

TASL Executive Board Meeting Minutes August 24, 2013

Welcome, Introductions, and Call to order: An executive board meeting of the Tennessee Association of School Librarians was held in Nashville, TN at The Windsor Room at 4215 Harding Pike on August 24, 2013. The meeting convened at 10:00 with President Beth Frerking presiding.

Voting Members Present

Beth Frerking, President 2013
Mona Batchelor, President Elect 2013
Lora Black, Secretary
Nancy Dickinson, Treasurer
Cami Townsel, Highland Rim Area Rep
Karen Haggard, Mississippi River Area Rep
Raina Scoggins, Volunteer Area Rep
Lea Glass, West TN River Area Rep
Vicki Winstead, Appalachian Area Rep
Missy Wood, Western Plains Region
Cristol Kapp, East TN Area Rep
Hannah Little, Immediate Past President

Voting Members Not Present

Carol Teeters, Cumberland Area Rep
Ann Nored, Walking Horse Area Rep

Others Present

Jenifer Grady, Tenn-Share
Judy Bivens, Certification

Approval of Minutes

Minutes from the April 2013 meeting were approved electronically prior to this meeting. Minutes for this meeting will also be approved electronically. All minutes are posted to the TASL website in an effort to keep the membership informed about TASL business.

Treasurer's Report

Nancy Dickinson, Treasurer, submitted the treasurer's report stating, "as of August 17, 2013, there is a total of \$119,189.26 in our bank accounts which includes main checking (\$ 91,193.35), web checking (\$2,989.67) and savings (\$25,006.24). Year-to-date income of \$51,286.68 includes 2013 membership, interest income, Summer PD, 2010 Conference, 2013 Conference and VSBA stickers. Year-to-date expenses of \$27,354.44 include 2013 Board retreat, Library Legislative Day, 2013 Summer PD, AASL Spring meeting travel, ALA conference, Conference 2012 and 2013, meeting room fees, MemberClicks, PayPal services, tax preparation, scholarships, TLA and treasurer expense."

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Profit & Loss January 1 through August 17, 2013

	Jan 1 - Aug 17, 13
Income	
2010 Conference	375.00
2013 Conference	25,435.00
2013 Membership	18,065.00
2013 Summer PD	7,310.00
Interest Inc	1.86
VSBA Stickers	99.82
Total Income	51,286.68
Expense	
2013 Board Retreat	240.25
2013 Library Legislative Day	400.00
2013 Summer Workshops Expenses	8,571.44
AASL Spr Meeting Travel	744.34
ALA Conference 2013	4,109.85
Conference 2012	2,234.19
Conference 2013	1,615.62
Insurance	1,092.50
Meeting room fee	25.00
MemberClicks	3,512.35
Overpayment reimbursement	15.00
PayPal Services	1,341.79
Refund - 2013 Conference	365.62
Scholarship	2,000.00
Tax Preparation	485.00
TLA	383.19
TLA Dues	60.00
Treasurer Expense	158.30
Total Expense	27,354.44
Net Income	23,932.24

Committee and Task Force Reports

2013 Conference Report

Mona Batchelor gave the Conference Committee report stating,

“TASL Conference 2013 planning is ongoing. Currently, there are 34 exhibitors registered, and 201 attendees. Regular registration ends and late registration begins September 1. This number is approximately 100 registrants less than at the same point in the process last year.

As for the conference, we are on track with all final planning:

- The schedule and planner will be complete within the next week.
- Calls for facilitators and registration help will go out around the first of September.
- Final plans are underway with Books A Million to stock and operate the conference bookstore.
- Fundraising efforts, although gleaning fairly small amounts, have been positive and appreciated.
- Conference bags are shaping up nicely.
- The projectors will be ordered next week.
- Paid presenters are in touch, rooms booked.

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At this point, the grandest concern is the numbers. All Executive Board members and Area Representatives are asked to spread the word electronically to encourage registration.”

Advocacy

No report.

