

**New Hampshire Library Trustees Association- DRAFT**

Board of Directors Meeting - via Zoom

Wednesday, January 7, 2026, 9:00 am.

Attending: Marcia McLaughlin, Connie Kirwin, Cathy Harvey, Tammy Hooker, Kathryn Parenti, Jeanne Palleiko, Renee Mallett, Denise Van Zanten - NHLA Pres, Ann Friedman Xavier, Susanne Whitbeck, Mindy Atwood - Assistant State Librarian, Katrinka Pellecchia, Sheryl Bass - NHLA VP

Absent: Mark Branoff

Marcia called the meeting to order at 9:00 am.

**Introduction:** Maria noted the new NHLA liaison, as of January 1, 2026 is Sheryl Bass, the new vice president, former treasurer and director of the Durham Public Library.

**Minutes:** Marcia asked if there were any corrections to be made to the minutes from December; there were none so she then asked for a motion to approve the minutes as presented. Marcia made the motion to accept the minutes as amended; Sue W seconded. All were in favor, none opposed. PASSED.

**Treasurer's Report:** Jeanne noted the following:

Month	NHMA		Credit Card		Total	
	# Libraries	# Members	# Libraries	# Members	# Libraries	# Members
May	1	11	0	0	1	11
June	5	36	14	114	19	150
July	45	282	24	196	69	478
August	17	90	15	110	32	200
September	12	57	2	10	14	67
October	1	1	1	4	2	5
November	0	0	1	5	1	5
December	2	15	1	4	3	19
<b>TOTAL</b>	<b>83</b>	<b>492</b>	<b>58</b>	<b>443</b>	<b>141</b>	<b>935</b>

• I put \$25,000 each into two CDs at Stifel. The six-month CD will mature on June 11, 2026, earning 3.85%. The twelve-month CD will mature on December 18, 2026, earning 3.75%. • I moved \$10,000 from our Stifel Money Market account into our TD Bank checking account in order to bring the checking account balance above \$25,000, which is required in order to avoid a \$30 monthly fee. The \$30 fee charged for November was removed. She also asked Judith to add a donation button to the conference registration page with the money going into NHLTA's checking account. There was a discussion to also include a donation button on the NHLTA webpage. Sue W made the motion to approve the November treasurer's report; Tammy seconded. All were in favor with none opposed. PASSED.

**State Library:** Mindy began by noting that due to staffing shortages (they are operating at 75% capacity), they have reduced hours - beginning today and all Wednesdays, the hours will be 12-4pm and Fridays will be 8-12pm. The senate education committee will be meeting in the state library on Tuesdays until June, which is an opportunity to get more people into the library. Commissioner Stewart has asked all 5 DCNR departments to have displays for viewing in the library. In addition, Mindy is working on the extensive ILS report, which is a 5 year plan for IMLS to approve. It includes programs to support with federal funds, reporting each year on goals, accurate accounting of funds, report on ebooks and audio book loans, staff time expended on each item, etc. It is a big undertaking and a team effort. She has also been doing the job of retired van coordinator, Jill Wiggins, who kept the program running smoothly. She is crafting a schedule to get deliveries to all libraries at least once per week. They are also tracking some legislation that is coming this session.

**NHLA:** Denise began by stating Sheryl will be the liaison and she will continue to provide legislative updates to her for NHLTA. The first officer's meeting for 2026 is next week. She noted the legislative calendar is quieter this year than last but there are some concerning bills to keep an eye on: HB 1214 regarding local control of libraries and making trustees advisory positions, the trespass bill, SB 434 regarding materials in school libraries. They met with their lobbyist, are working with NHMA and are writing statements regarding each bill affecting libraries. Hearing dates will be set either today or tomorrow. She also noted NHLA is moving toward credit card payments only for their conferences.

#### **COMMITTEE REPORTS:**

**Education Committee:** Cathy noted the committee discussed advertising in the newsletter. As this is something that NHLTA currently does not have a policy for, the governance committee should take a look at that and also review all the policies, as a regular task. This discussion came about due to the application for membership (which has been submitted by Marcia) to the Library of Congress Federal Credit Union and who will be a sponsor and exhibitor for the annual conference.

Marcia noted she will be absent from January's education meeting and someone needed to set up a Zoom for the committee. Tammy said Janet had an account; Cathy would contact her.

**Annual Conference:** Tammy said they have chosen speakers and will be meeting with Ashley on Friday. She noted the cost of audio support was double what they were quoted in 2025 due to a new vendor chosen by the DoubleTree. They have an RFP out to other companies but the price is similar. Jeanne noted Janet had gotten more sponsors and vendors than had been budgeted so that is a big help. Tammy said there will be 22 exhibit tables. She noted they were supposed to get the menu and the cost in January but haven't heard back yet. It is projected to be \$2 more per plate than last year.

**Communications:** Connie will be sending out the survey to membership on Tuesday, January 13, to avoid the legislative update email blast and conference registration information. Katrinka felt the board feedback on the survey was less than impressive. She will look at the survey before it is sent out. She also noted the newsletter is late going out but it is printed.

**Legislation:** Renee sent out a list of the legislative list that she, Mindy and Denise had discussed. She noted they don't have the same support from NHMA this year as last. There are a record number of bills this year; notable ones are RTK, minutes and HB1214. The board needs to vote on the position statement for this one. Connie said a statement should be added that tells people to spread the word - to patrons and representatives. Marcia noted the proposed wording uses "may" and not "shall" so it is not a directive. She also asked Renee to make sure Tom Ladd is included in discussions. Katrinka noted Susan Gaudiello, former trustee, NHLTA board member and select person, would be someone who could give talking points so that all communication is consistent. Marcia asked if there was a motion to accept the position statement on HB1214. Cathy made the motion; Ann seconded. All were in favor. PASSED.

Renee agreed to add a note to each bill explaining NHLTA's reasoning. Marcia thought the bills they are opposed to should be sent, for brevity. Once she receives the updates, she will send them out for an email vote. Renee will compose a PDF for the website and a word document for the email blast.

**Governance:** None.

**Other Business:** The board needs new members NOW! Get in touch with anyone you think might be interested in working on the board.

**NHMA contract:** Marcia stated the contract has been signed for \$988 per month. The Association Management Committee met Monday to find an organization to replace NHMA. Three options are: DB Management, Lexian and an event planning organization. Things to take into consideration are what duties they should take on - newsletter, conference planning plus the tasks being done by NHMA now. Succession planning is needed as 2 board members have resigned in 2025.

The advertising committee will meet at the end of January to discuss a potential policy.

**Meeting Adjourned:** Kathy made the motion to adjourn; Sue W seconded. All in favor. PASSED - 10:13 am.

**Next meeting:** Next meeting **February 4, 2026**, at **9:00!** am via ZOOM.

Respectfully submitted,

Kathryn Parenti