

**NORTH OF BOSTON LIBRARY EXCHANGE INC
MEMBERS OF THE CORPORATION MEETING VIDEOCONFERENCE
MARCH 19, 2026 MINUTES**

Present: Members attended by authorized voting representatives (**Attachment A**).

1. **Call To Order** - President Catherine McDonald at 10:06.

2. **Approval of Minutes**

Motion: Jenny Benedict moved to approve the January 22, 2026 Minutes, Jonathan Nichols second. Motion carried.

3. **Treasurer's Report**

In Myron's absence Kathy Lussier presented the report.

4. **Manager's Report**

Kathy Lussier

● **Nahant Public Library**

- Signed an Implementation Agreement to join NOBLE.
- Elizabeth, Martha, and Kathy visited Nahant Public Library for a kickoff meeting.
- Migration to begin night of Saturday, June 13 and completed by Thursday, June 18.
- Applying for a Joining Networks Grant from the MBLC to pay for the migration fees and Aspen implementation costs from MOBIUS and Equinox. The MBLC has funding to pay for this grant in this fiscal year.
- Nahant will be receiving the Small Library in Networks Grant from the MBLC annually to help offset their assessment costs. NOBLE will be applying the grant to Nahant's assessment in the year after we receive the funds. This is also how we handle most grant funding from the MBLC.

● **Member Services Support Associate position**

Received 31 applications for the Member Services Support Associate position, seven candidates interviewed. Position offered and accepted by Paige Eaton, start date is March 30th. Paige worked as the User Services Librarian at the Minuteman Library Network years ago. Since that time, she has worked in roles where she has provided systems support and technical consulting for community organizations and nonprofits.

● **Electronic Resources & Databases Working Group**

- ERDWG voted in January to use Loral as the new Book Jacket Cover Images service to replace Content Cafe, owned by Baker & Taylor. Both Loral and Content Cafe are supplying images in Aspen. Working on getting Loral integrated in the Evergreen staff catalog.
- ERDWG voted yesterday to make some changes to our Aspen interface, including the re-ordering of fields for the grouped record and title pages, a larger font size to make the catalog easier to read, and a change to the way language facets work. With the new language facets, users will be able to select both English and Spanish.

● **Circulation Testing**

- Six people volunteered to help test the new circulation interface in Evergreen. They submitted several bugs, missing features.
- Michele Morgan is reviewing their reports to see if any new bugs need to be filed in the Evergreen community.
- We will identify problems that are blockers for implementing the new interface. ECDI will be discussing the possibility of funding this development at its meeting tomorrow.

- **NOBLE Filtering Project**

Although not able to participate in the e-rate discount program this year, we continue with our filtering pilot by trying a new method. We are using firewall-level filtering at the NOBLE office before rolling it out to pilot libraries. Swampscott has volunteered.

- **Ad Hoc Committee to Assess Services for Academic Libraries**

Only heard from one potential volunteer for this committee. Will reach out directly to some individuals as a next step. Please consider nominating somebody from your staff.

- **Massachusetts Data Privacy Act**

- As mentioned during the January meeting, the nine network administrators pooled funds this year to hire an attorney to review the Massachusetts Data Privacy Act and its implications for libraries. A version of the act has already passed the state Senate, and it is now with the House Ways & Means Committee. We are working with MLA Legislative Committee to see if we can introduce language to clearly exempt libraries and library networks from the legislation.
- Earlier this month, I reached out to Rep. Tricia Farley-Bouvier (2nd Berkshire), House Chair of the Joint Committee on Advanced Information Technology, the Internet and Cybersecurity, about our concerns with the Act. She did not respond to my email, but Alex Reczkowski, director of the Berkshire Athenaeum in Pittsfield spoke with her and is setting up a meeting.

- **Evergreen Updates**

- Running for a seat on the Evergreen Project Board. The Massachusetts Evergreen networks have traditionally committed to having at least one representative on the Board. Jeanette Lundgren at CW MARS is finishing up two three-year terms on the Board.
- Sarah Moody, new Program Director with the Evergreen Collaborative Development Initiative, is working on prioritizing the development process. The group is discussing funding to fix bugs and restore missing features in the new Evergreen circulation interface that is expected to go live with the Evergreen community's fall release.
- Elizabeth Thomsen, Michele Morgan, Chris Amorosi, and Kathy will be attending the Evergreen conference in Seattle next month. Also all will be presenting at the conference.

Elizabeth Thomsen Is attending Computer in Libraries Conference, she submitted her report and is shared here, [Member Services Manager Report](#)

Martha Driscoll

- **Electronic Record Cleanup**

Electronic resource records are being removed from Evergreen. This is causing a drop in the count for electronic materials in the dashboard. Currently the numbers are gathered from Evergreen, but we intend to switch to querying Aspen for these numbers. Once the clean up is finished and the new numbers are posted, we will send a message out to noble-info.

