

**Welcome/Call to Order: Bruce Hester, President**

**Minutes- read by Paige Eisemann, secretary.** Minutes were amended, changes approved by unanimous vote. Bruce Hester made motion that since minutes are being emailed we forgo the reading of minutes at the beginning of meeting. Motion approved unanimously.

President Bruce Hester called the meeting to order at 10:20AM at Trevecca Nazarene University, Waggoner Library.

Those present included: Bruce Hester, Carol Burr, Lynn Caruthers, Becky Jackman, Pam Renfrow, Paige Eisemann, Betsy Stubblefield, Cathy Kendall, Allison Roberts, Donna Jerden, Hannah Little, Jeannette Lambert, Barbara Winningham

**Treasurers Report, presented by Carol Burr-**

motion to accept made Becky Jackman, seconded by Lynn Caruthers, approved by unanimous vote

**Committee Reports**

**Conference report, presented by Becky Jackman-**

Sept. 29-Oct 1, 2011 Embassy Suites Murfreesboro Conference. There was a discussion about how we choose future sites for our conference. It has been noted that we should consider putting in proposals for 3 years in the future. Future presidents need to know dates so that they can choose sites. We need to set dates for our conference for 3 yrs out- this year we need for 2012. Chattanooga, Franklin, and West TN are mentioned as sites, as well as suitable facilities. The question of what to ask for when doing proposals was brought to the board from Roger Spivey (who has helped set up before) to assess our needs. Bruce Hester suggests that Becky Jackman “pick a date” and contact places and present her findings to the board. Becky went to TLA board meeting and their attendance was down. Next year TLA conference will be held in Memphis and historically they have poor attendance. We need to consider this when looking at dates and places in West TN. Due to not serving breakfast we are looking at box lunches, which we could do during business meeting. Becky is looking at hotels doing AV services for our presenters but cost is major factor. Bruce asks to give Becky permission to go ahead and choose dates and get proposals. Becky mentions that we should consider AASL dates; YALSA dates (off AASL years) while planning. No motion needed at this time, the board will wait and take motion when Becky has been able to gather more info. Scott sends a message that we are very behind on conference info on the website. We need hotel info, speakers, general overview, etc. on the website as soon as possible. Lynn and Becky will be going to Embassy Suites to tour the site and plan when the meeting is adjourned today. Final thought for consideration of board are dates for 2010 conference. Currently considering Nov 4-6, 2010.

## **Professional Development, presented by Allison Roberts**

Enrollment for Karen Lowe Workshop as of May 8:

4 for Memphis site

13 for Nashville

5 for Chattanooga

7 for Morristown

Total money- approximately \$1750. Another \$200 coming from Vincent and Vincent- 4 of her 8 days are now covered. Expenses should be about \$1000, as they were last time. Allison will be doing on site registration. Post cards were mailed Wednesday May 5. Allison shared with the board a sample of the bulk mailing. She ordered 1800 because we are still not sure on private schools numbers. All public school mailings are out, then private school mailings to be sent, then TASL membership mailings, etc. She has contacted vendors, etc as per her report. Discussion followed her final paragraph regarding vendors all wanting to demonstrate their collection analysis because Capstone wants to be there. Karen feels they don't need to show that; they need to set up an appointment for later. Exhibit time will be 11:30-1:00. If vendors can only come one day then they should attend on the 2<sup>nd</sup> day of workshops. The first day is the working portion and then second day is when people will have more of an idea of what they are looking for. Hannah and Bruce mention that an electronic version is what some people want- and that they should have option available. Allison asks the board on opinions regarding not give vendors demonstration time. Intent of the board in inviting vendors to these workshops was to have them bring books when you see where your "gaps" in your collections are, etc. Not for what the vendors can do for you. Allison wants them to be able to tell us what have but not show it. Bruce does not want them to take time from Karen; instead they can show their products but not have presentation time. Allison is of the opinion that they must bring physical books for participants to see. Betsy said that Metro had Karen come do one day instead of 2 a few years ago. One of the values of workshop is that you realize what you can do yourself -not having someone come in and do it for you. You pick a small area you are going to work on each year- tailored for your school, your curriculum, etc. Rather than having someone "show their wares, etc" Bruce asked Allison reiterate to them that we want them to show resources to support collection development. Barbara suggests keep that at conference, not at Karen's workshops. Bruce posed a question about bulk mail cost, because our yearly expense expired day after these were mailed. We will get a reminder at some point that it expired May 7. Renewal is \$60-70. It does not need to be in Chattanooga, and it is not transferable. Initial fee is approximately \$150. Postcards cost 16 cents each with bulk mailing versus 29 cents regular. The initial cost makes this expense come out cheaper in long run. We will be mailing a copy of Footnotes before conference. It will be sent in June (instead of September) this year. Becky asks if we continue to use Copy Connection for printing if Allison is willing to do the mailings for 2 years and the board leave the bulk mail in Chattanooga instead of Clarksville. This will save money for the organization because we do not have initial fee to pay again. Allison graciously agrees. She will renew and continue to do this. Allison reports that she has spoken to Judy Bivens about AASL Standards in Hamilton County for district inservice day in June and then opening the same thing in August 6 perhaps. This idea is still in discussion phase. Becky comments

that for future reference, next summer we should be able to present Learning4 Life since she is being trained this summer.

