



TAKING THE PAST INTO THE FUTURE

NEA MEETING MINUTES | submitted by the NEA Secretary | [secretary@newenglandarchivists.org](mailto:secretary@newenglandarchivists.org)

New England Archivists Annual Business Meeting  
March 24, 2018  
12 - 1:30 p.m.  
Omni New Haven Hotel at Yale  
New Haven, CT

### Agenda

- |               |   |
|---------------|---|
| 12:00 - 12:10 | Call to Order<br>(Ellen Doon, President)  |
| 12:10 - 12:15 | Approval of 2017 Annual Business Meeting Minutes<br>(Caitlin Birch, Secretary)  |
| 12:15 - 12:25 | Treasurer's Report<br>(Emily Atkins, Treasurer)   |
| 12:25 - 12:35 | Report on Contingent Employment Study<br>(Anna Clutterbuck-Cook,<br>past Inclusion and Diversity Coordinator)   |
| 12:35 - 12:45 | Introduction of New Board Members and Volunteer Appreciation<br>(Ellen Doon, Outgoing President)  |
| 12:45 - 1:05  | Awards and Scholarship Ceremony<br>(Ellen Doon, President)<br><br>Hale Professional Development Award<br>Audio/Visual Professional Development Award<br>(Jessica Sedgwick, Representative-at-Large)<br><br>Inclusion and Diversity Session Award<br>(Rose Oliveira, co-Chairs, Inclusion and Diversity Committee)<br><br>Archival Advocacy Award<br>Distinguished Service Award<br>(Jennifer Gunter King, Immediate Past President) |
| 1:05 - 1:15   | Incoming President Remarks  |

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(Karen Adler Abramson, Incoming President)

1:15 - 1:20

**Call for New Business**

(Karen Adler Abramson, President)

1:20

**Adjournment**

(Karen Adler Abramson, President)



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### **Call to Order**

Ellen Doon called the meeting to order at 12:15 p.m. She welcomed attendees, thanked the Spring 2018 Program Committee and all the volunteers who have made the meeting possible, and gave an overview of the Annual Business Meeting agenda. Ellen also called attendee attention to the “State of NEA” infographic available on the meeting tables, which highlights the membership of NEA and the organization’s activities over the past year.

### **Approval of 2017 Annual Business Meeting Minutes**

Caitlin Birch moved to approve the 2017 Annual Business Meeting minutes as submitted. Jessica Sedgwick seconded. No discussion. No abstentions. The motion passed unanimously.

### **Treasurer’s Report**

Emily Atkins presented the Treasurer’s report. In fiscal year 2017, NEA made a profit of \$8,400.19. This profit was thanks to higher-than-usual donations, strong membership renewals, and the ability to lock in lower rates for the Spring 2017 Meeting during early contract negotiations. Emily reminded attendees that NEA’s fiscal year runs from January to December, and that NEA is a 501(c)3 nonprofit organization registered as a public charity in the state of Massachusetts. Current and past financial information is public and available online. NEA’s total income this year was \$66,252.30, which included \$38,364.42 from the Spring 2017 Meeting; \$3,661 from the Fall 2017 Symposium; \$21,773.50 from membership dues; and \$880 in donations. Donations increased 150 percent over fiscal year 2016 and were matched by the Board. NEA’s expenses this year totaled \$57,852.11 and included \$32,750.77 for the Spring 2017 Meeting; \$2,849.89 for the Fall 2017 Symposium; \$804.40 for American Sign Language interpretation at the Spring 2018 Meeting; and \$3,957.88 to fund professional development awards and meeting and travel assistance scholarships. Emily encouraged all members who are able to donate to award and scholarship funds. She also highlighted NEA’s new voting software, ElectionBuddy, which has proved easier to use and is saving the organization more than \$400 over the previous software, VoteNet.

