

agenda

Trustee Agenda, Tuesday, May 3, 1994
7:30 P.M.

1. Bills to be signed.
2. Call to order and acceptance of previous meeting's minutes.
3. Director's Report (attached).
4. Old business
 - A. Air-conditioning.
 - B. Negotiations - Ed Hazlett.
 - C. Budget/Town meeting.
 - D. Janitorial position(s).
5. New business
 - A. Museum - door and pictures.
 - B. Children's Room upgrade - Part II.
 - C. Blinds.
 - D. "Library materials flow management".
6. Other - MLA legislative day is May 25th at State House 10 A.M.
7. Date of next meeting.
8. Motion to adjourn.

Director's Report to Trustees **for meeting on May 3, 1994, 7:30 P.M.**

WINTHROP NEWS: Two letters, one each from myself and David Redgrave, have been sent to the Advisory Board regarding several errors in the REQUESTED FY95 COLUMN of the REDBOOK. Copies will be available at the meeting.

NOBLE NEWS: Implementation of the new LIBS 100 PLUS software is becoming more complicated, as each week brings news of more details. Training is but one aspect of this operation. We will not be able to enter any new books into the database for nearly two months because a database conversion program ("BIB CONVERT PLUS") will be run one week before the May 23rd installation date. May 13th will probably be the last date anything can be entered. We must determine ourselves how to circulate May and June bestseller purchases without any entering capability. The technical services end of this upgrade seems to have been given the lowest priority - Richard Allen will not have any concrete info until he begins attending meetings in July.

MLA CONFERENCE: Richard Allen and myself attended one day of the Massachusetts Library Association's Spring Conference in Hyannis. Some info gleaned there follows:

- ◆ The conference seems to have been valuable if only for the attached "Reasons for Convening an Executive Session" , copies of which are attached.
- ◆ As you well know, the legislature recently passed the "Education Reform" bill, some details of which I received at a workshop. After fifteen years of work on the bill there apparently is little in it for (school) libraries and the "foundation levels" - mandated minimum per pupil expenditures - will have an impact on public libraries by further diminishing the municipal pie. I feel we ought to investigate the advisability of filing an exemption for part of our materials, and perhaps even staff budgetary costs, as a *"bonafide educational cost"* If granted, such moneys would reduce the amount the town has to now, by law, appropriate to the schools, and would leave a bit more for everyone else, and make public the fact that a percentage of our book budget goes directly for curriculum related purchases.
- ◆ STATE NEWS: The BLC has filed two bills totaling six (6) million dollars with the legislature. The State now spends twenty-two (22) million for State Aid and other programs. BLC Director Keith Fiels thinks that favorable action is possible, and that a good decade for libraries could follow. Mr. Fiels summarized the issues and bills, which include a restitution of the LSCA program (construction) and the implementation of the STRATEGIC PLAN (Phase I): the Massachusetts Library and Information Network, which hopes to electronically link all Massachusetts libraries. The "all" means government, special, corporate, school, and private as well as public libraries. Funds for unnetworked libraries are a priority.
 - The BLC's STRATEGIC PLAN. will resize the existing **Eastern Region** into three or four smaller regions. This is the issue making the networks very nervous - will some of the NOBLE libraries end up in different regions?
 - Proposed changes in the standards for certification, which I mentioned at previous meetings, have flopped. "A *colossal* flop", according to Rob Maier of the BLC, with whom I spoke. Everyone agrees that changes should occur, but no one agrees with any of the proposed changes.