

MISSISSIPPI LIBRARY ASSOCIATION
Executive Board Minutes
March 4, 2022

Virtual Meeting via Zoom
Mississippi

Call to Order:

The virtual meeting of the Executive Board of the Mississippi Library Association was called to order by Stephen Parks, President, at 10:01 a.m. on Friday, March 4, 2022, via Zoom.

Roll Call/Signature List of Attending Members:

Present – Stephen Parks, President; Ryda Worthy, Secretary; Audrey Beach, Treasurer; Phillip Carter, Vice-President; Amanda Clay Powers, ALA Councilor; Patsy Brewer, Parliamentarian; and, Sarah Mangrum, SELA Councilor.

Others Present: Joyce Shaw, Paula Bass, Justin Easterday, Jesse Pool, Jennifer Todd, Danielle Terrell, Blanche Sanders, Rickey Jones, Kayla Martin-Gant, Hali Black, Nichole Larson, Jamie Elston, Cathy Austin, Tori Hopper, Melissa Brooks, Elizabeth Minter, and Hulen Bivens.

Approval of the Agenda:

MOTION: To approve agenda

Made by: Jamie Elston

Seconded: Joyce Shaw

Motion carries.

Approval of Minutes:

MOTION: To approve the minutes from the December 3, 2021 meeting.

Made by: Elizabeth Minter

Seconded: Joyce Shaw

Motion carries.

MLA Officers and Staff Reports:

Secretary: Ryda Worthy – No report

Treasurer: Audrey Beach – See attached.

President: Stephen Parks – See attached.

Motion made by Sarah Mangrum to use existing MLA promotional materials for regional gatherings; seconded by Audrey Beach. Motion carried.

Amanda Clay Powers volunteered MUW as a space for the northern gathering.

Vice-President: Phillip Carter – Sarah Mangrum reported that Phillip has put together a conference planning committee and they are meeting frequently. A new hotel has been constructed across from the Riley Center (location of next conference), and Phillip has discussed conference accommodations with the management. The Riley Center is undergoing technology

upgrades, and the staff are unsure at this time whether they will be complete by the time of the conference. Phillip is also working to change up the conference schedule to include more offsite events. Phillip discussed a preconference event with John Chrastka from EveryLibrary that Mr. Chrastka will provide free of charge.

Immediate Past President: Mara Polk - No report. Not present.

MLA Administrator: Paula Bass – See attached report. Paula mentioned sending out a letter to members whose membership has lapsed to spur renewal.

ALA Councilor: Amanda Clay Powers – See attached report.

SELA Councilor: Sarah Mangrum – See attached report.

MLC Executive Director: Hulen Bivens – See attached report. Hulen encouraged libraries to donate to MAGNOLIA before June 1 (see Stephen Cunetto). Legislators are stating that they are not hearing enough demand from local constituents regarding funding MAGNOLIA. Amanda proposed contacting MLA members to reach out to legislators to support increased funding.

ACRL Section: Danielle Terrell – Reported a successful summer workshop; ACRL has plans to conduct a future summer workshop and have content at the conference. She needs a co-chair for this section.

Public Library Section: Jamie Elson – No report.

School Library Section: TBD

Special Libraries Section: Joyce Shaw – See attached report.

Trustees Section: Rickey Jones – Rickey advocated at the State Capitol in February and sat in on national conversations regarding use of ARPA in communities that have not taken advantage of the opportunities.

Advocacy Committee: TBD

Awards Committee: Melissa Brooks – Working on setting up a meeting to review awards process.

Black Caucus Roundtable: Dr. Blanche Sanders – Reported a good meeting last year, well rated. Put forth a question regarding timeline for submission of itinerary for fall conference; Phillip stated an email would be forthcoming.

Election Committee: Jennifer Smith – No report. Not present

Fiscal Management Committee: Patsy C. Brewer – See attached report.

Gaming and Graphic Novels Roundtable: Hannah Berryhill/Jamie Stanfield/Dawn Collins/Elizabeth Minter – Elizabeth stated that this committee have not met, but will be planning something for the fall conference.

Legislative Committee: Jenniffer Stephenson – See attached report. Called for approval of MLA day graphics.

Motion made by Phillip Carter to approve suggested MLA day graphics; seconded by Jamie Elston. Motion carried.