### **Report on Contingent Employment Study**

Anna Clutterbuck-Cook presented the final report of the 2016 Contingent Employment Study. Anna thanked her fellow research team members: Micha Broadnax, Elizabeth Carron, Katie Fortier, and Allyson Glazier. The study was undertaken to help NEA better understand the growing phenomenon of contingent employment in the New England region and the archives field, and to get some ideas



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about how to address the issue. Anna gave an overview of the study's methods, which included an online survey offered through Google Forms and follow-up interviews with some respondents. The survey received 70 responses, and of those, 71.4 percent of respondents lived in and 74.3 percent worked in Massachusetts, with a scattering of responses from across the other states of New England. The survey included questions about household and economic responsibilities to gain a better understanding of respondents' financial situations, as well as questions about education and financing of education. Over 90 percent of respondents had completed a master's degree at the time of the survey. Almost three-quarters of respondents took out student loans to finance their education. The survey included questions about the affordability of student loans and whether they were worth taking out. Additional questions asked about employment history, how respondents identified their work (professional, paraprofessional, etc.), how many jobs they were working, the types of positions they held, and the types of institutions at which they worked. Respondents shared some positives of contingent employment: flexible scheduling, a wide range of experiences, rewarding work, networking. Some respondents indicated that there were no positives. Respondents also shared negatives: job insecurity, financial insecurity, suffering, poverty, unfair compensation, difficulty planning for the future. The survey included questions about the impact of contingent employment and what could have improved the experience of being contingently employed. One takeaway of the survey was that NEA might consider issuing guidelines or best practices for institutions that offer contingent employment. Anna went over some of the qualitative interview questions, including a question about what NEA could do. Some overall takeaways of the study were: many interviewees shared individualized solutions to systemic problems; credentialing, professionalization, and archivist identity formation may be barriers to improving labor conditions; contingent employment is a labor problem, not (only) an archives problem; professional associations have limited power to enforce solutions; archivists may consider organizing for power. Anna said she is happy to discuss the study further and individually. Eventually, the study data will be available through NEA and researchers will be able to use the data to propose solutions.

### **Introduction of New Board Members and Volunteer Appreciation**

Ellen Doon introduced new Board members and expressed appreciation for outgoing volunteers. Jamie Rice is the incoming Vice President and Cristina Prochilo is the incoming Representative-at-Large. Ellen acknowledged the service of Jennifer Gunter King, outgoing Immediate Past President; Jessica Sedgwick, outgoing Representative-at-Large; Anna Clutterbuck-Cook, former Inclusion and Diversity Coordinator; Rachel Chatalbash and Bonnie Sauer, outgoing Spring 2018 Program Committee chairs; Liz Andrews and Nora Murphy, former Fall 2017 Program Committee chairs; Erik Bauer, former co-chair of the Education Committee; and Pamela Hopkins and Heather Mumford, former co-chairs of the Membership Committee. Ellen thanked all volunteers who completed their service in the past year:



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**Executive Board**

Immediate Past President: Jennifer Gunter King  
Representative-at-Large: Jessica Sedgwick

**Audio/Visual Professional Development Award Committee**

Danielle Castronovo  
Blake Spitz  
Leah Weisse

**Communications Committee**

Moira O'Connell-Morganstein  
Michelle Romero

**Education Committee**

Erik Bauer (co-Chair)  
Alfie Paul  
Elizabeth Roscio  
Amanda Strauss

**Haas Award Committee**

Paul Bergeron  
Amelia Holmes  
Kim Kennedy  
Rebecca Parmer

**Hale Award Committee**

Elizabeth Coup  
Matthew Mason  
Joshua Lascell

**Inclusion and Diversity Coordinator:**

Anna Clutterbuck-Cook

**Interim Treasurer:**

Juliana Kuipers

**Membership Committee**

Pamela Hopkins (co-Chair)  
Heather Mumford (co-Chair)  
Daniel McCormack  
Gayle Schechter  
Nicole Topich

**Nominating Committee**

Rosalie Gartner  
Tom Hyry  
Colin Lukens  
Rachel Onuf

**Program Committee: Fall 2017**

Liz Andrews (co-Chair)  
Nora Murphy (co-Chair)  
Myles Crowley  
Emily Gonzales  
Julia Logan  
Louise Sandberg  
Irina Sandler  
Elizabeth Slomba  
Chris Tanguay