Awards

There have been submissions in all award categories. Two scholarships have already been awarded. Congratulations to this year’s scholarship winners, Rachel Lambert, a student at MTSU and Jenny Wyatt attending University of Memphis. The committee is moving forward with other award business.

Certification

Judy Bivens shared that TASL has a new State contact person, Lior Klirs.

Finance Committee

No report.

Intellectual Freedom Committee

No report.

Long Range Planning Committee

No report.

Membership Committee

Cristol Kapp submitted the Membership report electronically stating, “A membership reminder was sent to those marked lapsed in June.

Below are the current statistics for the 2013 membership year:

Librarian	601
Librarian on Leave	008
Librarian Assistant	001
Retired Librarian	014
Supervisor/Professor	009
Student	085
Corporate	007
Friend of TASL	<u>007</u>
	<hr/> <u>732</u>

Forty-one members have renewed, but their check has not yet been received. There are 357 lapsed memberships.”

Professional Development

Karen Haggard reported on Summer PD: TASL CO-OP,

“The 2013 version of summer Professional Development for TASL, took place in Gatlinburg on June 18 and in Medina on June 20. Total attendance for the two events was close to 200 people. Our theme was “Cultivating School Libraries—Growing Lifelong Learners.”

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Our three main presenters were The Librarians in the Middle, 3 librarians from the Anderson school district in South Carolina. Tamara Cox, Monique German, and Kristen Hearne challenged our thinking and gave us new ideas in the sessions they presented: PD with a Twist, Sacred Cows, Learn to Love Nonfiction, Information Literacy Strategies, It's All About the Graphics, and What's a PLN and Why Would I Want One? Their joint keynote address on The Care and Feeding of Administrators called us to find out our principal's goal for the school and to make a difference around that goal.

Member presenters added their own great ideas to our day. Harvest Common Core Resources with TEL was presented at both locations (Sarah Searles in Gatlinburg and Tracy Parker in Medina). Other topics included Reaching Reluctant (Becky Jackman), Bursting with Flavor—Appetizing Library Activities and Events (Susan Harris), Battle of the Books and More (Jennifer Boren and McKenzie Weaver), Growing the Youngest Learners (Nathalie Wyss), Making a Connection: Using Online Multimedia Materials to Connect Students to Books (Deborah Parrott, Joanna Anderson, Renee Lyons), Weeding Your Crops (Karen Cragwall), and Bloom Where You're Planted: How VSBA Books Can Help Meet CCSS (Cindy Welch).

The day ended at each location with a chance to gather in grade level groups and share "crop advice". There was also much enthusiastic sharing of ideas during the day. At the end of the day, attendees received a certificate of participation and a mason jar with the TASL logo and these words of wisdom from Robert Louis Stevenson: "Don't judge each day by the harvest you reap, but by the seeds you plant."

Notes and slides from the presentations are now available on the TASL web page in the Members Only section under Supplemental Materials.

It takes a lot of people to put on events like these. Our hostesses, Vickie McDowell in Gatlinburg and Amanda Anderson in Medina worked very hard to make us feel welcome. Others arranged for food, facilitated sessions, decorated to follow our theme, checked in attendees and passed out certificates. I can't begin to express my appreciation to all who made these events successful. Watch for opportunities to volunteer for next summer's event.

I think everyone who has attended our TASL summer PD would agree that its value is well worth setting aside one day of summer to attend. Having it in June this year hopefully gives us a little more time to absorb new learning and to implement new ideas.

My favorite comment from the evaluations was, "My evaluation suggested that I become a more involved leader—Great Keynote!" (I related to that because my evaluator said the same thing.) But I think TASL CO-OP participants will agree that we have some great new tools in our toolbox to help us do just that in the coming school year.

There were a few Mason jars left. These will be available at Conference for \$5"

Other Points to Note:

Mindy Nichols in West TN and Bekki Atkinson in East TN have agreed to organize Summer PD for next year.

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Technology Committee

Holly Matthews sent an update for handbook. The committee is continuing with TASL Facebook efforts and other technology related matters.

