

NOBLE Executive Board Meeting Minutes Hybrid

April 9, 2025

Present: Kathy Lussier, Brian Courtemanche, Jonathan Nichols, Allison Babin, Catherine McDonald, Myron Schirer-Suter, Rachel Overbeck, Anna Sarneso, Abby Porter

1. Call to Order

Brian called the meeting to order at 2:04.

2. Approval of Minutes

Catherine made the motion to approve the minutes, seconded by Allison . All in favor, except Brian who abstained.

3. Treasurer's Report

Myron stated that there is nothing out of the ordinary on the Treasurer's Report.

4. Nominating Committee

Brian reported that Allison Babin will be nominated as Clerk and Theresa Hurley will be nominated as Vice President/President-Elect. Their names will be brought forward at the May Members' meeting. Brian also reviewed the voting process that will take place at the Members' Meeting.

5. Electronic Resources and Database Working Group

Myron reviewed the latest ERDWG meeting. EBSCO contract was discussed, as Bibliograph is not working well. Elizabeth is working to resolve the issues. Aspen implementation was also heavily discussed. It was voted to add a separate children's catalog, because Aspen will not allow children's materials to be searched as a separate collection. Also, digital materials will not be shown at the NOBLE level that are only available to local libraries, such as hoopla. More information about this will be communicated soon.

6. Resource Sharing Working Group

Jonathan reviewed the latest RSWG meeting, which was very short. They reviewed proposed Borrower's Card policy revisions. Kathy reviewed the proposed revisions.

Jonathan made the motion to recommend the revisions to the Borrower's Card policy to the Members, seconded by Myron . All in favor.

7. Collection Management Working Group

Catherine reported that the latest Collection Management Working Group was canceled.

8. Executive Director's Report

Kathy reviewed the Executive Director's report, which included the following:

- The timeline for the Gordon-Conwell migration, which will most likely be in August. After discussion with the Gordon-Conwell IT staff, Kathy plans to review the Member Services Agreement with a closer look at user data.
- Beverly, Swampscott, and Winthrop have volunteered to pilot for e-rate and filtering.
- Plans for Aspen implementation. Elizabeth is working on a training schedule for NOBLE members.

- Salesforce is being considered for a Customer Relationship Management system. This would potentially be implemented in August/September.
- Director Roundtables have been poorly attended. Kathy is considering having a topic for each meeting.
- Evergreen Community Development Initiative is working on new rules of governance. They are still waiting on one signed contract, which is causing delays in hiring a new program director. IMLS funding may cause potential issues.
- There are concerns about federal funding. Massachusetts Attorney General Joy Campbell has joined a multi-state lawsuit regarding the discontinuation of Grants to State program through IMLS. There was brief discussion about sharing information about these challenges on the NOBLE catalog. It was decided to share a link to MBLC.

9. Policies related to Non-certified Public libraries

Kathy reviewed the options for how NOBLE could respond to non-certified public libraries. Traditionally, NOBLE has not taken a stance and leaves it up to each member library to decide whether or not to lend to non-certified libraries. Kathy shared that network administrators have been discussing Libby and Overdrive. Restricting usage of these collections is complicated, as non-certified libraries have been paying into these shared collections. There was discussion of the various policy options. Kathy will seek a lawyer's opinion on this matter before further discussion.

10. EBSCO Renewal and Charging for Basic EBSCO Package

Kathy presented on the EBSCO renewal package. She suggested considering a tiered pricing approach based on usage for FY 27. This will be discussed in more detail at a future meeting.

11. Proposed revisions to Associate Member Libraries policy

Kathy reviewed the revisions to the Associate Member Libraries policy, which include no longer requiring Associate Member Libraries to participate in the EBSCO group package.

Catherine made the motion to recommend the proposed revisions to the Members' Meeting, seconded by Rachel. All in favor.

12. Proposed Changes to Library of Congress Subject Headings

This item was tabled until the next meeting.

13. Regular Policy Review

This item was tabled until the next meeting.

14. New Business

No new business

15. Adjournment

Jonathan made the motion to adjourn. All in favor. Meeting adjourned at 4:03.

Respectfully submitted,

Abby Porter
Clerk