

New Hampshire Library Trustees Association- FINAL

Board of Directors Meeting - via Zoom

Wednesday, April 2, 2025, 10:00 am.

Attending: Marcia McLaughlin, Mark Branoff, Connie Kirwin, Conrad Moses, Tammy Hooker, Kathryn Parenti, Jeanne Palleiko, Denise Van Zanten - NHLA VP, Ann Friedman Xavier, Cliff Blake, Sue Nieman, Cathy Harvey, Susanne Whitbeck, Mindy Atwood - Assistant State Librarian

Absent: Renee Mallet

Marcia called the meeting to order at 10:00 am.

Minutes: Marcia asked if there were any new corrections to be made to the minutes from February. Marcia noted a paragraph was repeated in the treasurer's report. Jeanne noted half of the keynote speaker's fee was paid, not all of it. Marcia asked for a motion to approve the minutes. Marcia made the motion to accept the minutes as amended. Jeanne seconded. All were in favor, none opposed; PASSED.

Treasurer's Report: Tammy made the motion to accept the treasurer's report as presented; Cliff seconded. All were in favor with none opposed. PASSED.

Jeanne had submitted the following along with the treasurer's report: • Trustees from two libraries mistakenly believed they had not yet paid dues for 2024- 25, so they paid dues again (11 trustees). Their renewal date now shows as July 1, 2026. The dues payment was at the \$30 per trustee rate, not the \$35 rate approved for 2025-26. We need to stop any other libraries from paying dues for 2025-26 at the \$30 rate. Judith Pellowe (NHMA) told me she could disable the ability to register ahead for the next fiscal year. I asked her to implement this immediately. Several libraries are paying dues for 2024-25 now, no doubt motivated by learning when they registered for the Conference that they had not yet paid dues. An additional seventeen trustees from two libraries and one Friend just paid dues in March for the current fiscal year. There may be others who will renew prior to the Conference registration deadline, which is why we do not want to change the fee immediately. Judith can change the fee from \$30 to \$35 on a date of our choosing. Anyone who tries to renew after that date will pay the new rate. I intend to direct Judith to change the dues rate to \$35 and allow renewals for the next fiscal year as of April 18, the day after the deadline for registering for the Conference. I believe it is unlikely that anyone will try to pay dues for the current fiscal year after that date. • Conference Registrations as of 10 am on April 1, 2025: Members - 105; Paid Nonmembers - 24; Board - 13; Free Scholarship - 7(Member registration fee transferred from Scholarship Fund); Special Guest- 1 Free; 150 registered.

Jeanne noted the weekly reminders make a difference; the actual total of registrants, as of this morning, was 163. She noted some members paid for the conference as non-members and vice versa. It is easy to make refunds on Wild Apricot, and the charge is \$.30, which is less than mailing out a check. 2 libraries paid for next year's dues but are \$5 short. She noted Judith can change the date of registration and correct the amount due. Jeanne felt the new due date should be the day after the conference. Tammy asked if it was a lot of work to make the member/non-member changes; she felt Judith could make it more clear. Conrad and Marcia agreed. Marcia suggested Tammy and Jeanne schedule a meeting with Judith to correct this.

State Library: Mindy noted the staff weathered the proposed amendment to defund the state library. It was a bump in the road but it shows their work matters and is important. Consistent outreach of libraries also matters. She noted

legislators received a lot of email regarding the proposal. Suzanne noted her representative received over 600! She used her family motto as a boost for all libraries and NHLA: Do your work early and do your work right. It has worked so far. IMLS staff were put on administrative leave on Monday and some staff could go back to work like other agencies who were put on leave. She noted other state librarians are working with their attorney generals to file suit if more happens. It is a work in progress. NH has decided not to join in that fight. She noted her ability to go to the IMLS website and request federal funding is still available but it could change. She noted the petition sent out by librarians, both online and in paper form, had garnered 1400 signatures, demonstrating board support. Communication is important now and please reach out to her with any questions.

NHLA: Denise noted there was a DEI house bill but she thought it only applied to schools, but who knows. The concerning HB's will be heard in the senate next week along with the previously mentioned one. NHLA is working on statements that are more forceful and opinionated to try to get the educational material out to the public. There is a national group that will be holding a press conference about the bills. She submitted the following: *I would highly recommend that if you plan on weighing in on any of these bills that you use this week to put your thoughts together so that when the schedule for April 7th comes out you can be ready. If you and/or your Trustees wish to call your State Senators and/or write to all 24 of them about any bills you feel passionately about using examples of how this will/could impact your libraries please do so. As always you are not required to support the position of NHLA as a member! For House bills to submit online testimony For Senate bills to submit online testimony Bills crossing over: HB 324- relative to prohibiting obscene or harmful sexual materials in schools. **NHLA opposed.** The House passed this on March 26th, 183-148. Senate Education Committee - No hearing scheduled yet. HB666- relative to adding fines for violations of the confidentiality of the library use records and adding library cards and membership status to the list of confidential matters. **NHLA opposed.** The House passed this on March 27th, 189-172. Senate Judiciary Committee - No hearing scheduled yet. HB 273- relative to a parent's access to their minor child's library records **NHLA opposed.** Passed House, 191 to 162. Senate Children and Family Law Committee - no hearing scheduled yet. SB 33- relative to the regulation of public school materials. Senate version of collection policies for our schools with more detailed requirements of what should be in the policy. **NHLA opposed.** The Senate passed. House Education Administration and Policy Committee - no hearing scheduled yet. HB 143- relative to the issuance of no trespass orders on municipal or school district property. **NHLA opposed.** Senate Judiciary Committee - no hearing date yet. HB340- relative to electioneering by public employees. **NHLA opposed.** Senate Election Law and Municipal Affairs Committee- no hearing scheduled yet. HB 376- specifying that library user information exempted from disclosure in the right to know law includes information regarding library cards and library membership status. **NHLA supports.***

