

**MiALA Board Meeting Notes**  
**Thursday, May 2 at 1:00pm**

**Present:** Darlene Johnson-Bignotti, Katrina Rouan, Mies Martin, Aaron Kilgore, Jennifer Mikesell, Sheila Garcia Mazari, Ed Eckel, Veronica Bielat, Denise Leyton, Kalyn Huson

**Absent:** Carin Graves, Rebecca Tull, Lori DeBie

**Call to Order:** The meeting was called to order at 1:04pm.

**Board Business Meeting:**

1. Approval of Agenda - Martin made a motion to approve the agenda. Bielat seconded. The motion passed.
2. Approval of [Board meeting Minutes from April](#) - Eckel made a motion to approve the April Board Meeting minutes. Leyton seconded. The motion passed.
3. Approval of Consent Agenda: Bielat made a motion to approve the consent agenda. Martin seconded. The motion passed.
  - a. Committee reports
    - i. Advocacy – N/A
    - ii. Awards – We received two nominations for the ALOTY award! See item #1 under Old Business for additional discussion. (Darlene)
    - iii. Conference Planning– (Mies)
      1. Conference is full
      2. Mary in full last minute swing
    - iv. Communications and Marketing – The committee agreed to draft a recommendation for a media policy. (Rebecca)
    - v. Executive – For the Annual Meeting, a gentle nudge to committee Liaisons to remind Chairs or presenters to submit PowerPoint slides and a brief summary of their report for the minutes to Darlene by Friday May 10. (Darlene)
    - vi. IDEA – Hosting Dr. Maha Kumaran for an allyship webinar on May 6th at 2pm.(Katrina)
    - vii. Membership – Member renewals will go out on May 1st, thanks Kalyn! (Denise)
    - viii. Nominating – A reminder about open nominations will go out in the May newsletter and on Monday the 29th. Nominations are slowly trickling in, but please continue to reach out to your colleagues, particularly about the VP position. Bylaws amendments posted on April 15th. All questions have been forwarded to the board (Carin)
    - ix. Ad-Hoc Committees:
      1. Strategic Planning Workgroup – will share our recommendation with you all, answer questions, and as appropriate ask for a vote to approve

our recommendation. Here are the three bids under review [MCLS Bid](#), [Spartina Bid](#), [NEW Initial Bid](#), [NEW's Extended Timeline bid](#) (Denise).

2. Partnerships Committee (Ed, Mies, Katrina) – Brainstorming document created for group to use:

<https://docs.google.com/document/d/1CPKLCznWC47YCAEFxnvCwACqeylyNqUcgbVxXo-k44A/edit?usp=sharing> a

- b. Partner Reports- Denise and Sheila represented MiALA at Michigan Library Advocacy Day in Lansing on April 25. Darlene regretfully could not attend due to an unanticipated staffing shortage. (Darlene)
- c. Treasurer's Report – nothing new to report right now! (Denise)
- d. Interest Group Coordinating Council – (Ed)
  - i. Approved \$1000 request from Information Literacy IG for MIX Conference 2024
  - ii. Planning survey of MiALA Annual attendees for ideas for new IGs. Survey QR code will be included in my presentation at the MiALA members meeting.
  - iii. Sent out information on MiALA listserv to IG leaders and members about proposed changes to the Bylaws and Procedure manual that will be on the ballot (4/17/24)
- e. Board Actions via Email – None, but a question from a member regarding the proposed by-law amendment to Article V and who will handle CoC complaints generated additional questions. See item #1 under New Business for continued discussion. (Darlene)

## **Old Business**

### 1. Awards Committee (Darlene)

Johnson-Bignotti - We approved a standing Awards Committee last year. The call for volunteers so far includes 2 volunteers from community colleges and 2 from public institutions. Plan to seat this group moving forward.

### 2. Recommendations From Strategic Planning Workgroup (Denise, Sheila, Mies, Darlene)

Leyton - What are the initial thoughts on the estimates?

Kilgore - I like the idea of giving MCLS a good look.

Mikesell - Impressed by Spartina, but also have sticker shock re price. They were the only ones who specifically mentioned DEI.

Eckel - NEW helped MLA do their strategic plan. I also didn't see mention of engaging non-members. Prefer to go with a Michigan-based company.

Martin - Keep in mind that any additional asks will lead to additional costs based on these estimates.

Leyton - The working group quickly felt Spartina's offer was too high and did not include the desired level of engagement.

MCLS asked for an extended timeline based on their consultants' availability.

NEW submitted a second bid with an extended timeline.

[Working Group's Recommendation](#) that we proceed with MCLS.

Rouan made a motion to accept the recommendation. Eckel seconded. The motion passed.

### **New Business**

1. Proposed By-Laws Change to Article V (Darlene)

Johnson-Bignotti - The idea of anonymous reporting makes me nervous.

Bielat - Maybe the Committee to address the complaints should be appointed based on the nature of the complaint?

Martin - I would be nervous to review a complaint without formal training. We need a transparent and unbiased way to approach this. Should training be a Board requirement?

Johnson-Bignotti- We will have to know when complaints fall outside the realm of the Executive Committee.

Eckel - The Board changes over every year. We would need to train every year. We don't have a legal entity to turn to. Should we have one?

Huson - We do have some consultation through MCLS' attorney.

Martin - Should we create a form?

Johnson-Bignotti - Who would the form go to?

Leyton- In terms of offering some anonymity for reporting, I think we need to research the pros and cons. Do we need to plan some next steps?

Martin - Let's put this on the agenda for the leadership retreat in August.

Johnson-Bignotti - We will make sure we discuss these future plans during the Membership Meeting.

Bielat made a motion to adjourn. Mikesell seconded. The meeting was adjourned at 1:59pm.

### **Issue Bin / Future Agenda Items:**

1. Student Liaison Position

**Upcoming Board Meetings:** First Thursdays at 1pm unless otherwise noted.

- May 17- Annual Membership Meeting (during Annual Conference)
- June 6- Final meeting of current Board
- Leadership Retreat- TBA

### **Next Executive Officer's Meetings:**

TBD (convenes as needed)

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