

**Mississippi Library Association
Executive Board Meeting Minutes
February 3, 2012
Mississippi Library Commission
Jackson, Mississippi**

Stephen Cunetto called the meeting to order at 10:15 a.m., welcoming the Board Members.

Those present: Kathy Buntin, Treasurer
Jenniffer Stephenson, Public Library Section Chair
Susan Sparkman, School Library Section Co-Chair
Venetia Oglesby, School Library Section Co-Chair
Melissa Dennis, ACRL Chair
Deborah Lee, SELA Councilor
Jeff Slagell, ALA Councilor
Jennifer A. Smith, Past President
Stephen Cunetto, President
Pat Matthes, Secretary
Lynn Shurden, Vice-President
Mara K. Villa, Parliamentarian
Sheila A. Cork, Special Libraries Chair

Absent: Jaclyn Lewis, Special Libraries Section Vice Chair
Trustees Library Section Chair

Others present: Mary Julia Anderson, Executive Secretary
Susan Cassagne, Legislative Committee
Deb Mitchell, Legislative Committee
Shirlene Stogner, Fiscal Management Committee
Carol Green, Fiscal Management Committee
Pam Pridgen, Legislative Committee
Jeanette Whisenton, Black Caucus

The agenda was accepted with the revision of adding the VP Committee Reports. Jennifer Smith made the motion to accept the Agenda. Deborah Lee made a motion that we approve the agenda and Jeff Slagell seconded it. The vote was unanimous.

The minutes were approved with corrections being made to several names. The motion to approve was made by Deborah Lee and seconded by Jennifer Smith.

Treasurers Report: Kathy Buntin stated that in her opinion there is a need to raise convention registration fees. MLA is doing a good job, but it was expensive for the last conference. Discussion followed.

Kathy gave a Financial Report to the Board for approval. The Balance Sheet as of December 31, 2011 was unanimously approved. Discussion and motions followed:

Standing approval to pay Mary Julia Anderson, phone bill, and taxes every month without approval. This was made into a motion by Jenniffer Stephenson and seconded by Jeff Slagell. In discussion Jennifer Smith recommended that a report be put out monthly as a checks and balances for this procedure. The vote for approval was unanimous.

Lynn Shurden recommended that the secretary receive information from the bookkeeper on money in the bank each month.

Kathy Buntin recommended the use of a payment voucher for Convention Expense Authorization to assist in tracking expenses. Guidelines for speakers and what will be paid to go along with this form will be developed. This information should be put on the MLA Web site.

President Cunetto reported:

- **Almost all the Committee appointments have been finalized. He announced that Alex P. Watson, has been appointed to the position of Mississippi Libraries Editor. The Trustees Chair has not been set yet.**
- **Calender of events was discussed and updated. Dates for SELA and the LAMP Tour were added.**
- **Long Range Planning/Goals/Objectives –Discussion followed including the suggestion that a retreat might be needed to develop a 2-3 year plan. President Cunetto stated that he will find a copy of the last plan for study and revision. Hearing no objection, it was decided that a Long Range Planning Committee, as described in the MLA Handbook, will be charged with looking at the present plan and giving a report to the Board. Jeff Slagell and Catherine Nathan will Co-Chair this Committee.**
- **Facebook and Twitter accounts have been successfully established.**

Vice-President Shurden:

The MLA Conference will be held October 23-26, 2012 in Natchez, MS

Reported on plans for the fall Conference. Discussion was focused on speakers and whether vendors should be included in the Conference offerings. There was also discussion regarding confusion over speakers and invited guests who show up at the last minute. Conference Registration staff often are not sure who should pay and which guests are gratis. Having programs offered more than once and the sharing of speakers were some of the ideas discussed.

ALA Councilor Slagell:

Midwinter Registration – A total of 9,929 attended the Midwinter ALA Conference in Dallas. This registration was lower than the previous Midwinter in San Diego with 11,124 attending. The ALA Conference will be June 21-26 in Anaheim, CA.

ALA is initiating a State of the Chapter Annual Report that will be submitted on an annual basis.

The Kentucky Library Association conducted a partial survey of state chapters that gathered information about their annual conferences.