**Membership – presented by Allison Roberts for Nancy Dickinson**-no report but asked to remind area reps to contact people in their areas.

Bruce discussed our membership- our short-term goal is establish contact; long-term goal is to make these people TASL members. Focus should be on getting contact information for each county/system in the state. Bruce will take Nancy's list and make all regions and contact people- create ONE BIG spreadsheet for one resource. He has almost worked out bugs and will be using Google Docs space to house all of our forms in one space to have to pass down to future exec boards. He will be emailing the information and passwords to the board soon. This list and docs space needs to evolve as we do. We want to keep info current as best as possible, especially position statements, website, etc. It is mention to Pam that we want possible members to know about website as how it is a resource. "Volunteer" is password on site and will also be the password for Google Docs.

**Advocacy report- presented by Jeanette Lambert.** Donna Jerden shared new business idea about RAT (Read Across Tennessee) program, which would be an effort to make Read Across America our own.

She also presented the board with bags from TEA President Wyman.

**Awards- presented by Pam Renfrow:** (also presented area rep report) Email has been sent to members regarding awards, but no applications have been received at this time. Pam brought to the table an idea for creating a calendar or events for each area to publicize inservice etc. Bruce asked for items to put into a flyer on the website- and mentioned that our "Why Join" section needs to be updated. Carol mentions that we can have those who do not have jobs yet can join as "Friends of TASL" and that might help them get jobs as well as keep them connected with us. Support staff membership should be offered also.

**Technology- presented by Barbara Wunningham**

**VSBA report- Kathy Boudreau** has moved the VSBA site, but it has been linked to the TASL website. The votes has been counted and winners announced on the VSBA website. The votes showed a tremendous increase. The number of participating schools increased by 28, and the votes increased by 8,172. We are thrilled by the participation and are determined to see even more increases next year. Publishers of the winning titles have been contacted and they are in the process of notifying the winning authors.

Hopefully their schedules will allow them to attend our 2010 conference to accept their award in person. All committees have met and finalized the 2010-2011 master reading lists. Publishers have been contacted to verify that all titles will remain in print through the 2010-2011 school year. Reading lists have been posted on the VSBA website. 2008 VSBA winning authors Nick Bruel and Peg Kehret plan to attend our September 2009 conference.

**Intellectual Freedom-** Bruce discussed situation currently under consideration by the ACLU regarding students who identify as gay and lesbian looking for scholarship possibilities for themselves and sites being blocked on school computers. We do not currently have an intellectual freedom statement, and we need one. Barbara created a draft to share. The board discussed constitution and bylaws and not being comfortable with our position (or lack thereof). A statement is listed on the agenda that Bruce sent prior to the meeting. This statement is taken from Colorado school librarians statement, after much research. This one takes everything back to ALA- which takes into consideration the legal representation needed. We have no problem using this as a starting point for our statement. TEA attorneys don't do preemptive work according to Donna, and Kathy asked if they would look at this and help with the wording for our statement. Bruce pointed out that this is not a legal document, but we want our position to be documented for any future problem. ALA has VERY specific language and policies that we are using as guidelines. School Library Journal will publish a piece with Bruce's response on behalf of TASL, which mirrors ALA. Becky commented that she is more comfortable with AASL instead of ALA by virtue. Bruce wants to personally remove himself but wants to make sure that the position of the TASL is stated. Nancy Brown has not been able to be contacted. Barbara is going to be tweaking the statement discussed here and will submit at next meeting.

Barbara was concerned that we do not have a "handbook" and has agreed to work on it as a resource for new librarians.

Constitution and Bylaws- Mary Jean Smith (Wilson Co.) asked if we are considering if committee heads can be part of executive board. We need to change wording of the constitution and bylaws so that they can be part. Pam Renfrow agreed to look at membership list to see if anyone can be part of committee or if we could assign anyone.

### **OLD BUSINESS:**

**AFFLIATE ASSEMBLY:** March 28, 29 & 30 had a retreat/ meeting for every one of the states--- Allison is Region 4 Director of AASL starting in July. Four commendations were given from our region. Chattanooga READ 20 program is one for TN, NC has two commendations, and SC has one. Four commendations are good from our region. We have two concerns:

1. We need training for understanding library role (New teachers, admin, etc) and impact on student success, AASL publish production for Teacher Tube or approach AASCD conferences and library role in student/teacher success.
2. Librarians need to be included as education staff instead of administration or support staff in curriculum standards. It is suggested that we create task force to determine AASL recommended staffing model from 1991 and contact boards to promote best practices for staffing. AASL board will look at regions concerns and will choose which ones go to Chicago and then they will chose while there which one goes to ALA.

