

MiALA Board Meeting Minutes
April 16, 2021 at 2:15pm

Attendance: Cynthia Simpson, Beth Martin, Gina Bolger, Emilia Marcyk, Darlene Johnson-Bignotti, David Malone, Brenna Wade, Carin Graves, Rachel Minkin, Heather Ladiski

Absent: Bethany Kennedy, Tim Peters, Kate Langan

Call to Order: The meeting was called to order at 2:23 p.m.

Board Business Meeting:

1. Approval of agenda - Malone made a motion to approve the agenda and Johnson-Bignotti seconded. The motion carried.
2. Approval of Consent Agenda (agenda items within 2) - Martin made a motion to approve the consent agenda and Wade seconded. The motion carried.
 - a. Approval of the [March 19, 2021](#) board meeting minutes
 - b. Documentation of electronic votes cast between board meetings
 - i. April 1, 2021 - Minkin made a motion to continue the pandemic hardship campaign that allows members who are unable to renew their membership due to hardship can renew at whatever they can (even if it is \$0) and Malone seconded. The vote was unanimous and the motion carried.
 - c. Committee reports
 - i. Advocacy - Emilia - Activities continue around Michigan Library Advocacy Day
 - ii. Communications and Marketing - Brenna
 - iii. Executive - Cynthia
 - iv. Membership - Rachel - 2 new members, 6 who've renewed, nothing on the institution front at this time. Sheila of IDEA committee came to speak to Membership. Under new business below: two things they'd like to have for next fiscal year.
 - v. Nominating - Beth - The committee met on April 6th. We submitted a reminder in the newsletter that elections will open on April 15th. The committee meets again on May 4, 2021.
 - vi. Conference - Kate - Von Washington, the Executive Director for Community Outreach for the Kalamazoo Promise has agreed to be the keynote speaker and has signed the speaker agreement. He will be able to do the presentation live and Kate will moderate.
 - vii. Inclusion, Diversity, Equity, & Accessibility - Darlene (Emilia can backup) Please see [the document following the agenda](#) re: funding for BIPOC library workers. As you will recall the Board has approved the proposal at

the March meeting. This is being shared as an FYI so that all are aware of the timeline and implementation.

- d. Partner Reports
- e. MCLS -
- f. Treasurer's Report - Got our audit back, haven't spent time with it yet so can't report on it! :)
- g. Policies and Procedures Manual -
- h. Interest Group Coordinating Council - Agreed to a policy for IGs requesting grant funding for virtual speakers. Heather has posted it.

Old Business

1. Awards Committee- A task force has been created to work through the idea of developing annual awards for MiALA members.

New Business

1. Board voting and procedures - Wade shared concern that the BIPOC membership scholarships did not follow the normal procedures for board approval. This item was added as a line in the 2021/2022 budget and was approved when the board approved the entire budget, but was only discussed briefly in February. In the future, when items like this are proposed, they should be formally discussed and approved.

The meeting was adjourned at 2:48 p.m. Wade made a motion and Martin seconded. The vote was unanimous and the motion carried.

Issue Bin / Future Agenda Items

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Next Board Meetings:

The third Friday of every month at 2:15pm.

- May 21, 2021
- June 18, 2021

Next Executive Board Meetings:

The first Friday of every month at 2:30pm.

- May 7, 2021
- June 4, 2021

Membership Funding for BIPOC Library and Archives Students & Workers

As a chapter of the Association of College and Research Libraries (ACRL), the Michigan Academic Library Association (MiALA) ascribes to the ACRL core commitments as outlined in their [Plan for Excellence](#). This includes the core commitment to “...acknowledge and address historical racial inequities; challenge oppressive systems within academic libraries; value different ways of knowing; and identify and work to eliminate barriers to equitable services, spaces, resources, and scholarship.”

Recognizing that the COVID-19 pandemic has further exacerbated deep-seated inequities within librarianship and society as a whole, particularly impacting library workers and students who identify as Black, Indigenous, and People of Color; and in support of the precedent set by ACRL in creating their [ACRL Funding for BIPOC Library Workers](#) initiative, the MiALA Inclusion, Diversity, Equity, and Accessibility (IDEA) Committee proposes the following:

1. The creation of a Membership Funding for BIPOC Library and Archives Students and Workers Initiative. The initiative would fund 10 MiALA student membership and 5 MiALA library/archives worker memberships for the period of one year (2021-2022).
2. The creation of a lightweight application process that sets the same prioritization structure for granting membership funding as outlined by ACRL, which is listed below:
 - students/workers who experienced household job loss, income loss, or furlough during 2020;
 - are students and/or early-career library workers (having less than 5 years of experience)
 - currently serve, have served, or will be serving underrepresented populations at academic, college, or research libraries or institutions, including junior, community, or technical colleges; vocational institutions; rural institutions; Historically Black Colleges and Universities (HBCUs); Tribal Colleges and Universities (TCUs); and etc.;
 - are new to MiALA

The IDEA Committee expects the announcement and application process to go live on May 1st, 2021, with a closing date of May 31st, 2021. This would allow the committee to review applications and make decisions by June 18th, 2021, allowing for membership for all selected applicants to begin July 1st, 2021. This initiative will be revisited by the 2021-2022 IDEA Committee to determine its financial sustainability and efficacy in supporting our BIPOC library colleagues in engaging meaningfully with MiALA.

2020-2021 IDEA Committee:
Sheila Garcia

Tina Mullins (Co-Chair)
Jessica Sender (Co-Chair)
Grace Morris
Jen Fiero