Maryland Library Association
Support Staff Division
4/1/21 virtual meeting

In Attendance: Robin Soma-Dudley (President), Teonja Jung (Vice-President/President Elect), Lou Sica (Secretary), Moneik Frazier, Maria Jacob, Gabriel Jones, Amy Moser, Sharon Proakis, Chelsea Shockley

Presidents Report-Robin

- We opened the meeting by sharing memories of former MLA Executive Director, the late Margaret Carty.
- Ryan O'Grady has been named Interim Executive Director of the Maryland Library Association. We are very fortunate to have such an outstanding Maryland Library leader and longtime MLA member to take on this important role at this time. Ryan is currently the Library Associate Training Institute Coordinator through the Maryland State Library and also serves as a lecturer at the University of Maryland’s iSchool. Ryan was formerly the Deputy Director of the State Library Resource Center at the Enoch Pratt Free Library in Baltimore. Many of us know Ryan well through his leadership of MLA’s Technology Committee. Ryan was an expert guide and driving force behind MLA’s successful shift to virtual programs, meetings, and conferences earlier this year.
- Executive Board notes:
  - There is a monetary gap between expenses & income largely due to the Annual Conference being virtual. There is confidence that this gap will be filled.
  - New officers begin their terms on July 1.
  - The May Executive Board Meeting has been rescheduled for 5/13.
  - The Strategic Plan will be updated. The current one runs through June, 2022.
  - The search for a new Executive Director will begin in April with the hopes of a start date in July.
  - The MLA Equity, Diversity & Inclusion Task Force (EDI) has proposed that MLA have a Black Caucus that is affiliated with the American Library Association (ALA) Black Caucus. There is a fee for this affiliation.
- See this link for info regarding resolutions from ALA Mid-Winter Conference. [https://chooseprivacyeveryday.org/overview-of-two-new-ala-privacy-related-resolutions/](https://chooseprivacyeveryday.org/overview-of-two-new-ala-privacy-related-resolutions/)
- There was discussion of Amazon not making eBooks available to libraries. See this link for more information. [https://www.washingtonpost.com/technology/2021/03/10/amazon-library-ebook-monopoly/](https://www.washingtonpost.com/technology/2021/03/10/amazon-library-ebook-monopoly/)
- There was discussion of what the American Rescue Plan Act means for libraries. For more information please see this link to an article in the ALA magazine. [https://americanlibrariesmagazine.org/blogs/the-scoop/what-american-rescue-plan-act-means-for-libraries/#:~:text=Participating%20libraries%20will%20receive%20100,days%20of%20the%20bill's%20passage.](https://americanlibrariesmagazine.org/blogs/the-scoop/what-american-rescue-plan-act-means-for-libraries/#:~:text=Participating%20libraries%20will%20receive%20100,days%20of%20the%20bill's%20passage.)
**Group Discussion-Robin**

- Many in the group shared system updates.
  - Robin reported that Anne Arundel County plans to move back to limited capacity by appointment in mid-April.
  - Monique & Gabriel reported that PGCMLS is planning to move to phase 2 in late April. This is a tiered phase that will vary depending on branch size. Curbside service will continue and computer appointments will be added.
  - Teonja reported on behalf of the BCPL members. Planning for the next phase continues, which will include limited in branch services such as browsing. This will likely start in mid-May as the County Executive would like staff who are interested in being vaccinated to have the opportunity to do so prior to further reopening.
  - Chelsey reported that Pratt is offering limited 25% capacity at all branches.
  - Amy reported that Frederick County is offering curbside only for now. They do not have a further reopening date yet but planning continues.

**Conference Report-Teonja**

- All of our AV forms have been submitted.
- Our panel on curbside services will be a one hour Zoom webinar and Teonja is the program assistant (PA),
- Our LGBTQ+ program will be a Zoom meeting and Robin is the PA.
- Our grant writing program will be a Zoom meeting and Teonja is the PA.
- We discussed contributing a basket for the virtual silent auction and Amy took the lead on this.

**Privacy Divide program-Teonja**

- There were 13 attendees and all of the evaluations were high (4s & 5s).

**Secretary Report-Lou**

- Our SSD email list is up to date as is our page on the MLA website.

**Facebook Update-Lou (as of 4/1)**

- Our page currently has 134 followers.
• Our post reach for the preceding 28 days was 36 (down 32 from the previous period).
• Our post engagements for the preceding 28 days was 14 (down 73 from previous 28 day period).
• We received one new page like in the 28 day period preceding 4/1.

Other

• Robin, Teonja & Lou will update the SSD officer descriptions prior to the end of their terms.
• We will continue to meet virtually for now.
• We will continue with virtual programming for now. Please think of program topics for fall & winter. Suggestions thus far include reflections on reopening, customer service in light of pandemic and middle management in light of pandemic.

Next meeting Thursday 6/3 at 1:30 on Zoom

Respectfully Submitted,

Lou Sica