Members in Attendance: Nicole McLain (President), Erik Walls (Vice-President/President-Elect), Lou Sica (Secretary), Jane Brown, Moneik Frazier, Maria Jacob, Gabriel Jones, Teonja Jung, Shirley Mason, Amy Moser, Sharon Proakis, Robin Soma-Dudley

Executive Board-Erik

Erik attended the Executive Board Meeting for Nicole. He emailed Lou his Exec. Board notes and they are pasted below.

- **Treasurer’s Report**
  - We’re bringing in lots of revenue now for the conference and are about where we should be.
  - Most income comes from conference, membership, programming (in that order).

- **Maryland Day**
  - April 28th at University of Maryland.
  - They still need more volunteers from 10-4 (for any portion of the day). Contact Joe Thompson if interested.

- **Raffle at MLA for a homemade shawl**
  - Patty Sundberg generously crafted this for the raffle.
  - The proceeds would go to support libraries in Puerto Rico that were damaged from the recent hurricane. ALA is also trying to support these libraries.
  - The raffle tickets will be on sale through July 2018. They’re $10 each or 3 for $25.
  - Executive Board members will be responsible for selling tickets. Lucy Holman volunteered to be the point person for ticket sales and collecting the money coming in.
  - Program Hosts at the conference should plug the raffle in our introductions at the conference.

- **MLA Website Security**
  - Margaret checked on the security of the MLA website. Your web browser may tell you the website is not secure, which is true. However, once you log in to the MLA website, the website then becomes secure.

- **Facebook Hits**
  - Tina will start to monitor MLA’s Facebook page to track stats.
  - Someone asked if Tina could do the same for the MLA website, so Margaret will talk to her about that.
SSD is now including these numbers in our monthly report, and Erik volunteered to assist the MLA Office if they need any assistance with this. Tina will let Erik know when she’s ready.

**STRAT Survey**
- Margaret had a request asking if MLA would agree to be a part of this study. It would be a study of the steering committee. They want 3-5 people to take a survey. They will evaluate if you’re doing what you’re supposed to be doing, what you’re doing wrong, etc. They would then assign 3 goals for the steering committee to complete based on their findings.
- There were concerns about this being very subjective, and members want more information before proceeding.
- Margaret said MLA currently just reports to MD Nonprofits and if they have a question or concern, they will ask Margaret.
  - Margaret said they would address if you haven’t met your non-profit standards.

**Library of Congress Federal Credit Union**
- An email was sent to Margaret from the Library of Congress about their credit union membership being open to MLA members as a benefit.
- There would be no financial gain or loss for MLA. The only criteria for joining this credit union is membership to MLA.
- They would like to come to the conference as a vendor. There was a vote for them to come to the conference, as well as be a benefit for MLA members.
- MLA would not be involved in the relationship between the member and the credit union.

**Tech Committee Fund Raising**
- Due to more requests for more digital learning, virtual meetings, etc., the tech committee is trying to raise $3000 for new equipment.
  - They would like to buy an updated computer connected to the large screen TV, a video cam, tabletop microphone, speaker package, and a laptop.

**President’s Report**
- **Update on Piece of legislation in St. Mary’s County Library**
  - As a reminder, the library was being controlled by the county commissioners. MLA and CML spoke on behalf of SMC. As a result, the legislation has been withdrawn. The Board of the library is meeting with county commissioners to hopefully move forward past this.
- **MLA Website**
  - The CRAB is now archived for 5 years. Outside of the CRAB, editors will be posting more columns and articles about library systems and posting them on the MLA website and Facebook pages.
- **Privacy issues**
  - Denise is still working on this and trying to make sure libraries across the state don’t get caught with privacy hacks. There will be a session at the conference on this.
• **VP Report – Joe Thompson**
  - Thursday, June 14th, is a tentative date for Leadership Day.
  - Joe asked about a Retirees Interest Group? One member of MLA is interested in this. However, Margaret said this was tried in the past. Most retirees said they felt “singled out” and it eventually turned more into social gatherings than productive meetings.
  - Joe really wants to focus his President’s role on working on getting new members and retaining people in MLA.
    - Erik emailed Joe and Denise about Denise’s video on the website for LATI. Denise replied and said she would pass along Erik’s name to assist with a possible membership initiative.
  - Joe also has an idea for an interest group focus on the future of libraries.

