

New Hampshire Library Trustees Association

Board of Directors Meeting via Zoom

Wednesday, March 3, 2021, 10:00 am

Attending: Deb Caplan, Connie Kirwin, Conrad Moses, Katrinka Pellecchia, Mark Branoff, Renee Mallett, Marcia McLaughlin, John Stone, Tammy Hooker, Anne Chant, Lara Berry, Denise Van Zanten

Katrinka called the meeting to order at 10:03am.

John made a motion to accept the minutes from the February meeting. Lara seconded the motion. PASSED.

Renee made a motion to accept the Treasurer's Report. John seconded the motion. PASSED.

Denise said Manchester was moving back to in person meetings. She talked about upcoming House Bill 544, which could impact diversity training and education. The NHLA had written a letter in support of NH School Librarians as many media specialist jobs have been eliminated from school budgets. The NHLA will not be asking that library workers get moved forward in the vaccination queue. Vaccinations state-wide are already moving along and the efforts by many groups to move educators up has failed.

Discussion followed on small and rural libraries statewide. Lara said there used to be an annual small library summit but that in recent years it had fallen by the wayside. It was estimated that there are around 100 small libraries in the state versus 230-240 libraries total.

Education. Lara mentioned the possibility of a small library roundtable. Connie asked for further clarification as what a small library was defined as. Lara said for the purpose of the conference they were considering any library that served a population of 3,000 residents or fewer to be a small library. She said some nationwide statistics considered anything under 20,000 residents a small library but that did not accurately reflect New Hampshire's population or density.

Lara said the contract for the keynote speaker for the Spring Conference has been signed and all other speakers are scheduled.

Lara asked about a timeline for the manual revisions. Katrinka said they had been sent to the proofreader and would be edited before going to layout and design. Lara suggested a final draft be held off until after the conference so it could reflect some of the diversity and anti-racism best practices from the conference speakers.

New Business. Connie made a motion to accept the updated criteria to the award letters. Lara seconded the motion. PASSED.

Connie made a motion not to increase dues for the 21-22 fiscal year. Anne seconded the motion. PASSED.

The need to recruit new board members was discussed. Conrad is retiring as a library trustee but will continue his work with the NHLTA.

Governance Committee. Katrinka said the Governance Committee met on March 18. They are suggesting the Finance Committee be increased to four people and have asked Tammy Hooker to join. They also discussed scholarships and making the process more transparent.

Marcia made a motion to increase the Finance Committee to four members and to add Tammy to the committee. Renee seconded. Some discussion followed on the benefits of having an additional board member serve on that committee. PASSED.

Marcia made a motion to adjourn at 11:53am. Connie seconded. PASSED.

The next board meeting will be Wednesday, April 7th at 10 am, on Zoom.

Respectfully submitted, Renee Mallett