

**Mississippi Library Association  
Executive Board Meeting  
July 29, 2016  
Vicksburg Convention Center, Vicksburg, MS**

**Executive Board in Attendance:**

Molly McManus, President  
Jenniffer Stephenson, Vice-President  
Jamie Wilson, Secretary  
Blair Booker, Treasurer  
Patsy Brewer, Immediate Past-President  
Rickey Jones, Trustees Section Chair  
Jennifer Wann, Public Library Section Chair  
Ellen Ruffin, ALA Councilor  
Michele Frasier-Robinson, ACRL Section Chair  
Joyce Shaw, Special Libraries Section Chair  
Venetia Oglesby, School Library Section Chair  
Marsha Case, Parliamentarian

**Also in attendance:**

Jennifer Todd, Tina Harry, Ashley Biggs, Phillip Carter, Brian Young, Barbara Price, Antoinette Giamalva, Susan Cassagne, Sarah Mangrum, Katrina Stokes, Jorge Brown

President Molly McManus called the meeting to order at 11:08 a.m.

The roll call sheet was passed around.

The agenda was approved with a motion by Jennifer Wann and a second by Jamie Wilson.

The minutes were approved with amendments with a motion by Ellen Ruffin and a second by Jennifer Wann.

**Old Business:**

Annual Conference Registration Cancellation Policy: The policy was distributed by Jennifer Todd with explanations about the new policies. Jenniffer Stephenson moved to accept the policy and Blair Booker seconded. The motion passed.

Banners and electronic banners for outreach and membership: Ashley Biggs presented the proposal for banners, electronic media, and handouts on behalf of the Outreach ad hoc and Membership committees. The Board suggested edits, rethinking of the materials before printing, and working with a professional graphic designer. Approval was given to print some materials, with modifications, for the upcoming Children's Book Festival. Molly McManus thanked the committee for their work and acknowledged that the Board needs to give the committee more direction before proceeding to the next steps.

Membership survey: Ashley Biggs presented the MLA Membership Survey Report. Ashley asked the Board to look over the data and think about future changes based on the report.

### **MLA Officers and Staff Reports:**

Secretary Jamie Wilson

- No report

Treasurer Blair Booker

- Handed out Revenue & Expenses report for 2016. Some of the budget lines were off two cents each, and Blair Booker will contact the accountant about the budget questions.

President Molly McManus

- Announced that a new ad hoc committee for Advocacy was created and Jennifer Smith will chair. She will work on putting the committee together. The committee will provide and coordinate training opportunities for members as well as look for the best way forward.
- RFP has been sent out, and Barbara Price has received questions.

Vice-President Jennifer Stephenson

- Provided updates on the conference:
  - 215 hotel rooms are blocked
  - Announced plans for a health fair for libraries as the pre-conference session on Tuesday
  - Phillip Carter is working with vendors
  - Asked Rickey Jones about working on a plan for advocacy training
- Announced that Phillip Carter has completed a draft of the ARSL bylaws. Two other groups are also interested in creating ARSL chapters. The University of Southern Mississippi will pay for two ARSL registrations if volunteers will set up booth at conference.
- Noted that no speaker fee should be paid if your conference and travel are being paid by your organization. Ribbons for MLA badges were also discussed.

Past-President Patsy Brewer

- Looking for venues off site for the Past Presidents' Breakfast in an effort to have better attendance.

MLA Administrator Barbara Price

- Regarding the RFP, 14 convention centers/visitors bureaus have responded with questions.

ALA Councilor Ellen Ruffin:

- ALA adopted the following resolutions:
  - To build more inclusive communities
  - School libraries should have access to well-funded school library programs with certified school librarians.

#### SELA Councilor Melissa Dennis

- Sent in information about the SELA conference on October 5-7 in Athens, Georgia
  - Melissa Dennis will be presenting with Ashley Dees
  - Some Mississippi libraries are nominated for awards
  - Ashley Dees is the chair of the NMRT
  - Asked whether SELA could have a booth at MLA conference; Molly McManus volunteered to send Melissa Dennis information about non-profit vendor fee.

