

**MISSISSIPPI LIBRARY ASSOCIATION
EXECUTIVE BOARD
MINUTES
March 8, 2019**

**Mississippi Library Commission
Jackson, Mississippi**

Call to Order:

The March meeting of the Executive Board of the Mississippi Library Association was called to order by Sarah Crisler-Ruskey, President, at 11:00 a.m. on Friday, March 8, 2019, at the Mississippi Library Commission in Jackson, Mississippi.

Roll Call/Signature List of Attending Members:

Present – Sarah Crisler-Ruskey, President; Mary Beth Applin, Vice-President; Victoria Penny, Secretary, Jennifer Wann, Treasurer; Sarah Mangrum, Immediate Past President; Ashley Dees, SELA Councilor; Patsy Brewer, Parliamentarian.

Others Present: Jennifer Todd, Terry Lajaunie, Mara V. Polk, Hulen Bivins, Tina Harry, Jennifer Baxter, Jeannette S. Whisenton, Sheila Cork, Mary Ann Peoples, Paula Bass.

Approval of the Agenda:

MOTION: To adopt the agenda for the March 8, 2019, meeting of the MLA Executive Board with addition of one item under New Business.

**Made by: Ashley Dees Second: Sarah Mangrum
Passed unanimously.**

Approval of the Minutes:

MOTION: To adopt the agenda for the December 7, 2018 meeting of the incoming MLA Executive Board with one change – Jennifer Wann, Treasurer, attended via conference call.

**Made by: Jennifer Wann Second: Mary Beth Applin
Passed unanimously.**

MLA Officers and Staff Reports:

Secretary: Victoria Penny – No report

Treasurer: Jennifer Wann reported that there are still some membership dues and roundtable fees coming in.

President: Sarah Crisler-Ruskey – She reported that workshop she attended at ALA Midwinter was very helpful, with ideas regarding to recruitment and retention as well as benefits to participating in advocacy efforts.

Vice-President: Mary Beth Applin has appointed members to all Conference Committee. They are working on the theme for the Conference, and the Local Arrangements Committee will meet today at the Westin Hotel.

Past President: Sarah Mangrum – No report

ALA Councilor: Ellen Ruffin – No report

SELA Councilor: Ashley Dees shared details about SELA/Arkansas meeting to be held September 27-29, 2019, in Hot Springs. She brought information to the Board regarding proposal for a joint conference with SELA and MLA in 2022, when Melissa Dennis will be in the office of SELA President. At the request of board members, Ashley will contact the last 2 state associations who have co-hosted joint conferences to get feedback. Jennifer Wann, Treasurer, requested some numbers related to conference registration and financials. Sarah Crisler-Ruskey, President, asked to obtain answers to these and other questions so that a decision to submit a proposal may be made by the Board at the next meeting.

MLA/Southeastern Library Association Joint Conference 2022:

MOTION: To ask SELA to hold the 2022 conference date for our organization until the May MLA Executive Board Meeting, when a decision will be made regarding submitting a joint conference proposal.

Made by: Ashley Dees Second: Mary Beth Applin
Passed unanimously.

MLC Executive Director: Hulen Bivins announced that the Legislature is presently parceling out additional dollars and spending additional funds. He is hopeful about MLC requests.

MLA Administrator: Paula Bass shared the latest MLA Membership numbers with the Board. There are **314** active members, **171** lapsed members, and **14** pending. She stated that her visits to the Capitol with librarians from around the state have been inspiring! Paula has been preparing materials for advocacy purposes and created a new MLA flyer for table at MLC Day March 12.

Section Chair Reports:

Special Libraries Section: Sheila Cork is working on a program for the MLA Annual Conference, as well as drumming up more interest for the group.

Roundtables and Committee Reports:

Advocacy Committee: Jennifer Baxter reported that her committee prepared a letter that was shared with public library directors and sent to IMLS.

Fiscal Management Committee: Patsy Brewer presented information about IShare account interest and CD, which will mature in June 2019. She would like the Board to discuss the CD at the May meeting before renewing for another year.

Legislative Committee: President Sarah Crisler-Ruskey shared an update from Legislative Committee Chair Meredith Wickham, who has been doing a great job. MLA Advocacy Day in January got a lot of press, and librarians from around the state have been working hard to stay visible. Coordinating MLA efforts with MLC this year have been productive; teamwork is important! Everyone seems to like using the Engage software to send messages to legislators.

National Library Week Committee: National Library Week is April 7-13, 2019. David Brown is sending out materials and graphics for libraries to use as they wish. He was commended by those in attendance for obtaining a proclamation regarding NLW in Mississippi from Governor Phil Bryant.

Nominating Committee: The slate of MLA officers for 2020 was submitted by Jennifer Brannock, Chair, as follows:

Vice President/President-Elect

Phillip Carter
Mara Villa Polk

Secretary

Tamara Blackwell
Michele Frasier-Robinson

Treasurer

Lori Barnes
Preston Salisbury

ALA Councilor

Catharine Bomhold
Sarah Mangrum

Sarah Crisler-Ruskey opened the floor for additional nominations for MLA officers. Meredith Wickham was nominated for the position of ALA Councilor.

MOTION: To accept the slate of officers with the additional candidate nominated at today's meeting.

Made by: Sarah Mangrum
Passed unanimously.

Second: Jennifer Wann

The slate will be sent to Jennifer Smith, Election Committee Chair, to proceed with elections.

Publicity Committee: Please send any pictures or information for MLA social media to Janessa Ullendorf, Chair.

Web Committee: Jennifer Todd shared information about Wild Apricot (subscription service for payment system). The renewal date is April 2020, and this may be discussed at a future meeting.

Old Business:

There was no old business.

New Business:

Suggested change to language in MLA Handbook regarding Nominating Committee's slate:
Handbook currently reads that VP/Pres-Elect office rotates between public and academic librarians but does not mention school or special librarians. Sarah will work on official rewrite to bring to the Board for action at the next meeting.

Request for purchase of MLA promotional materials for Children's Book Festival:

Phillip Carter has scheduled an MLA booth at USM Children's Book Festival, April 3-5, 2019. He would like to request MLA promotional items to be purchased for giveaway at this conference, as well at MS Book Festival in August and other functions, as needed. They would also appreciate donations of items to use as door prizes.

MOTION: To suspend MLA attendance and booth space at Supervisors' and MML meetings this year and to authorize Paula Bass, MLA Administrator to spend money budgeted for Promotional Materials to be used at Children's Book Festival and Mississippi Book Festival.

Made by: Sarah Mangrum
Passed unanimously.

Second: Jennifer Wann

Adjournment:

MOTION: To adjourn the meeting.

Made by: Sarah Mangrum
Passed unanimously.

Second: Jennifer Wann

The meeting adjourned at 12:05 p.m.

The next regular meeting of the Mississippi Library Association Executive Board is Friday, May 3rd, 2019, beginning at 11:00 a.m. at the Mississippi Library Commission, Jackson, Mississippi.

Victoria Penny, Secretary

