

Mississippi Library Association  
Executive Board Meeting Minutes  
March 20, 2015  
MLC, Jackson, MS

1. Meeting was called to order at 11:06 a.m. by President Patsy Brewer
  - a. Executive board members were: Patsy Brewer/President, Molly McManus/Vice-President, Amanda Powers/Past President by conference call, Blair Booker/Treasurer, Selena Swink/Secretary, Ellen Ruffin/ALA Councilor, James Kennedy/ACRL Section Chair, Joy Garretson/Special Libraries Section Chair
  - b. Also present were: Barbara Price/MLA Administrator, Barbara Evans/Long Range Planning Co-Chair, Susan Cassagne/MLC Executive Director, Jennifer Nabzdyk/Web Committee
2. Molly McManus moved to approve the agenda with it being seconded by Blair Booker.
3. Blair Booker moved to approve the minutes with it being seconded by James Kennedy.
4. Treasurer's Report
  - a. We no longer have an outside bookkeeper. All this is now being taken care of by Barbara Price who is working on getting the new computer set up and getting things moved over from the bookkeeper.
  - b. A chart of accounts up to this point was presented
  - c. Barbara is working on simplifying section fees in membership renewals by only showing these when an extra fee is paid. Patsy thanked her for all of her hard work.
5. President's Report
  - a. The signature has been changed at Regions Bank
  - b. A letter of report has been sent to MLC about fiber optics
  - c. Southern State Coalition wants to come together to see what states would be interested in pursuing shared conferences and a list serv. This would mean not paying outside fees at the conference. It currently includes the states of Alabama, Mississippi, Tennessee, Virginia, Arkansas and Louisiana. Patsy will email them to get more information
  - d. An updated 2015 committee chairs and roundtable list was presented. It was mentioned that we need to get back to the original way with committees electing members of committee and not just having one person doing all the work. There needs to be announcements made at the conference this year for volunteers.

- e. MLA life insurance was discussed. Marsha Case had someone say they were going to visit her. This was not something she wanted. The concern was that they may be contacting members to try to sell them more insurance even though they marked not to be contacted on the card we sent in to them. All members have to be contacted to designate a beneficiary or the money goes to their estate. It was suggested that the company may be visiting to deliver her packet. It was determined that no further action needs to be taken.
- f. The Trustee section has no chair. Patsy sent out around 40 emails to find someone interested in this position. She got one response from Jenny Box that is very willing to serve. She works at MUW and is a great library and education supporter. Ellen Ruffin moved that board appoint her in absence of an elected chair. Molly McManus seconded it. Motion carried.
- g. In looking at the MLA handbook, updating it needs to be top priority. It has not been updated since 2004. Each section could be covered by its chair and then it would be just a few pages for each to cover. Jennifer Nabzdyk will email each chair their section to look over.

#### 6. Vice-President's Report

- a. Molly met with the convention center and the caterer (Natchez Specialty) in January about the conference.
- b. Wifi is free at the convention center and we will be allowed to bring our own projectors and laptops to use.
- c. Would like rooms to be set up 30 days in advance.
- d. There will be a vendor lounge with refreshments.
- e. The Grand and several other hotels have rooms set aside. Will need to try to figure out how many rooms will be needed by looking at past numbers.
- f. Lacy Ellinwood said we can up the number on the Authors' Tea to 150 since it always sells out.
- g. The Alumni breakfast needs more room.
- h. The President's Bash has not been planned yet.
- i. There is talk of a progressive dinner for Wednesday and maybe a ghost/cemetery tour again.
- j. A hospitality chair is needed again. Ellen Ruffin has someone in mind from USM that she will talk to.
- k. May try to focus on school librarians one day as in past. It's time to revitalize MLA's relationship with them. There were 43 school librarians that attended last year. Joy Garretson offered to help with programming for them.