#### MLC Executive Director Susan Cassagne

- MLC is happy to help with the conference and will be providing a grant this year.

#### Section Reports:

ACRL Libraries: Michele Frasier-Robinson is working on a program for conference. Announced that the ACRL workshop was well attended and panelists discussed the new framework.

Public Libraries: Jennifer Wann is working on the conference program. She is working on bringing in Cal Shepard as the speaker.

School Libraries: Venetia Oglesby spoke about the Mississippi Department of Education's efforts to rewrite school library guidelines. There is a focus on school librarians to have the tools they need to be librarians and participate in the field. She noted this is a good time for MLA public librarians to reach out to school librarians as they have more support than in the past. Suggested it would be helpful for library schools, like the University of Southern Mississippi, to talk about how to obtain a library degree at the conference.

Special Libraries: Joyce Shaw is working on the conference program and she is trying to create partnerships with public libraries. She is interested in facilitating communication between medical libraries and public libraries to give medical information to the community. Planning to incorporate this theme into the conference program.

Trustee Section: Rickey Jones is working with Susan Liles at MLC and the Vicksburg Library to provide an advocacy program during the MLA conference.

#### Roundtables and Committees Reports:

Ad Hoc Outreach: Phillip Carter asked for volunteers to man the table at the Children's Book Festival. Noted that many of the committees overlap and it may be time to restructure the committees. Molly McManus noted that committee changes must be approved by the Board but agrees with his thoughts.

Awards Committee: Erin Busbea sent out a call for award nominations. Ellen Ruffin asked about the possibility of moving the awards ceremony to another time, as had been discussed in previous meetings. Erin Busbea and Ellen Ruffin will talk and report back to Jennifer Stephenson.

Black Caucus Roundtable: Danielle Terrell is planning a luncheon at the conference.

Fiscal Management Committee: Patsy Brewer reported that the Coker & Palmer account is not generating adequate funds, and that a change is needed. Barbara Price was asked to look into other options at Regions Bank.

- Patsy Brewer moved that funds be moved out of the Coker & Palmer account and moved to Regions Bank. Ellen Ruffin seconded the motion. The motion passed.

Membership Committee: Ashley Biggs distributed a report and asked the Board to look over it.

Mississippi Author Awards Committee: Melody Dale sent a report that asked if the Board would support going over budget due to travel. The Board approved since the last two conferences made money.

New Member Roundtable: Jorge Brown reported that the NMRT is slow going. He also let the Board know that he will be stepping down as NMRT Chair as he is moving out of state for a new job. He asked for suggestions for a new NMRT Chair to help fill his position before he leaves.

Publicity Committee: Antoinette Giamalva reported that the Legislative Day write up and the RFP have been sent out. She is looking for someone to go to conferences to help with outreach. She is creating press releases to help market. She is working on a hashtag for the conference, and #mlacommunity and #misslib16 were both discussed.

Scholarship Committee: Sarah Mangrum reported that four applications were received for the Peggy May Scholarship, and the scholarship was awarded to Lakeisha Smith. Allisa Beck is gathering items for the silent auction.

Web Services Committee: Jennifer Todd reported that logos for SELA and ACRL have been added to the MLA website. The RFP is now on the website. She has started a draft for conference registration.

Mississippi Libraries: Tina Harry announced that the peer-reviewed issue will be released in September. Conference information can be submitted for this issue with a deadline at the end of August.

The next meeting will be held in Vicksburg at the MLA Conference with time and date TBD.

There was a brief recess starting at 12:29 p.m.

Meeting resumed at 12:50 p.m.

Rickey Jones moved to adjourn the meeting, and Jennifer Wann seconded. The motion passed. The meeting was adjourned at 2:01 p.m.

Respectfully submitted,

Jamie Wilson  
Secretary