

WMRLS Executive Board Meeting

June 17, 2013

The meeting of the WMRLS Executive Board was called to order at 3:08 p.m. by Patrick Marshall, President.

Present: MLS Executive Board Members: William Adamczyk, Charlotte Canelli (by phone), Cathy Collins (by phone), Jim Douglas (by phone), Tim Gerolami, Betty Johnson, Deborah Kelsey, Margot Malachowski, Patrick Marshall, Bert Saul, Sarah Watkins

Ex-officio- Greg Pronevitz, MLS Ex. Director; Gianna Gifford, LFC

Disposition of Whately Facility Recommendation

Board heard a recommendation by MLS Executive Director, Greg Pronevitz, to investigate new avenues, in addition to continuing to seek a tenant, to eliminate the unnecessary costs incurred for the Whately facility. These avenues include putting the facility up for sale.

MLS is committed to maintaining a presence with appropriate office and training/meeting facilities in Western Massachusetts. Six of MLS's 18 full-time employees are based in Whatley and the training room is one of our most frequently used training locations. To recognize the strong feelings that many members and stakeholders in western Massachusetts have for this facility, we have spent the past 19 months working with a local realtor to find a tenant to allow us to recover costs for a large amount of surplus space in the building. No viable tenants that would make a significant contribution to cost-effectiveness have come forward. Now we must seek other avenues to provide cost effective alternatives for operations.

MLS staff has occupied a portion of the space (about 4,000 square feet) for nearly three years. There is a large amount (about 6,000 square feet) of surplus space also requires maintenance and utility services. The direct costs for maintaining the surplus is \$50,000-\$64,000 per year. The Whately facility and its contents acquired prior to July 1, 2010 are owned by the Western Massachusetts Regional Library System (WMRLS). MLS has been covering all of the costs to maintain the facility since 2010.

Motion to approve recommendation. Motion-Deborah; Second-Will. Unanimous.

Two of the WMRLS delivery vans have sold. One is listed on Munici-Bid. Four vehicles remain unsold.

Meeting adjourned at 3:10 p.m. Motion-Will; Second-Deborah.

Respectfully submitted,
Betty Johnson