

MISSISSIPPI LIBRARY ASSOCIATION
Executive Board Minutes
December 6, 2019

MLC Conference Room
Jackson, Mississippi

Call to Order:

The December meeting of the Executive Board of the Mississippi Library Association was called to order by Mary Beth Applin, President, at 12.58 p.m. on Friday, December 6, 2019, at the Mississippi Library Commission in Jackson, Mississippi.

Roll Call/Signature List of Attending Members:

Present – Mary Beth Applin, President; Tamara Blackwell, Secretary; Lori Barnes, Treasurer; Sarah Crisler-Ruskey, Immediate Past President; Patsy Brewer, Parliamentarian; Ashley Dees; Angela Mullins; Stephan Parks; Phillip Carter, and Tonja Johnson.

Others Present: Jennifer Todd, Mac Buntin, and Paula Bass.

Approval of the Agenda: N/A

Approval of Minutes: N/A

MLA Officers and Staff Reports:

Secretary: Tamara Blackwell – No report.

Treasurer: Lori Barnes – No report.

President: Mary Beth Applin welcomed the incoming 2020 Board Members and Board Members introduced themselves. Mary Beth asked Board to review the list of 2020 Board Meeting dates and Important Dates for 2020.

- Paula Bass noted that the July meeting is usually held at the conference site, but she wasn't sure at the time the list was compiled where the meeting would be taking place. She stated that she would notify Board Members if the location is changed to Meridian.
- The Board agreed that the October meeting will be held on October 13th at the Riley Center in Meridian during the MLA 2020 Conference.
- Phillip Carter stated that the LAMP Conference should be added to the calendar; Angela Mullins agreed to send the dates of the conference to Paula Bass.
- The Board agreed that the both PLA Conference in Nashville on February 24-29, 2020, and the National Legislative Day on February 4-5, 2020, should be added to the calendar.

Vice-President: Mara Polk not present – No report.

Past-President: Sarah Crisler-Ruskey – No report.

MLA Administrator: Paula Bass – No report.

ALA Councilor: Meredith Wickham – No report.

SELA Councilor: Ashley Dees – No report.

MLC Executive Director: Hulen Bivens – No report.

Section Chair Reports: No reports.

Roundtables and Committee reports:

Legislative Committee: Tonja Johnson reported on plans for the Legislative Day. Interactive activities are planned to be in various areas including: a computer lab, a Makerspace, and a story time. The comment postcards this year will feature a library card on the front. Also, we would like to provide the legislators with a photo opportunity with oversized library cards from their library systems. Please send your library logo ASAP to Meredith Wickham so we can begin working on the cards. The Board members agreed that library participants should stress funding for MAGNOLIA and PIGP (Personnel Incentive Grant Program). To keep a steady presence in the Capitol, library representatives will be scheduled to visit the Capitol each week during the legislative session. The Board noted the need for increased pre-publicity for the event. Phillip Carter suggested posting to the MLA listserv.

MS Author Awards: Sarah Crisler-Ruskey reported for Caroline Barnett that reimbursement of authors for travel is not addressed in the handbook and no authors were reimbursed for travel this year. Jennifer Todd noted that MLA currently reimburses for travel, hotel, meals, and honorarium for up to three authors per award. With the Board's approval, Mary Beth Applin stated that she would ask Caroline Barnett to draft a by-law change to address travel reimbursement for authors.

Old Business: There was no old business.

New Business: Meredith Wickham recommended hiring a part-time lobbyist at \$10,000 per year to lobby the state legislature on behalf of Mississippi libraries. The Board agreed to investigate this issue further at a later date.

Recognition: The Board thanked Sarah Crisler-Ruskey for her hard work and dedication as President in 2019. Sarah Crisler-Ruskey then welcomed Mary Beth Applin as the new President in 2020.

Adjournment:

MOTION: To adjourn the meeting.

Made by: Phillip Carter Second: Lori Barnes

Passed unanimously.

The next regular meeting of the Mississippi Library Association Executive Board is Friday, March 6, 2020, at 11 a.m. at the MLC Conference Room, Jackson, Mississippi.

The meeting adjourned at 1:20 p.m.



Tamara Blackwell, Secretary