ALA acquired Neil-Schuman Publishers to support their strategic priorities and make ALA stronger through potential revenue gains and diversification.

ALA implemented a new finance and accounting system in September of 2011. This process has enhanced reporting, analysis, stronger grant management, and streamlined processes.

Overall ALA membership in November 2011 stood at 59,824, a slight decline (2.69%) from last year at the same time.

A detailed list of all ALA Council actions is available on the ALA Web site.

ACRL Chair Melissa Dennis announced the ACRL Spring Meeting will host a program on May 24 focusing on Institutional Repositories.

School Libraries Chair, Susan Sparkman presented possible topics for school libraries at the annual conference, including Common Core Standards.

Special Libraries Chair, Sheila Cork presented the topic Internships and Volunteer programs. She discussed ideas for developing guidelines that could be shared to assist with managing these programs. Shelia said that we give awards to authors, but have we ever ask the authors to be advocates and write something we could use. They could speak to why libraries are important. We could publish a book in which authors speak about libraries. Mara Villa mentioned that we have CD's and videos that show what libraries are doing. Deborah Lee mentioned that having someone like John Grisham speak would be great as he was Chair of National Library Week. Sheila mentioned that we could possibly get a grant from the Mississippi Endowment for the Humanities. It was suggested that this could be something the Publicity Committee could work toward. Stephen Cunetto made a motion that we table the discussion until a Publicity Chair is named. Jennifer Smith seconded the motion and all approved.

Carol Green, Chair of the Fiscal Management Committee: They have been working on the 2012 buget: Income \$85,550 Expenses: \$121,203 which leaves \$35,650.00 as a negative amount. We need to keep expenses down. The Committee will continue to work on the budget, present it by email, and it can be ratified at the next meeting. Carol made a motion to raise conference rates by: \$10 with the exception of students and student badges.

Exhibit badges from \$15.00 to \$18.00 or \$20.00

MLA \$55.00 on site-members \$45.00 advanced. Non-members \$65.00; advanced \$55.00

Students \$30.00 on site-\$25.00 advanced.

Exhibit badge only \$15.00

One day on site member \$42.00; advanced \$32.00 Non-members \$52.00; advanced \$42.00. On site was amended to \$55.00 on site and \$45.00 advanced for non-members and \$45.00 on site and \$35.00 advance for members by Kathy Buntin.

Students one day advance \$20.00; advanced \$15.00

Jeff Slagell seconded the motion. It was approved unanimously.

Carol Green, made a motion that the Board change MLA office phone and fax to cell phone and data line. Kathy Buntin seconded the motion which carried unanimously.

Susan Cassagne: The Legislative Committee will discuss Legislative goals and bring them to the next board meeting for approval. Updated legislative responsibilities were sent to Mollie McManus. April 23-24 is National Legislative Day in Washington. Legislative Committee Members, MLA Board Members and Mississippi Library Commission Board members are planning to attend this event. Susan said people do not have to be a member of the Legislative Committee to be legislatively active. The Committee work is important on the national level, but many local issues are important to share with legislators. Many new legislators do not understand the difference between the Mississippi Library Association and the Mississippi Library Commission.

National Library Week is April 8-14. Alice Shands is Chairing this Committee. She would like to recommend that we appoint the person for next year in advance. It would be helpful to the process to have a Chair and a Co-Chair that will take over the next year. There was a lengthy discussion of the materials to be sent to libraries as they plan for celebrating in their respective libraries. President Cunetto provided two sample poster ideas. After much discussion, it was decided that both posters would be made available to libraries for reproducing. Rather than MLA shouldering all the costs, the materials would be made available for reproduction and each library could make a decision about what they wanted to use and how much they wish to spend on providing materials to library patrons for this program. There was a motion to create posters and book marks based on the National Library Theme and MAGNOLIA and that these materials would be made available online and any money would be used to promote libraries throughout the state. An add in the Clarion Ledger was recommended by Deborah Lee. Jennifer made the motion, Jeff seconded it, and the motion was approved unanimously.

There being no Old Business and no New Business, the meeting adjourned at 12:35 p.m.

