

MLA Executive Board Meeting
July 31, 2015
Natchez Convention Center, Natchez, MS

1. Called to order at 11:05 am by President Patsy Brewer
 - a. Present: Patsy Brewer, President; Molly McManus, Vice-President; Blair Booker, Treasurer; Selena Swink, Secretary; Melissa Dennis, SELA Councilor; James Kennedy, ACRL Section Chair; Barbara Price, MLA Administrator; Marsha Case, Parliamentarian; Jenniffer Stephenson, Exhibits Chair; Susan Cassagne, MLC Executive Director; Jennifer Nabzdyk, Web Committee Chair; Danielle Terrell, Black Caucus Chair; Beth Richard, Local Arrangement.
 - b. Motion to approve the agenda was passed by James Kennedy and seconded by Melissa Dennis. Motion carried.
 - c. Motion to approve the minutes was passed by Molly McManus and seconded by James Kennedy. Motion carried.
2. Patsy Brewer , President
 - a. She toured five San Francisco libraries that were built in the last five years when she attended ALA this summer. Mississippi libraries compare well with them and show we are right in line with the nation.
3. Molly McManus, Vice-President
 - a. Planning is going well for the conference. The speaker for Public Libraries, Zane, has backed out, so they are working on finding another speaker.
 - b. A lot of school sessions have been planned (six on Wednesday and five on Thursday) to try to attract school librarians
 - c. Looking at a Tuesday option to draw people in early. Natchez by Candlelight to include dinner, carriage tour and ghost tour.
 - d. Presidential Bash is going to be at Magnolia Hall as of now but it is not set in stone yet.
 - e. \$700 worth of ads has been sold in our program booklet.
 - f. Publicity committee will have a sign for direction for social media.
 - g. Working on getting a book store to sell books at conference
 - h. Some vendors want to do bag drops for the registration bags without paying to attend conference. This is not fair to the ones who pay to attend. So far there are 21 vendors this year (two haven't paid yet) which is down from 36 last year. A vote was made to charge \$250 to vendors who want to do bag drops without attending the conference. Motion was made by Melissa Dennis and seconded by Molly McManus. Motion carried.
 - i. A need was expressed to start calling vendors to fill the spaces and Jenniffer Stephenson said she is going to send out emails to those not coming to offer ad space or bag drops to them.
 - j. Marsha suggested not charging vendors already attending and paying for space if they want to do a bag drop.
4. Barbara Price, Executive Administrator
 - a. Presently she has a phone but no voicemail
 - b. She has found old flyers for the Peggy May scholarship and recommends having these ready to hand out to promote the scholarship
 - c. There are still 119 members that have not renewed. The online registration and credit card use seems to have helped with faster renewal and new memberships.
 - d. There are now six ALA/MLA joint members.
 - e. She has reviewed the State of the Chapter report

- f. The CPA is coming to help her with Quickbooks because of the previous setup with it.
5. Blair Booker, Treasurer
 - a. Financial report was handed out.
 - b. There needs to be a meeting with the Fiscal Management Committee to figure out an investment strategy
6. Melissa Dennis, SELA councilor
 - a. The conference is in two weeks.
 - b. There are 14 SELA members in Mississippi
7. Susan Cassagne, MLC Executive Director
 - a. Mississippi Center for the Book will be able to present a \$1000 award in 2016 to a librarian who promotes literacy. They would like to present it at the MLA conference. All agreed to support it.
 - b. There were a few conference questions. In the past elected officers offered greetings at the conference. This helps them to see the impact MLA and the local library are having on their community by bringing the conference here. Molly said she is working on this.
 - c. Also in the past there was a booth for the local visitor center that was provided at no charge to them to have local information available and sell local items.
 - d. MLC is again requesting fiber optic lines to bring internet to all communities in the state. This will be at a 5% less cost than normal.
8. James Kennedy, ACRL Section Chair
 - a. Spring meeting was a success
 - b. The ACRL speaker at the MLA conference will be Jaena Alabi.
 - c. He was also able to attend the ACRL meeting while at ALA
9. School Libraries Section chair was absent but Patsy has spoken with them and invited them to talk to us.
10. Special Libraries Section Chair was absent. Patsy reported that they will have Todd Bol of Little Free Libraries as the speaker for the MLA conference. They would like a booth on the vendor floor to talk to people and have books for sale.
11. Trustee Section chair was absent but reported that there is a program planned for MLA called "Trustee Academy" and there will be door prizes to give away.
12. Barbara Price, Archives - There is no information to report on the USM student to help with the archives, so it will be carried over to the next meeting.
13. Danielle Terrell, Black Caucus Committee
 - a. Tommie Mabry will be the speaker for the MLA conference. It will be a ticketed luncheon.
 - b. Hoping to have a scholarship again this year. They are asking for donations.
14. Publicity Committee- Absent
 - a. They will have signs on social media for the conference. Our hashtag will be #mlastronger which has never been used before
 - b. The Boopsie app may connect through Twitter
15. Scholarship Committee – Absent
 - a. Only one person applied this year. She did meet all the criteria but one on the application which she fixed. She is a worthy candidate
 - b. We need to work on promoting this more.
16. Jennifer Nabzdyk, Web Services Committee
 - a. She is working on updating the website. The hotel information is on there now.
 - b. The bags for the conference have been ordered and arrived already.
17. Old Business