10. Susan Cassgane – MLC Executive Director
  - a. The Legislative Pie Day was successful this year. First draft of the bill included money for a statewide network. We are trying to get fiber optic lines to all the libraries in the state. This will be the means to get these to communities that may not have been able to get them before. She mentioned that we need to pay attention to our emails and talk up House Bill 1538 to any members we meet.
  - b. National Legislative Day in DC is coming up in May. She is working on a brochure to take to the legislators there.
11. James Kennedy – ACRL Libraries – The spring meeting for ACRL is set for May 21st and will be held at MLC. Successful outreach initiatives will be discussed. Anyone who would like to promote something then can contact vice-chair Michelle Frasier-Robinson. James may be contacted for her contact information.
12. School Libraries Section – Absent. Report by Patsy. Patsy talked to chair Holly Gray. There was a discussion on whether or not she could attend the national conference and whether we could partially sponsor her for this. We will look at this in the May meeting.
13. Joy Garretson – Special Libraries - Little Free Libraries was supposed to present at the conference last year and it fell through. She is going to try to get them this year.
14. Archives Committee – Barbara Price and Patsy Brewer
  - a. The email Patsy received about the intern for helping with the MLA archive project discussed money being paid to the individual. Barbara thought it was to be given as a course credit to an intern.
  - b. Ellen said USM discussed a graduate assistantship.
  - c. Joy offered to help with the archive project. She said that she could work on it during her lunch hour.
  - d. Barbara and Ellen agreed to talk to Steve Haller for more clarification on the terms and report back at the May meeting.
15. Black Caucus - Absent. Report by Patsy. The chair is in place through 2017 and making plans for the conference.
16. Otha Keyes - Election Committee
  - a. A motion was made that MLA conduct an online election this year for the first time. Susan Cassagne moved to pass the motion. It was seconded by James Kennedy. Motion carried.
  - b. Barbara Price needs pictures and bios for the voting to begin next month.
  - c. Jennifer has an online voting platform now that she is working on with the emails she has gathered from the membership forms.
17. Amanda Clay Powers - Fiscal Management Committee - The report has been completed for the year.

18. Legislative Committee –

- a. MLA Pie Day was very positive this year. Barbara mentioned the need to replenish the coffers for pie day. She said we may need to have another donation campaign for next year to cover the cost of the pies. It needs to be from Friends groups and not from public funds.
- b. It was suggested to add a line to the State Friends of the Library membership form that allows local chapters to donate a certain amount to this along with their membership each year. Patsy will ask Lacy Ellinwood about this.
- c. NLLW is in May. Ones attending need to make sure to take their own picture this time as a photo op for promotional purposes.

19. Barbara Evans – Long Range Planning Committee

- a. They have been having gatherings throughout the state. #MLAmeetup
- b. There was good support for the one in Como
- c. The next one will be in Cleveland in April
- d. These are great opportunities for crossover discussions.

20. Barbara Price – Membership Committee She reported that we currently have 351 members.

21. National Library Week Committee has graphics, banners and a Pinterest page for this year. They are hoping to get others to join in the support of it.

22. Publicity Committee – Absent. Report by Patsy.

- a. She is working on a Pinterest page for MLA
- b. Anyone going to ALA San Francisco please send pictures to Antoinette for the Facebook page.

23. Scholarship Committee

- a. May 1<sup>st</sup> is deadline for the Peggy May scholarship.
- b. Question was brought up as to whether the winner has to work at a Mississippi library for a certain amount of time after winning. It was decided that this was an award not a grant, so it was not necessary.

24. Jennifer Nabzyk – Web Services

- a. She is working on updating the website
- b. The online voting platform that is being used only allows for one vote and will help in sending reminders out only to ones who have not voted.
- c. The MLA handbook will be loaded in Google Drive and divided into sections for download speed. This will help in updating the handbook.

Next meeting will be on May 8<sup>th</sup>. Meeting was adjourned at 1:25 pm. Motion was made by Amanda Clay Powers and seconded by Molly McManus.

Submitted by:

Selena Swink  
MLA Secretary

Approved by board on May 8, 2015