• **ALA Councilor’s Report**
  - ALA Elections close April 4th
  - What’s on the ballot?
    - An MLS being required for ALA elections, again.
    - A dues increase.
  - The health of ALA is a concern and is being looked at. Conference attendance is declining and membership is declining. Some divisions and round tables are doing well, but it’s not balancing out.
  - There will be a conference session where Jim Neal and Lucy will hold conversations about this and to answer any questions.

• **Executive Director’s Report**
  - Conference venue will be at the Hyatt through 2020. A great deal was offered, and the Hyatt really wants us there.
  - MLA FY ’19 ballot is online and active right now. Just sign-in and click on ballot.
    - This is later than usual because MLA had trouble getting candidates and in turn, getting people to turn in their candidacy paperwork on time.
    - Division were encouraged to start this process early next FY.

• **Reports from Units**
  - I shared that Lou attended PSD & LDD to see a different division’s meeting, share ideas and network. I also shared that Lou was invited to be a part of the speed mentoring program LDD is putting on, but that he would have to look into it first.
Conference Report-Erik

Erik emailed Lou his Conference Committee notes and they are pasted below.

- **Registration**
  - 533 people have registered.
  - 32 vendors locked in.

- **Volunteering**
  - Volunteers are still needed.
  - Erik brought up a suggestion about a write-up of duties. This may help people feel more comfortable in volunteering.
    - Tiffany Sutherland offered to write this up.
    - Kacey will put this on the conference website after Michelle writes it up.

- **Program Packets & Hosting Expectations**
  - These expectations were gone over so Erik shared these via email with Maria and Teonja since they will be hosting SSD programs at the conference this year.

- **AV Needs**
  - Margaret verified all of the AV needs for all programs. SSD is good.

- **Pre-Conference Speaker updates**
  - Maureen Sullivan is unable to present her pre-conference “Intro to Strategic Leadership”. Someone else will be stepping in to present that topic. TBD.
  - James LaRue, is unable to present his preconference “Advocacy Bootcamp”. His assistant will be stepping in to present.

- **Speaker Handouts**
  - If speakers want MLA to print their handouts in advance, they must get them to Erik by April 13th.
  - After this day, it will be too late.
  - If speakers want to make their own handouts, that’s fine. They must contact the Office to get an approximate number of attendees.

- **Division and Committee Reports**
  - Silent Auction is at the halfway mark for donations.
  - Escape Room is just about full.
  - Beer Shindig is still good, happy hour prices!

- **Program Attendance Numbers as of 3-28-18**
  - Motivating & Engaging Your Team: 76
  - Microaggressions: 64
    - Top 5 in conference registration overall!
  - Promotions: 49
**June Meeting**
Our June 7 meeting is scheduled to be at the Loyola-Notre Dame Library and Pat Turkos always has a room for us. Pat is off on extended leave and it is not clear if we have a room to use there. Lou will try to contact Pat and Amy will check with a contact she has at that library.

**Silent Auction Basket**
Sharon is creating our basket again this year and is planning an Italian dinner theme.

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**Fall Program-Nicole, Gabriel, Monique, Jane & Erik**

- The group decided that the program BCPL HR Manager Cindy Pol presents: Getting to Know Your Latino Customers, should be moved to the 2019 Conference.
- Vilma from PGCMS is interested in presenting her program on Spanish for Circulation staff. Jane & Erik are the program planners and are looking for a late September date at a Howard County branch.

**2019 Conference: Erik**

- Tyler Vachon, a librarian from the BCPL Woodlawn branch is interested in presenting his program on strategies for protecting your privacy online

**Retirement party for Shelley Gilchrist-Nicole**
Shelley is retiring this spring and we are all invited to her retirement party at the BCPL Parkville Branch on Saturday May 5 at 7PM. Please contact Nicole for more info if interested.

**FY 2019 meetings-Nicole**

- Thursday 8/2/18-Lou will see if BCPL-North Point is available.
- Thursday 10/4/18-Robin will check on the availability of AACPL-Linthicum or Glen Burnie.
- Thursday 12/6/18-an annual luncheon meeting-location TBD
- Thursday 2/7/19-Lou will see if BCPL-Randallstown is available.
• Thursday 4/4/19-Monique & Gabriel will check and see if PGCMLS-South Bowie is available.
• Thursday 6/6/19-location TBD

Respectfully Submitted,

Lou Sica