VSBA

Scot Smith submitted the VSBA report electronically. It stated,

- “1) The nomination committee chairs are: Pat Shaffer of the Nashville Public Library (Primary), Renee Ward of Franklin City Schools (Intermediate), and Lee Hope of the Chattanooga-Hamilton County Public Library (Middle and High School). Several of the committees are still looking to add readers. The committees have started to create the first round of nominations for the 2015-2016 lists.
- 2) Renee Ward has suggested that TASL create a certificate of participation for the members of the nomination committee. This certificate would serve as part of the professional development portfolio for the evaluation rubric for the librarians on the reading committees. I think this is a wonderful idea. The members on the committees spend countless hours and reading for VSBA and a good deal of their own money purchasing books.
- 3) All the promotional materials have been posted on the TASL web site. We have had more confusion than usual over the lists because titles are going out of print sooner, and several titles had to be replaced at the last minute.
- 4) I am working on contacting authors for books for the silent auction. Hopefully, we will have 40 or more titles for the auction.
- 5) As for the 2013 awards banquet, I should have acceptance letters from Wendy Mass and James Dashner. I have not been able to contact Carol Buckley, author of *Tarra & Bella*, winner of the primary award. Does anyone at TASL have a connection with her? Maybe Hannah? She lives in Middle TN.
- 6) I have contacted the winners of the 2013 VSBA about the 2014 conference. I believe Sharon Draper has accepted our invitation. I believe both Kirby Larson and Mary Nethery would like to attend. I am not sure about Ally Condie. No hope for Rick Riordan....he will send us a wonderful acceptance letter.
- 7) For the 2013 conference, Susan Timmons and I will present the middle and high school nominations in a breakout session. I am not sure who from the primary and intermediate committees will do their presentations. I will check with Renee and Pat to verify the presenters.”

Other Points to Note:

- Sharon Draper will be attending Conference 2014.
- Still working on Kirby Larson, Mary Nethery, and Ally Condie for a possible 2014 Conference appearance.

Area Rep Reports

West Tennessee River Region

Representative Lea Glass

- Making contacts and promoting TASL.

Volunteer Region

Representative Raina Scoggins

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- No report

Walking Horse Region

Representative Ann Nored

- See August 2013 TASL Talks submission for Walking Horse news.

Highland Rim Region

Representative Cami Townsel

- See August 2013 TASL Talks submission for Highland Rim news.
- Shared details of First Lady address at her school's commencement this past Spring.

Mississippi River Region

Representative Karen Haggard

- Attended first merge with Shelby County and had a chance to plug TASL.

Western Plains Region

Representative Missy Wood

- Welcomed Missy Wood to the Board.

Cumberland Region

Representative Carol Teeters

- No report.

Appalachian Region

Representative Vicki Winstead

- See August 2013 TASL Talks submission for Appalachian news.

East TN River Region

Representative Cristol Kapp

- This region submitted a well-received TASL Grant proposal idea. See new business for details.

Reports from Affiliates

AASL/ALA

- Commendations for Humanities TN and TN First Lady's reading program were forwarded to the Affiliate Assembly, as were TN concerns about the AASL lesson database. Nancy Dickinson shared how these would possibly be handled stating "most likely in January, AASL would issue commendations and form task forces to address concerns".
- Mona Batchelor was elected as Regional Rep Alternate.
- States were encouraged to join Freedom to Read Foundation (www.ftr.org), a legal arm of the organization to fight for reading rights.
- We are fortunate to have Barbara Stripling in leadership. She has TN and school librarian roots. We will look for opportunities to support her efforts such as the Declaration for the Right to Libraries that will be highlighted at Conference 2013.

Mona Batchelor made a **MOTION** TASL join the Freedom to Read Foundation at a cost of \$100 per year dues. Nancy Dickinson seconded. **MOTION** passed (M-AUG2013-1).

TLA

See "TLA New Business" notes.

