

Western Massachusetts Library Advocates (WMLA)
Meeting
February 22, 2021
Via Zoom
Minutes – Draft

1. Toni called the meeting to order at 2:01
2. Roll call: Toni Golinski-Foisy, Lisa Downing, Natane Halasz, Mary Kronholm, Wendy Pearson, Mike Moran, Lynn Blair, Nora Blake, Jan Resnick, Misha Storm, Anna Lawrence; Katherine Umstot Guest: Alex Reczkowski, Director of the Berkshire Athenaeum; Absent: Amanda Merk, Sharon Sharry
3. The Let's Talk Legislative event went really well with great speakers, including Toni, and the MBLC did a good job hosting.
4. The date for our legislative breakfast is Friday, March 12 at 9 AM and we have confirmed Lesser, Comerford, Gomez aid, Hines, Gobi, Velis aid. **We should each reach out to our representatives by the end of the week.** Nora - Carey; Natane - Whipps; Lisa - Sabadosa; Katherine - Blais; Mike - Smola; If reps not available - ask an aide.
5. Alex has set up Flip Grid for us as a way to solicit stories and comments from constituents. Wendy and Alex will assemble the reels. We can request stories from our patrons and constituents about how we rely on libraries: <https://flipgrid.com/d27a3f36>
6. Alex will set up the zoom link for the participants and presenter links for everyone on the program including all of the elected officials panelists so that they can speak.
7. We will have a one hour program - Sarah from MLS; James or Jan/Mary from MBLC ; our very own Toni from WMLA to give opening remarks; our very own Nora from MLA; Jeannette from CWMARS; someone from MSLA (Mike will find a speaker). Each of the library speakers will be invited to record a 2-3 minute FlipGrid ahead of time that will be played at the event. Alex will send all of the library speakers an email with the FlipGrid invite. Jan said to make sure that we address the legislative agenda and ask speakers to address particular budget lines or agenda. Toni will arrange the program and send it out for feedback.
8. We will attempt to arrange delivery of breakfast foods to each of the senators and representatives attending on the morning of the breakfast.
9. Lisa will create a Google Sheet and share with the board to help keep track of the speakers, elected officials, email addresses, who is reaching out, confirmed, food arranged. **Here is a link to the sheet,** <https://docs.google.com/spreadsheets/d/1haeuA-h2FAhmSa3LufDigPtEQDNZ6KakL03gmPMsGd0/edit?usp=sharing> . **Please add to it as you confirm details.**
12. Next meeting - March 8 at 2 PM
13. Adjournment - Toni adjourned us at 2:58 PM.