### **NEW BUSINESS:**

Bruce sent out email asking for concerns from membership for this meeting and received the following questions.

1. *Can we have any influence at the State Department to have someone in place that will be over libraries?* (Hope Hall, Hillsboro High School).

Art, music, drama etc they have someone assigned we need someone to advocate. Becky is going to take this challenge on to see what we can accomplish. Cabit Cheshire has agreed to assist.

2. *In Metro Nashville, Aides cannot supervise students in the library. Does this cause any liability problems for librarians particularly if they are out and there is not sub?* (Hope Hall, Hillsboro High School)

Not TASL issue so Bruce forwarded on. Jeannette mentioned that people have asked her that as well. Decided that the person doesn't like not getting a sub and is turning it into an issue to try to get us to help.

3. *Regarding the Newspaper in Education Program in Knoxville, papers are only delivered 2 days a week now. Students don't have the technology available to read the online version each day. Can we change this?* (Karen Cragwell, Bearden Middle School)

Newspapers will be gone soon, due to the fact that most are already focusing on their online versions even now.

Donna Jerden- RAA issues rolling out at TASL conference. Bill Frist project called Tennessee SCORE committee is filled with heavy hitters and at end of year will be submitting recommendations. Donna urges us to go to any meetings if they are in our area. To locate meetings in your area see the (Tennessee score.org) newsletter online- although meetings are generally during the day. They need to hear from us. The recommendations will be important because of who is on the steering committee. Encourage people to sign up for the updates on website. This is a timely issue and we don't want to miss the boat- September would be when the findings are compiled. Bruce states that Montgomery County's Tim Barnes knew very little about it at all. Donna listed who was at SCORE meeting and that they discussed teacher preparation and teacher education programs. It has been mentioned that this is a way to rally support for charter schools. Bill Frist says his intentions are not for elections, looks, etc. Test changes are going to make negative attention soon. Frist has put together this group. Board of Regents, Governor, Wyman, and others are attending representing their own interest groups and now we need a librarian there for representation.

Nat. Library Legislative Day- Jeannette and Bruce will be attending. Bruce will be visiting TN legislators in attendance; senators will be making presentation etc. Jeannette discussed that they will be talking to a legislative assistant specific for library topics. Jeannette agreed to pay for expenses outside what TLA will pay; this is Bruce's first time. Bruce asked if TASL can cover expenses they might have while there representing

TASL. Barbara motioned that we cover what TLA doesn't cover for the two of them to help with the cost. Lynn mentioned that when she was treasurer that TASL has done that before. Motion seconded by Pam Renfrow, passed unopposed.

(Bruce will be serving TASL President in TLA legislative committee.) Bruce asked what we want them to talk about. Becky asked that they consider including libraries in the 65% solution, as we are not a part of the 1965 definition. Betsy mentioned people in politics don't realize the professional preparation we have to have. Becky clarified that by state definition we don't fit highly qualified standards. Donna stated that merit pay is not fit for librarians- we have no test scores that can be measured. That does not reflect on us at all- we must advocate. Carol pointed that common public opinion is that teachers are always at fault and parents are never held accountable. There is discussion that the NCLB title needs to be changed, as many feel that the title created negative feelings about the program from its beginning.

Betsy Stubblefield report:

Has not gotten answers from several report states that she has contacted. Bruce acknowledged how daunting this task is going to be to get information for people who have not joined. Hannah mentioned that some wouldn't pay for membership because in the past the cost was \$20 and now it is \$30. The question is posed to the board as to why would some people join TLA or ALA for a much higher cost and choose not to join our organization? What do those organizations do for them that TASL doesn't do?

Cathy states that a vendor asked her if school libraries would be getting economic stimulus package monies. Bruce will resend emails regarding this through listserv.

Bruce has completed Footnotes- will add Allison's Region 4 appointment and the good news that St Mary's /St Agnes has been recognized by TLA.

Becky states that TLA now recognizes new libraries- they will send a plant. Contact Annelle Hudgeons.

Becky will be on board panel discussion for TLA to know the groups mission and history. They will also consider the question of what TLA can do to partner with our group to make affiliations stronger.

Cathy mentioned a follow up from last meeting- "once upon a time" in 1979 school librarian section of TEA became part of AASL.

Lynn made a motion that the meeting be adjourned at 1:38PM. Barbara seconded the motion. The next Executive Board meeting will be held August 1, 2009.

Respectfully submitted,

Paige Eisemann, secretary