

**Mississippi Library Association
Executive Board Meeting Minutes
August 10, 2012
Mississippi Library Commission
Natchez, Mississippi**

Stephen Cunetto called the meeting to order at 9:30 a.m. and thanked the Board Members and others for being there. Introductions were made around the table.

Those present: Kathy Buntin, Treasurer

Barbara Evans for Jenniffer Stephenson, Public Library Section Chair

Venetia Oglesby, School Library Section Co-Chair

Melissa Dennis, ACRL Chair

Jeff Slagell, ALA Councilor

Jennifer A. Smith, Past President

Stephen Cunetto, President

Pat Matthes, Secretary

Lynn Shurden, Vice-President

Others present: Mary Julia Anderson, Executive Secretary

Karen Davidson, TSRT

Cynthia Wetzel, Authors Awards

Jackie Quin 2YCRT

The Agenda was presented by President Cunetto. Lynn Shurden made a motion to accept the Agenda and Kathy seconded it. All approved the Agenda.

The minutes were approved with one correction being made . The motion to approve was made by Jeff Slagell and seconded by Lynn Shurden.

Kathy presented the Budget Balance Sheet. Lynn made a motion to accept the report. Venitia Oglesby seconded the motion and all approved accepting the report. Kathy provided the information that a budget to send to the bookkeeper is still needed. We are missing a phone bill. Kathy is watching the MLA finances carefully, as we have spent \$2,000.00 more than has been taken in.

There was a discussion regarding the debit card. We are now being charged. Why we are paying and why we are being charged? Someone needs to investigate the type of account to try and determine how the money is spent.

President Stephen Cunetto:

Lunch will be at the Briars and there will be a Long Range Planning discussion at that location after lunch. Stephen wants to make sure that we are looking at long term goals and plans for where we are going as an organization. There will be another open discussion at MLA with Jeff Slagell and Catherine Nathan leading a discussion for feedback from the MLA members.

Stephen has been investigating other website hosting services. DreamHost is free with a domain fee. Molly McManus has been able to get us back on track. The Board appreciates Molly's efforts in getting the Website back online. Please let Molly know of any further issues. The member directory is back up and Mary Julia's email is back up. The cost of the Domain name is \$9.95.

We are looking at reducing the cost of publishing *Mississippi Libraries*. A decision was made to produce three issues this year to save money. There is an ongoing discussion with the printing company to make the issues more cost effective. The wrapping issue has been taken care of which will save money. The last issue was large because of the carryover from previous unpublished materials. A Committee of Alex Watson, Ann Branton, Sherry Laughlin, Jennifer Smith and Stephen Cunetto have been given a charge to move forward with ML and to cut costs as much as possible. They have talked to a couple of hosting services. The Committee needs to look at income, including advertising and the possibility of moving ML to an online format. We are now spending \$13,800.00 annually. The last issue was \$3,979.29. The next issue is now at press. The Winter issue will be after the conference and will include 2010, 2011, and 2012. The next issue will have new content from Alex's regime. He has done a great job of getting ML back on track.

A suggestion was made to survey the membership as to whether the online format and open access is something we want to promote. Once the survey is completed the results could be used to assist with future decisions. Jeff Slagell suggested this could be a part of the Long Range Planning Process.

The School Media Guide Handbook Committee is being chaired by Julie Hussey. Venetia is also on this Committee which met in July and discussed the plans for an online document that has links and resources. This document will reflect where libraries are today and hopefully, there will be a 2013 session to discuss this project. The goal is to have the Handbook completely written by the end of 2012.

A plan was presented for raising the Conference and Registration fees. The dues will need to be voted on at Conference by the Membership. Kathy Buntin mentioned that she did a study and all the states around us charge higher fees. There was a question regarding why the suggested amounts were not all in \$10.00 increments. The plan was changed so that all categories will reflect a \$10.00 increment.

There was a discussion regarding Institutional Memberships and their benefits to the organizations. Cathy mentioned recognition on the Website and in the MLA Conference Programs could be incentives for Libraries to join as institutions to show support for MLA. Susan suggested that we try promoting Institutional Memberships this year and revisit this issue next year.

In a discussion of dues for Sections and Roundtables, Jeff reported that he had looked at the benefits and we want to be careful not to nickel and dime people. Jeff recommended that we retain the practice of keeping the first section free.

Some suggestions were made for increasing memberships. Ideas included providing a drawing for people getting their dues paid by a certain date and giving free Conference Registration to a member from a group of people filling out a survey, etc. Jeff Slagell suggested these ideas could be a part of the Long Range Planning process.

Jennifer made a motion that the changes in the dues structure will be presented during the Conference Business Meeting with changes going into effect January 2013. Kathy seconded the motion and all approved. Mary Julia advised that MLA members will have a red/green sheet of paper at the Business Meeting.

President Cunetto gave out a list of Committees and Roundtables to be discussed after the reports and before adjourning for lunch.

Vice President Lynn Shurden's report:

Lynn reported that people had been really good about getting their proposals in on time.