**Joint Program Committee: Spring 2018**

Rachel Chatalbash (Chair—NEA)  
Mike Brenes  
Rosemary Davis  
Amber LaFountain  
Jeanne Lowrey  
Rose Oliveira  
Anna Robinson-Sweet  
Camila Tessler  
Bonnie Sauer (Chair-A.R.T.)  
Bob Clark (A.R.T.)  
Helice Koffler (A.R.T.)  
Megan Oliver (A.R.T.)  
Jacqueline Rider (A.R.T.)  
Jenny Swadosh (A.R.T.)  
Annie Tummino (A.R.T.)

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Ellen concluded by highlighting current volunteer opportunities. The Board seeks a chair of the Membership Committee, a Community Engagement Coordinator, and two *NEA Newsletter* editors. She encouraged anyone interested to volunteer.

### **Awards and Scholarship Ceremony**

Ellen Doon opened the awards and scholarship ceremony. Ellen reported that NEA awarded three travel scholarships and two student scholarships this year.

#### *Hale Professional Development Award*

#### *Audio/Visual Professional Development Award*

Jessica Sedgwick presented the Richard W. Hale Jr. Professional Development Award and the Audio/Visual Professional Development Award. Before announcing the awards, Jessica noted that the Richard L. Haas Records Management Award Committee didn't receive any eligible nominations this year. Jessica announced Stephen Curley as the winner of this year's Hale Award and Amy Hietala as the winner of this year's A/V Award. Stephen will use the Hale Award to attend the annual meeting of the Society of American Archivists. Amy will use the A/V Award to attend the six-week online workshop, "Fundamentals of AV Preservation," through the Northeast Document Conservation Center.

#### *Inclusion and Diversity Session Award*

Rose Oliveira presented the Inclusion & Diversity Session and Travel Assistance Award. The winners of this year's award are Meghan Bailey, Stephanie Hall, Amita Kiley, Annalisa Moretti, and Lynn Moulton for their session, "Enhancing Underrepresented Collections and Reaching New Users."

#### *Archival Advocacy Award*

#### *Distinguished Service Award*

Jennifer Gunter King presented the Archival Advocacy Award and the Distinguished Service Award. The winner of this year's Archival Advocacy Award is Matthew Dunlap, the Secretary of State of Maine. Samuel Howes accepted on Matthew's behalf and Jennifer shared a video acceptance that Matthew submitted as well, in which he offered remarks on the importance of archives and thanked archivists for their work. The winner of this year's Distinguished Service Award is Robert Cox, who accepted the award, expressed gratitude, and offered brief remarks.

### **Incoming President Remarks**

Ellen Doon introduced Karen Adler Abramson as the incoming President of NEA. Karen offered brief remarks, beginning by saying that she is delighted to be taking on the role. She thanked Rachel Chatalbash, Bonnie Sauer, the Spring 2018 Program Committee, and everyone else who made this meeting possible. Karen said that it's an exciting time to be part of NEA, an organization that she's



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watched grow over time. NEA is meeting new needs and adapting to changing times. Regardless of one's political beliefs, the work of archivists has never been more important than in this moment of "alternative facts," and advocating for archives is very important. Karen highlighted the fact that the 2016-2020 NEA Strategic Plan has advocacy built into it, specifically in the form of the Community Engagement Coordinator role. She encouraged attendees to consider volunteering for the role. Karen concluded her remarks by reminding attendees that they can attend Board meetings, including virtually, and encouraging attendees to check out NEA's progress on the Strategic Plan and its current offerings on the NEA website.

#### **Call for New Business**

Karen Adler Abramson issued a call for new business. The membership did not bring any new business forward.

#### **Adjournment**

Karen Adler Abramson adjourned the meeting at 1:06 p.m.

Respectfully submitted,  
Caitlin Birch