

## **New Hampshire Library Trustees Association**

Board of Directors Meeting via Zoom

Wednesday, April 7, 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, Denise Van Zanten, Michael York

Katrinka called the meeting to order at 10:02am.

John made a motion to accept the minutes from the March meeting, with correction to some typos. Deb seconded the motion. PASSED.

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

**State Library.** Michael York gave a report on the State Library. Currently the library is open by appointment only due to the Covid-19 pandemic. The library has not seen a lot of visitors since the change to the by appointment policy. ARPA funds of just over \$2 million have been received to offset some of the costs of the pandemic. The money will be distributed to libraries around the state with sub-grants. All funds need to be spent by September 30, 2022. There is a potential for more library funding tied to the proposed Biden Infrastructure plan. It was mentioned that while New Hampshire has seen a number of library construction projects so far, they have all been paid for by the local taxpayers. Michael made an offer to host the NHLTA in the future when the library can open more fully to the public.

**NHLA.** Denise said the full NHLA board would be meeting the next week and working on a budget. The two House Bills mentioned at previous meetings are still on their radar. The NHLA is surveying library trustees to see what connections they might have to local and state officials so a contact sheet can be created for advocacy purposes.

**Budget.** The board reviewed the budget emailed by Mark. At Marcia's questioning it was explained that the NHLTA pays a membership fee to belong to the Center for New Hampshire Non-Profits. Being members of this group entitles members to get discounted rates on workshops. In the past members have attended the group's meetings and workshops. Mark suggested increasing the line item for Special Projects.

The costs for the manual revisions were discussed. Katrinka believes most of the cost will be coming from the current year's budget. Mark confirmed that the State Library could assist in getting the manuals out to trustees once the edits were complete. Tammy asked about having an electronic version of the manual. Connie said a digital version is available on the website but that even with this resource she gets requests for replacement copies of the physical manual.

Connie asked if membership renewals would be mailed this year as there were some issues with emailing them last year. She said they are normally mailed no later than April 30<sup>th</sup>.

Connie made a motion to bring the proposed budget to the membership for approval. Deb seconded the motion. PASSED.

**Education.** Katrinka said the latest edition of the newsletter would be advertising the conference.

**Governance Committee.** The Governance Committee is suggesting a change to the scholarship program to better support trustees. In recent years, the scholarships have been going towards MLIS tuition payments, oftentimes for amounts as low as \$250. Governance feels it would be more impactful to do fewer scholarships for more significant sums of money. Mark felt it was important that everyone who applied received some amount of money. Anne said that in the 2019-2020 fiscal year nine awards had been given, six to go towards graduate school, and only three to trustees for non-school related expenses. Renee said the scholarship program had costs outside of the awards granted, that time and effort was spent on the part of the applicant and on the part of the committee to process and grant awards. She said she was currently in school and did not know of any other program that awarded amounts to every applicant.

Some discussion followed on the number and amounts of awards that should be granted. The idea of granting 5 \$500 scholarship towards MLIS tuition costs was mentioned, two in the fall, two in the spring semester, and one summer grant. Conrad said the board should keep the two \$1000 scholarships as recommended by Governance.

John made a motion to approve the change to the scholarship program, granting two \$1000 scholarships a year towards MLIS tuition. Tammy seconded the motion. PASSED.

Connie made a motion to set the date of the survey/annual meeting for May 21. Deb seconded. PASSED.

Mark asked how scholarships would be promoted. Katrinka said a flyer directing members to apply online would be sent out. Connie said it was the same way it had been promoted in the past.

Katrinka made a motion to adjourn at 11:43am. John seconded. PASSED.

The next board meeting will be Wednesday, May 5th at 10 am, on Zoom.

Respectfully submitted, Renee Mallett