- **Quipu eRenew**

The eRenew code is installed on the Evergreen production system and we are testing it. More information will be sent shortly about when this will go live and how it will work.

- **Fortigate Filtering**

Fortigate firewall has filtering that offers a link on the block page to have the questionable site re-evaluated. Two legitimate sites that were blocked, were available a few hours later after being reviewed. Mike will be uninstalling the SafeDNS filtering at the pilot libraries.

- **Nahant Public Library**

Data mapping for Nahant items is going on. The library has been added to Evergreen and Aspen and you may see it showing up.

5. Overview of NOBLE Reserve Funds

Kathy Lussier has been working with the Executive Board to establish a contingency plan for NOBLE's reserve funds, and an explanation of how the funds are allocated. Presentation link: [Overview of NOBLE Reserve Funds](#)

6. Grant Opportunity from the MBLC - Kathy Lussier

Discussed with the Executive Board a grant to have cataloging done for our materials in non-English languages. Working with Backstage to get an estimate. May require items be sent out for the actual full cataloging.

7. Cataloging Training Requirements w/ Recommended Revision to NOBLE Database Quality Policy - Kathy Lussier

- Part of our action plan this year is to come up with cataloging training tracks for different levels of all cataloging staff. Since the records in our database are shared, it's important that everyone uses the same procedure as to how to enter items and how to make sure there aren't duplicates. [Cataloging Training Sessions](#)
- Reviewed revisions to Database Quality Policy [Revision to Database Quality Policy](#)

Motion: Jenny Benedict moved to accept revisions to the Database Quality Policy, Linda Gardener seconded. Motion carried unanimously.

8. Recommended revision to Network Transfer Policy - Kathy Lussier

Kathy explained Agenda items 8-10 are part of the Executive Board's regular policy review. Therefore these are policies that have come up in the past 4 months as part of that review. Kathy gave a summary of the recommendations for each policy. [Network Transfer Policy Revisions](#)

Motion: Noelle Boc moved to accept the revisions to the Network Transfer Policy, Jenny Benedict second. Motion carried unanimously.

9. Recommendation to Rescind NOBLE ILL Code

[NOBLE Interlibrary Loan Code](#)

Motion: Linda Gardener moved to rescind the NOBLE Interlibrary Loan Code, Noelle Boc second. Motion carried unanimously.

10. Recommendation to Approve New Member Policy and Rescind the Associate Member, Small Libraries and School Systems Policy

[Proposed NOBLE New Member Policy](#)

Motion: Jenny Benedict moved to approve New Member Policy and rescind the Associate Member, Small Libraries, and School Systems Policy, Jonathan Nichols second. Motion carried unanimously.

11. Quarterly FY26 Action Plan Review

Kathy Lussier reported on the quarterly goals for the FY26 Action Plan.

12. New Business

- Kim Grad, Abbot Library, Marblehead director, reported she was told two weeks ago the library's budget was being cut 50%. At the end of February she was told by the town administrator the library would be level funded. The town annual election is June 9th and as of right now returning the library's budget back to level funding isn't an option. The library will be decertified. Kim working on a campaign.
- A request was made to have the monthly directors meeting. Kathy Lussier said they were done on Fridays in the past, and will email directors to ask what day works best.
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13. Adjournment

Jenny Benedict made a motion to adjourn the meeting at 12:00pm.

Respectfully submitted,

Allison Babin
Clerk

ATTACHMENT A

NOBLE Members Meeting Attendance
Thursday March 19, 2026 10:00 AM to 12:00 PM

#	Name	Library
1	Allison Babin	Beverly Public Library
2	Anna Sarneso	Bunker Hill Community College Library and Learning Commons
3	Noelle Boc	Danvers - Peabody Institute Library
4	Brian Courtemanche	Endicott College - Diane M. Halle Library
5	Jenny Benedict	Gloucester - Sawyer Free Library
6	Theresa Hurley	Lynn Public Library
7	Abby Porter	Lynnfield Public Library
8	Kimberly Grad	Marblehead - Abbot Public Library
9	Linda Gardener	Melrose Public Library
10	Catherine Robertson	Montserrat College of Art - Paul M. Scott Library
11	Martha Driscoll	NOBLE Staff
12	Paula Cartolaro	NOBLE Staff
13	Kathy Lussier	NOBLE Staff
14	Michelle Filleul	Reading Public Library
15	James Riordan	Salem Public Library
16	Alan Thibeault	Saugus Public Library
17	Jonathan Nichols	Swampscott Public Library
18	Catherine McDonald	Wakefield - Beebe Memorial Library