) and the Rhode Island School Superintendents Association. The bill was held in committee for further study.

- The GSLIS program at the University of Rhode Island will be transitioning to an online accelerated program in 2021.

- RILA sent a letter to Macmillan to reverse the library eBook embargo.

[https://drive.google.com/file/d/10u-2m3Q61IFcPtXc\\_v2ziyOmUnTBg\\_uB/view](https://drive.google.com/file/d/10u-2m3Q61IFcPtXc_v2ziyOmUnTBg_uB/view)

- RILA is hosting a meeting for the most recent NELLs participants to share what they learned and encourage ways they can participate in state and regional association leadership. They will be asked to help recruit future NELLs applicants.

- Amanda Williams is the new Vermont representative

- NELA president Sue Edmonds presented the NELA Strategic Plan that was developed from March to July 2019 with ESC Consultants and a committee of eight. The plan will span three years. Surveys, meetings and interviews were completed. They used a SOAR analysis process. The Administrative committee approved plan with some edits to be incorporated into the final plan. Past President and President will be co-chairs on the committee for implementation and reporting for the next year. As soon as the final form of this plan is available I will include a link to it in my report.

- NELA uses Airtable to organise conference volunteering duties and schedules, among other things.

- The NELA annual conference will take place from October 20th to the 22nd at the Mystic Marriott Hotel and Spa in Groton CT. The hotel room block is full.

- The next meeting will be November 15, 2019, Hogan Center, Holy Cross, Worcester, MA. It will be a full board orientation meeting.

Respectfully submitted,  
Amber Coughlin



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New Hampshire Library Association | [nhlibrarians.org](http://nhlibrarians.org)

NHLA representative to NELA



## Center for the Book Update

Oct. 2, 2019

On August 27, Mary Russell announced that the Center for the Book will be unable to offer Letters About Literature during the 2019-2020 school year. The following message was published on the Book Notes Blog:

“The [Center for the Book in the Library of Congress](#), which has provided support and all the funding for Letters About Literature to the NH Center since 2004 notified all the state Centers for the Book in mid-June that they are ending the program:

The Center for the Book in the Library of Congress is proud of the 27 years it has sponsored the Letters About Literature program with affiliated Centers for the Book. This national reading and writing competition, which has touched more than one million students, has been a source of much joy and inspiration at the nation’s library. We are grateful for your unflagging support of this initiative.

I write to let you know that, after much analysis and reflection, the Library has decided that Letters About Literature will conclude with the 2018-2019 program. The Library has developed a new Strategic Plan, and must focus its resources in direct support of that Plan.

After receiving this notice the [NH Center for the Book Advisory Board](#) discussed the issue and determined that without the financial support of the Library of Congress we are unable to offer this program to New Hampshire students for the 2019-2020 school year.

[Letters About Literature](#) is a program that supports reading and the thoughtful consideration of how literature relates to our lives and we would like to see it continue in our state. There are several state Centers planning to fund and manage the program within their own states in the coming school year. The NH Center will be looking at whether we can find the resources to resume the program, following the model being created now by other state centers, for the fall of 2020. If this proves possible we will make announcements about our plans by early May 2020.”

Respectfully submitted,

Emily Weiss