*Senate Judiciary Committee Bills done for the year: HB456- relative to testimony of agency employees in general court hearings. The House voted on March 26th and it was voted to indefinitely postpone (done for this year). HB775- directing the Department of Health and Human Services to issue a request for proposals for supervised visitation centers. Child and Family Law Committee OTP in Executive Session on March 18th by a vote of 16-0. **NHLA supports.** The House voted on Wednesday March 26th and it was laid on table (a non-debatable motion to put aside a bill until further action is desired). SB208- requiring local school boards and public libraries to adopt curation policies. The Senate Education Committee voted 3 to 2 to re-refer the bill to committee. Re-refer to committee shall be a committee report only in the first-year session. Senate approved on voice vote, done for session. HB 562- relative to filling of vacant positions on elected municipal and school boards. This should be shared with local boards. I alerted NHLA to the hearing date. Municipal and County Government Committee vote was 18-0 Inexpedient to Legislate (ITL). The House agreed with the Committee on voice vote on March 13th, done for session. HB293-preventing minors from accessing obscenity on certain electronic devices with internet access. Retained in committee for further study 18-0. Could be done for the session. Other bills that we are tracking are: HB 50, (OTP, House voted March 26th) HB52 (voted ITL), HB195 (Passed with amendment), HB66, HB285 (ITL), HB 297 (retained in committee), HB400 (ITL, House Vote on March 26th) and HB517 (OTP, House vote on March 26th). Feel free to reach out to me at Legislative@nhlibrarians.org with any questions.*

Denise also noted the NHLA conference is coming up, April 16,17 & 18 and the officers are very involved. She also notes the IMLS staff was put on leave on Monday and Mindy Atwood is trying to figure out what's going on. Next

Tuesday is the executive committee meeting and Renee is the liaison; she will send the full packet to her. The best thing to do at this time is to focus on good trouble.

COMMITTEE REPORTS:

Education Committee: Cathy H. noted the conference committee met with NHMA and visited the Doubletree Hotel in Manchester. She noted she will be absent from the April 15 education committee and wondered if anyone could chair the meeting or if not, should it be canceled. Marcia said she would chair as it was too close to the conference to cancel. Cathy said there will be a regional gathering in Chesterfield on April 9 and the director has closed the library that morning. So far 21 people are interested in attending. Marcia relayed from Katrinka that someone should take photos and notes for the newsletter. Cathy will take photos and Connie will take notes. Connie noted that 32 people were registered at this point.

Annual Conference: Tammy noted there are 163 people registered for the conference. April 17 is the closing day for registrations and reminders will go out weekly until then. She asked Renee to push it on Facebook. April 30 is the stuffing party in Concord and she will pick up the printed materials. She did note they decided to put all the exhibitors (18!) in the Armory where participants will eat breakfast and lunch. There will be additional signs to note this. They need volunteers to direct people too. Also, parking went up to \$8 from \$7. Marcia noted the biggest pushback in previous conferences held there was the parking fee. Tammy also noted that NH's spring break is that week. There was a question on when the newsletter was going out as it has all the conference details in it. Connie said it was at the printers and should be going out shortly. Connie noted there were 24 people registered for the Newbury gathering already. Connie said there were 24 people registered for the Newbury Regional Gathering. Another gathering is in the works at the Barrington Library in the Fall. Susan Gaudiello contacted Marcia and Connie about hosting at their new library.

Communications: Connie said there is nothing new from the website migration and they are still waiting on the new logo design. Marcia thanked Connie for forwarding all the templates needed for NHLTA.

Governance Committee: Kathy said the committee met earlier in the month to approve the list of directors up for reelection at the annual meeting. She asked if there was a motion to approve the following for a two year term ending in 2027: Cliff Blake, Sue Nieman, Susanne Whitbeck, Ann Friedman Xavier, and Mark Branoff. Conrad seconded the motion. All were in favor with none opposed. PASSED.

Old Business: The new director orientation will be after the stuffing party on April 30 and should be finished by 1pm. The August meeting will be in person, in Concord.

New Business: Marcia noted the Legislative updates were discussed in Denise's report and the list of bills NHLTA are lobbying against should be updated on the website. Connie will add HB 324, 666, 273, 143 and SB 33.

Anything that comes up after sending agenda: None.

Meeting Adjourned: Ann made the motion to adjourn; Suzanne W. seconded. All in favor. PASSED - 10:47 am.

Next meeting: Next meeting **May 7, 2025**, 10:00 am **via Zoom**.

Respectfully submitted, Kathryn Parenti