

September 2016 MLS Member Update



Executive Board Meeting Notes - September 19, 2016

Whately Loan

We invited interested members to join us at that September meeting to discuss our plans to dissolve the WMRLS Corporation. We were pleased that three individuals joined us. We received positive news from the USDA in August; our loan on the Whately facility has been forgiven. We are waiting for the final paperwork from the local office of the USDA. We will begin taking steps to dissolve the WMRLS Corporation after official notification is received. This was an expectation set in our loan cancellation request to our mortgage holder.

Annual Meeting Agenda

All members are invited to our November 7 Annual Meeting at the College of the Holy Cross in Worcester. [RSVP](#)

- 9:30 Registration (fiscal constraints force us to not provide coffee or morning refreshments)
- 10:00 Welcome, Business Meeting, Updates, Stronger Together Awards
Member approval of Plan of Service/Budget-fy2018, Slate of Candidates, and Strategic Plan
- 11:00 Project SET Presentation
- 12:00 Lunch and Keynote Address by John Palfrey, Head of School at Phillips Academy and DPLA Leader
- 1:15 Strategic Plan and Co-creator Culture participation

Fy2018 Budget and Plan of Service was approved for presentation to the membership at the Annual Meeting. MLS is no longer able to provide level services with level funding and fy2018 will bring reduced services with level funding. Reductions in the following services are anticipated:

- Statewide database licensing -30% (reduce content in current procurement)
- Delivery services -3% (eliminate Saturday delivery routes in Southeast and Central Mass.)
- Training & Professional Development -20% (Leave open a vacant consultant position; cease video recording of major events; offer fewer programs)
- Consulting -10% (Leave open a vacant position; less MLS staff availability to work directly with members)

Fy2017 Budget Revision 1 was approved with minor adjustments to reflect current fiscal year spending plans with no change to our Plan of Service.

Commonwealth eBook Collections

Approved recommendation of the CeC Steering Committee to move the project from beta to go live to recognize that significant improvements have been made in user friendliness and that one-third of MLS

members are now participating. This recommendation now moves to the MBLC, a major partner in this endeavor.

Strategic Planning

We hosted eight Town Hall meetings to hear from members and stakeholders. Member reaction has been very positive and members have made suggestions to bring the plan to fruition.

We are working on an interactive LibGuide-based version for public distribution. The most significant changes from the previous version is that it has been shortened and we've added a theme—development of core services. We'll share this with the membership for approval at the November Annual Meeting.

Strategic Goals

1. Position the Massachusetts Library Community for Future Readiness
2. Build Capacity for Marketing, Communications, and Advocacy
3. Develop & Facilitate Co-creator Culture

Overarching Themes

- Strengthen the Massachusetts library community
- Social justice is an imperative for libraries and MLS
- Use our resources efficiently for the best sustainable outcomes
- Provide opportunities for MLS staff success
- Continue to develop MLS Core Services
- Align actions with the MBLC.

Personnel Changes/Additions

- Sarah Donnelly is our new event Coordinator who will be working out of our Marlborough office.
- Michelle Eberle is our new Consultant at the Marlborough office.
- Amanda Fauver is now part-time Project Set Coordinator.
- Mandy Malikowski is our new Delivery/Communications Coordinator, who will be working primarily out of the Northampton office.
- Jeffrey Wolfson is our new BiblioTemps/Accounting Assistant at the Marlborough office.

Service Updates

Commonwealth eBook Collections

Open enrollment closed on September 15 with about 50 new libraries joining the program. The Steering Committee meets next on September 21 to discuss accessibility. At its August meeting, the Steering Committee (1) adopted the FY 2017 program goals, (2) adopted a revised funding model and (3) recommended that the program leave beta and “go live.” The MLS Executive Board will be discussing this later this month. We will be asking MBLC to approve this to make the program more attractive. We believe that all eContent systems are under constant development and that Baker & Taylor has made great strides in user-friendliness during the beta period. MLS will be at the Boston Book Festival on Oct. 15 with BiblioBoard to promote indie authors.

Statewide Databases

MLS continues to work with MBLC to transition database support functions and to plan the FY 2018 to 2022 database procurement with less funding than the previous procurement.

Continuing Education

The fall calendar has been posted with 24 classes (6 sessions around the state on four topics). We are featuring a new director breakfast on October 25. [RSVP](#)

[Calendar](#)

We recently cosponsored: Assessment in Action with ACRL/NEC on Sept. 13 at Assumption College