

**NOBLE Executive Board Meeting hybrid
October 9, 2024**

Present: Kathy Lussier, Brian Courtemanche, Catherine McDonald, Allison Babin, Jonathan Nichols, Myron Schirer-Suter, Abby Porter, Theresa Hurley, Anna Sarneso, Amy Fang Lannon,

1. Call to Order/Welcome

Brian called the meeting to order at 2:02.

2. Approval of Minutes

Anna made the motion to approve the minutes, seconded by Jonathan. All in favor.

3. Treasurer's Report

Myron went over the current assets in his report. The capital fund is \$818,593 and the contingency fund is 750,000. MBLC network infrastructure is \$50,427. Investments are currently \$2,000,848, with a 3.5% increase from last month and 15% increase since July 1.

4. ERDWG Report

Kathy went over the last ERDWG meeting. They are focused on looking into Aspen as the potential new catalog interface. The committee also considered developing a policy on open access materials being added to the catalog.

5. Resource Sharing Working Group Report

Kathy reviewed the RSWG meeting. There are no new policies being considered. The committee reviewed the Patron Alert Message and Message Policy one last time. There was also discussion of whether to institute notices to staff on canceled holds.

6. Collection Management Working Group Report

Cahterine MacDonald will be the liaison to the Collection Management Working Group.

Kathy reviewed the Collection Management Working Group meeting. Committee developed a new list of subject areas to review. The committee discussed developing a roundtable about weeding in the coming year.

7. Advocacy Committee Report

Abby reviewed updates from the Advocacy Committee meeting. Legislative Breakfast will be Friday, February 7 at the Abbot Public Library in Marblehead. Save the dates will be sent out soon. The committee will be sending out requests for video content soon to show at the breakfast.

8. Executive Director's Report

Kathy's report included the following:

- Seven resumes have been submitted for the Bibliographic Services Supervisor position.
- Kathy attended a meeting of the Essex County Community Foundation (ECCF) Digital Equity Coalition to learn about grant opportunities.
- Kathy attended the Sept. Network Administrators Meeting. NOBLE received the following grants for 2025: Resource Sharing - \$220,253, Telecomm - \$40,865, Network Infrastructure - \$28,432, LEA - \$73,381, with an additional \$12,000 to cover Overdrive platform fees. All grants will be applied to the FY26 budget. MBLC will be revisiting the formula for the resource sharing grant program next year. MBLC will be announcing a special grant to serve migrant and specialty programs. There was also a discussion of using preferred names on mailings, with a consensus falling on our current policy of using the preferred names.
- Martha and Kathy have participated in filtering demos this month through MBLC. NOBLE may be eligible for e-rate.
- A review of the Executive Director goals:
 - Paula will begin looking into a professional fund manager soon
 - Kathy is looking into employee handbooks at other networks to see if there are changes NOBLE should consider.
 - An adhoc committee for a privacy audit will begin in January.

9. Affirm 9/16/24 Email Vote to revise recommendation for the FY25 budget revision and the FY26 proposed budget to the [09/16/2024 budget recommendation](#).

Catherine made the motion to affirm the September 16, 2025 email vote to revise the Executive Board's recommendation for the FY25 budget revision and the FY26 propose budget to the 09/16/2024 recommendation for a total budget of \$ 1,088,095 for FY25 and \$ 1,120,904 for FY26, seconded by Theresa. All in favor.

10. Revised FY26 budget with adjustment for Telecom Equipment Maintenance.

The Board discussed an adjustment for a lower cost for Telecom Equipment Maintenance. After consideration, the Board decided to stay with the current recommendation.

11. Reading Public Library request for exemption to [Library Systems Account policy](#) for the purposes of third-party app integration.

Reading Public Library Director Amy Fang Lannon requested an exemption to the Library Systems Account policy to allow a third party vendor for their new app to have Evergreen access. Amy reviewed the app and reason for the request for exemption with the Board. Kathy reviewed the current policy. Martha reviewed various ways other vendors access Evergreen, such as SIP2. Discussion ensued. The item was tabled until NOBLE staff is able to meet with the app vendor for clarification on several questions.

12. Vote to recommend revisions to the Patron Alert Message and Message Policy.

Anna made the motion to recommend the revisions, seconded by Theresa. All in favor.

13. Vote to recommend FY26 Action Plan to Membership.

Kathy reviewed the proposed Action Plan.

Catherine made the motion to recommend the FY26 Action Plan, seconded by Theresa. All in favor.

14. Capital request for furniture / equipment upgrades to improve NOBLE office ergonomics.

This item was tabled until the next meeting.

15. New Business

There was no further business.

16. Adjournment

Jonathan made the motion to adjourn at 3:59.