Long Range Planning: TBD; Stephen questioned if the long range plan had been updated since 2016. According to Phillip, this committee existed on paper but was never active. He proposed that this committee should be composed of set members of the Board, with the Past President to chair. Amanda agreed with Phillip and stated that the committee's activity had been affected by Covid. Stephen concluded the discussion by stating he would check the handbook to see what needs to be updated.

Marketing/Public Relations: Courtney Hicks – No report. Not present.

Membership Committee: TBD

MS Author Awards: Caroline Barnett – No report. Not present

National Library Week: Tori Hopper – See attached report.

New Member Roundtable: Jesse Pool – No report; questioned whether the conference would be a hybrid event and if WHOVA would be used. Answer to both, is yes.

Nominating Committee: Tisha Zelner – No report. Not present.

Outreach Committee: TBD

Publicity Committee: Janessa Ullendorf – No report. Not present.

Scholarship Committee: Justin Easterday – No report; Discussed whether a scholarship recipient needed to be a Mississippi resident. He is looking into set-up for auction for a hybrid format (possibly have bidders place bids by phone).

Social Justice: Nichole Larson/Kayla Martin-Gant – No report.

Technical Services RT: Cathy Austin – Reported a well-attended session at the last conference; planning soon for next conference.

Web Committee: Jennifer Todd – Jennifer shared pricing for Paula's laptop. Jennifer indicated that open invoices (from memberships renewed but never paid, as well as unpaid reserved conference events) amounted to approximately \$2, 600 in the system.

Motion made by Amanda Clay Powers to accept pricing and purchase the laptop; seconded by Sarah Mangrum. Motion carried.

Motion made by Sarah Mangrum to clear all old open invoices; seconded by Phillip Carter. Motion carried.

YPSRT: TBD

Mississippi Libraries: Hali Black – Hali thanked Tina Harry for her support and reported that the spring edition was being prepared for release.

Old Business:

Suggestion was made to update the handbook so that the Peggy May Scholarship mirrors the Virginia Brock-Shedd Scholarship to be only eligible for Mississippi residents. Sarah questioned whether LIS programs were still slated to approve the applications and verify enrollment. Justin replied, that yes, the applications should go to the LIS programs first.

Motion made by Phillip Carter to make the changes to the handbook for the Peggy May Scholarship; seconded by Sarah Mangrum. Motion carried.

New Business:

Bookkeeping service has increased its rates by \$10. Phillip advised reviewing the bookkeeping service options if fees increase next year.

Motion made by Sarah Mangrum to approve retaining the current bookkeeping service and pay the increase in rates; seconded by Jamie Elston. Motion carried.

Wild Apricot fees have increased from \$1,728 to \$2,052. Jennifer Todd reported that other comparative companies have also increased their rates. However, Wild Apricot has increased services and supports our database website, events manager, and payments.

Motion made by Jamie Elson to approve renewal of Wild Apricot subscription; seconded by Audrey Beach. Motion carried.

The Role of MLA in Regard to Ongoing Censorship Challenges:

Stephen feels we should issue a statement. Phillip shared that EveryLibrary advises state associations to have three roles: watchdog, guard dog, and bird dog. John Chrastka from EveryLibrary advises we make a statement and is willing to work with us to draft one. Joyce feels that as an association, we need to show that we support public library directors. Amanda encouraged us to make the language of the statement broad, not focused on public libraries. She advised taking advantage of ALA's OIF for resources. Ryda suggested aiding members to strengthen their collection development policies. Phillip provided that EveryLibrary has information about forming ad hoc groups to advise/assess weaknesses in policy for collections of libraries. Stephen suggested setting up a meeting with John from EveryLibrary.

Ideas for State Legislative Day:

Reach out to legislators ahead of time before visiting; recommend increase funding for MAGNOLIA. Joyce recommended encouraging Community Colleges to take a more active advocacy role for MAGNOLIA.

The next regular meeting of the Mississippi Library Association Executive Board is May 13, 2022 (virtual).

Adjournment:

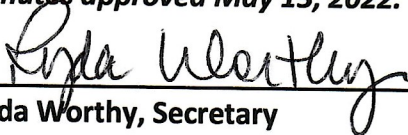
MOTION: To adjourn the meeting.

Made by: Sarah Mangrum Seconded: Phillip Carter

Motion carries.

The meeting was adjourned at 11:52 p.m.

Minutes approved May 13, 2022.



Ryda Worthy, Secretary