- a. We need a tablecloth or runner with our logo on it. Looking to buy two for hospitality and registration tables and then they will be available for events.
- b. Also looking at things we can buy to have for giveaways with our logo on it. A pen with stylus is \$.49/each and cleaning cloths are \$.75/each. Marsha suggested that we order more to have on hand to use for Pie day if we have the money available. Also ordering more may lower the rate per item. Blair Booker moved to purchase two sixty inch table runners, 1,000 pens and 1,000 cleaning cloths. Melissa Dennis seconded this and the motion carried.
- c. *Mississippi Libraries* – Jennifer Nabzdyk found in the minutes that the three year appointment time for the current editor is up this year. Because of this we need to advertise now to select a new editor in October and appoint them before the winter issue. Jennifer found in bylaws that the editor is appointed by the board but may still send something out to determine interest in position.
- d. SELA conference – the current SELA president wants a joint conference with MLA. They are currently looking for partners for 2016-18. SELA's share of the profit from the conference is based on their percentage of attendees. This could cause difficulties as it is sometimes hard to determine what our profit is for the conference. She wants to be formally invited to our conference. The benefit of having a joint conference is that it is then viewed as a regional conference and may have more vendor interest. Patsy will formally invite her to the October conference and board meeting to make her case.
- e. MLA Handbook –
 - i. Pasty reports that it is 90% complete now. Some have done a lot of work to their sections and some have been contacted to check on other things.
 - ii. The question was raised as to whether a bookkeeper and executive administrator both need to be listed in there still. Barbara said this is unnecessary since the executive administrator handles the job of both now.
 - iii. Since the forms and organization chart sections are empty it has been agreed to delete those.
 - iv. It has been noted that quorums are different in groups. There is too much leeway in this. They all need to meet Robert's Rules of Order.
 - v. By the end of August, the revisions should be read, so the changeover can be done in September and it can be voted on in October.
- f. ARSL –
 - i. Selena will be doing a presentation on it at the conference.
 - ii. In order to have an ARSL member on the board a proposal would need to be submitted. Under ALA, ARSL is an affiliate like Black Caucus which is a roundtable under MLA. In order for ARSL to be a roundtable, it's statement of purposes would need to be presented in writing with no less than ten MLA members supporting it through petition to the board and then they could authorize it.
 - iii. Jenniffer Stephenson asked if we need a councilor for ARSL instead of a roundtable. In order to make a councilor the bylaws would have to be changed because they would be a voting member of the board. It was agreed that a roundtable would be easier to start and if more MLA members become active in ARSL we can revisit this.

18. New Business

- a. Mississippi Book Festival is August 22nd. Patsy will be working there and encouraged all of us to come.

- b. The next meeting will be in Natchez at the conference on October 20 at 4pm. After that it will be December 11th at MLC at 11am.
19. Motion to adjourn was made by Melissa Dennis. It was seconded by Selena Swink.

Adjourned at 1:23 pm.

Submitted by:

Selena Swink
MLA Secretary