Lynn advised the Board that Cathy has hounded people regarding Committee's with paid speakers. An invoice will need to be sent or brought to the MLA Conference.

There will be a Board Meeting in Natchez at 5:00 pm. on Tuesday.

Lynn reported that there are 21 poster presentations. They are recommending 3 sessions with the Poster Sessions being held in the Exhibit Hall.

Barbara Evans presented the Mississippi Library Association Library Champion Award for Board approval. Jennifer Walker is working with Barbara on this proposal. After discussion, Jennifer Smith amended the award to say that it would be presented during the MLA Annual Conference rather than at the Awards Luncheon on Friday... Lynn seconded the motion and it was approved unanimously.

Jeff Slagell, ALA Councilor presented information to the Board:

The information included budget issues including using reserves to offset a \$400,000 deficit. The report included the information that the overall ALA budget is stable and expenses are being adjusted to match revenues. ALA has an endowment totaling \$31,124,000.00. ALA held its first Virtual Membership meeting in June, with 500

people participating. ALA membership remains stable at 57,101 members. ALA has raised \$1,187,00 for the Spectrum Scholars fund. This fund assists minority students in getting degrees in Library and Information Science, having helped 800 students since 1997. Jeff has made a contribution to the Spectrum fund on behalf of MLA.

Melissa Dennis reported on a successful ACRL Spring Meeting. Doug Lehman will present a program entitled Moving at Warp Speed: the (Past, Present, and) Future of Academic Libraries at the Conference in Natchez.

Barbara Evans reported for Jenniffer Stephenson that the Public Libraries section will present a program on Workforce Recovery at the MLA Conference.

Venetia Oglesby reported that there will be three school programs at the MLA Conference. They include Author/Illustrator Visits: Top 10 Secrets to Success, a program on the Skills Act presented by Brad Davis and Common Core Standards presented by Lemuel Eubanks.

Stephen Cunetto reported that a trustee from Columbus, Ginny Box, will Chair the Trustees section as the previous chair has stepped down after serving for two years.

Karen Davidson reported on a successful Spring Workshop for Technical Services Roundtable. About 48-50 people attended this program that included information on Cataloging, RDA, and Authority Control. Russell Palmer from Lyrassis will talk about Collaborative Platforms: Working with OCLC WorldShare and More Cloud Computing Tools for Libraries at the MLA Conference.

Jackie Quin reported that Barbara Bassett will be the Conference Speaker for the 2YCRT program.

Cynthia reported on the Awards for 2012:

**Sweet By and By by Roman Bridges for the Fiction Award
One Night of Madness by Stokes McMillan for the Non-fiction Award
Sources of Light by Margaret McMillin.**

Susan suggestion that self published books may need to be provided by the author of the book. Lynn commented that there used to be a notebook that provided all the procedures for selecting Awards Books. Authors Awards Chairs should advise Susan of the publishers of the books that have been selected.

Old Business

Travel policy- Kathy Buntin made a motion that we accept the Travel Policy as presented at the May meeting. Jennifer seconded the motion. In discussion it was

decided to amend the policy to change mode of travel to gas receipts rather than by mileage. The motion was passed unanimously.

A motion was presented to approve a formal relationship between the Bylaws of the Mississippi Children's Choice Award: The MAGNOLIA Award and MLA. Lynn made a motion to review the Bylaws. Jennifer seconded the motion to review the Bylaws as written. All approved with the exception of Kathy Buntin who recused herself from this vote.

Susan Cassagne reported that the Conference Planning is going well. We are further along than usual at this time. It is difficult to get information out as to logistics. This year we are trying to make some time between meetings.

***The Committees and Roundtables report was reviewed until the meeting adjourned for lunch at 12:01 p.m.**

- **The Board reviewed the current Committees and approved the abolishment of the following Committees:**
- **Conservation**
- **Constitution, Bylaws and Organizational Review**
- **Copyright Review**
- **Credentials**
- **Handbook**
- **Information Literacy**
- **Insurance**
- **Intellectual Freedom**
- **Memorial Fund**
- **Mississippi Libraries**
- **Publications**
- **Reprint**
- **Right to Read**
- **Salary**

It was recommended that the following Committees be Ad Hoc at the designation of a Current Executive Board:

- **Handbook, Constitution, Bylaws and Organizational Review**
- **Copyright Review**

Additional proposed ideas are:

- **Archives and History Committee be designated as a charge of the Past President.**
- **Add to the Membership Purpose: To promote benefits of membership; Executive Secretary should work in conjunction with the Membership Committee to send out correspondence to past members who have not joined.**
- **The National Library Week Committee should be appointed before the Annual MLA Conference so a meeting can be planned at the Conference to discuss the Spring initiatives.**

- **Scholarship Committee- Vergie Brocks name should be added to Peggy May's name as the Committee works to provide scholarship funding in honor of both of these former MLA members.**

A discussion of the Roundtables was tabled until the October meeting.