

MiALA Board Meeting Notes

Thursday, May 1st, 1pm

Present: Mies Martin, Ed Eckel, Darlene Johnson-Bignotti, Julie Garrison, Mariela Hristova, Kalyn Huson, Kelli Herm, Shelia Garcia Mazari, Jessica Hronchek, Katrina Rouan and Rebecca Tull

Guests: Denise Leyton, Paul Gallagher, Jennifer Dean, Emera Wilson, Meghan McGowan, Mary O'Kelly,

Absent: Samantha Minnis, Gina Bolger

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

Board Business Meeting:

1. Approval of Agenda
 - a. Motion to approve - Garrison
 - b. Seconded - Johnson-Bignotti
 - c. The motion passed.
2. Approval of [Minutes from April Meeting](#)
 - a. Motion to approve - Eckel
 - b. Seconded - Garrison
 - c. The motion passed.
3. Approval of Consent Agenda:
 - a. Motion to approve - Johnson-Bignotti
 - b. Seconded - Garrison
 - c. The motion passed.
 - d. Committee reports
 - i. Advocacy – no report. (Ed)
 - ii. Awards – We received three nominations for the ALOTY award. An ad-hoc selection group is being formed and the winner will be announced during the Birds of a Feather lunch on Monday. (Darlene)
 - iii. Conference Planning– 2025 conference in Flint – 144 registered for the conference as of 4/28, final planning is going well. 2026 conference in Traverse City - co-chairs are planning to announce hotel, location, and dates during the member meeting at the 2025 conference and also begin recruiting for volunteers to serve on the conference committee.
 - iv. Communications and Marketing – Swag order (pens) has been placed. Kudos, again, to Jon Jeffryes and Kalyn Huson for making this happen.
 - v. Executive – No Updates
 - vi. IDEA – No update. (Katrina)
 - vii. Membership –

- viii. Nominating – Election Central page has been updated and nominations for Board positions are open. Board members are welcome to submit short testimonials to the committee which will be used in election promo. (Darlene)
- ix. Ad-Hoc Committees:
 - 1. Partnerships Committee (Ed, Mies, Katrina) - No Updates
- e. Partner Reports-
- f. Treasurer's Report –
- g. Interest Group Coordinating Council – No updates (Mariela)
- h. Board Actions via Email –

Old Business

1. [MiALA Strategic Plan](#) (Strategic Planning Team)

Garrison - We are joined by members of the Strategic Planning Team to share the final draft of the strategic plan.

Leyton - We received a lot of positive feedback from members and stakeholders.

Johnson-Bignotti - There was no feedback that the draft plan was out of touch or that it was off the mark.

Motion - The MiALA Board approves the adoption of the [MiALA Strategic Plan](#) as presented by the Strategic Planning Team, to be used as its guiding document and focus for the association's budgeting and resource alignment over the next five years.
(Johnson-Bignotti)

Seconded - Garcia Mazari

The motion passed.

Motion - Having met their goal, I move that this team be dismissed from their charge and thanked for their great work. (Johnson-Bignotti)

Seconded - Eckel

The motion passed.

2. MiALA/MCLS [Service Agreement Renewal](#) (Mies, Rebecca, Gina, Ed and Jessica)

Martin - The agreement has been updated to reflect the compensation numbers for the consulting services.

Hronchek - We can absolutely afford these based on our current financial state. Long term, we may need to think about revenue generation to maintain these types of increases.

Motion to accept this contract and move forward.- Johnson Bignotti

Seconded - Tull

The motion passed. Garrison abstained.

3. MiALA [FY26 Budget](#) (updated for MCLS contract) plus CD reinvestment decision

Motion to approve the FY26 Budget as proposed. - Eckel

Seconded - Garrison
The motion passed.

Motion to invest \$100,000 in 6 month 4.1% CD, leaves \$42,000 but can reevaluate in October, \$2,224+ gain. - Garrison

Seconded - Johnson-Bignotti
The motion passed.

New Business

1. Conference Business Meeting (Mies)

Martin - If you are a liaison to a committee, please reach out to see if someone will present at the business meeting.

2. 2026 Conference co-chair site visit - FYI and guidance on future budget request

Garrison - The 2026 Conference Co-Chairs are interested in doing a site visit.

The Board agreed this was a reasonable conference expense and there was no need for Board approval

Hronchek - We may want to add this as a line item for future conferences.

3. Upcoming meeting with Randy Riley (Mies)

Martin - Randy Riley would like to meet with MiALA members to share update on IMLS funding. I will follow up to get clarification on this ask and copy the Board.

Issue Bin / Future Agenda Items:

Motion to adjourn - Garrison
Seconded - Garcia Mazari
The meeting was adjourned at 2:02pm.

Upcoming Board Meetings:

Thursday, June 5, 1pm