Tenn-Share

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Jenifer Gray submitted the Tenn-Share report electronically stating,

“Membership: The Tenn-Share membership cycle began on July 1. We welcome individual schools and districts, and appreciate you for spreading the word about membership and renewals - <http://tenn-share.org/membership/join>.

Database Offers and Membership Benefits: Tenn-Share members have a discount now with DEMCO and Junior Library Guild - <http://www.juniorlibraryguild.com/how-jlg-works/>

Watch for fall database offers and surveys of your electronic resource needs.

DataFest and Fall Conference 2013: The next FREE DataFest and School Library Collection Fair will be Thursday, September 19th. **We are still looking for proposals for programs that relate to our theme:** "Who are the people in your neighborhood?": Effectively serving our libraries' diverse users. Vendors are being added regularly for both events.

Breakfast and an afternoon snack will be provided; lunch is on your own. Please encourage your members to also sign up for one of the Dine-Arounds, a dinner discussion about a topic related to Tenn-Share's mission.

School Library Collection Fair registration (preferred by not required) - <http://www.tenn-share.org/2013schoolcollfair>

DataFest registration - <http://www.tenn-share.org/2013registration>

Board Members: Our school library representatives are:

- Kathryn Boudreau-Henry, Program Coordinator of Library Science Program, Middle Tennessee State University, Murfreesboro
- Nancy Dickinson, School Librarian at Hillsboro Elementary School, Hillsboro
- Krystal McReynolds, School Librarian at Lincoln Elementary School, Kingsport City Schools”

Unfinished Business

Updating Committee Handbook Descriptions

Three committees, Finance, Technology, and Professional Development submitted drafts for updates to the handbook. The Board

- Discussed Finance proposal committee description and edited the wording to clarify who qualifies to be on the committee.
- Discussed Technology proposal and accepted it as written.
- Discussed Professional Development, edited and revised the wording in accordance with our current understanding of how this committee should function.

Raina Scoggins **MOVED** we accept the Finance, Technology and Professional Development committee handbook descriptions as revised. Lea Glass seconded. **MOTION** passed (M-AUG2013-2).

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- Lora Black will add the description to the handbook and updates will be placed on the TASL website.
- The date at the bottom of the document will serve as the record of revision and if possible a reference to the related meeting minutes will be included.
- Discussed stipend for volunteers who travel on TASL related business. Researched a previous vote on this topic to see the original motion and action. Action taken was noted in August 2010 minutes. This will be added to the handbook.

Slate of 2014 Officers

- Mona Batchelor, President
- Lora Black, President Elect
- Tracy Parker, Secretary
- Nancy Dickinson, Treasurer for a second term
- See August TASL Talks for candidate's bio information.

Bookmark Contest

Contest has been launched. Information is on the website. Submissions are due September 1.

Teen Read Week

Plans are in motion for Teen Read Week.

Revised School Library Standards

A committee was formed in April and has been working to submit revisions to the State Board of Education. One section is complete and feedback from Dr. Sevier was positive. This led to the opportunity to recommend revisions for the other two parts. Currently, the committee is waiting for feedback about the scope of the committee's work to finish. The committee has an August 31 deadline for an October reading by the State.

New Business

New Board Member

Welcome new Board member Missy Wood, Western Plains Region Rep.

TLA Outreach Committee

There is no longer a joint TASL/TLA conference committee. TLA formed an outreach committee to work jointly with TASL as the need arises. The Board discussed the need to have a point person in place for this effort. It was decided the President will have the power to appoint a task force to work with TLA on common projects.

Proposed Grant

Cristol Kapp presented a grant proposal idea from her region. A task force will be formed to explore this venture. They will submit a draft at the January meeting for further consideration. Beth Frerking will appoint members.

Regional Funding Request

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Discussed a request from the East TN River Region to fund a professional development speaker and decided it was best to fill needs such as this through the TASL Grant venture. See "Proposed Grant" notes.

Response to Layoffs

The Board discussed TASL's response to librarian cuts now and in the future. Beth Frerking had drafted a letter in reaction to recent incidents in the State that had been brought to the Board's attention by Tullahoma librarians. The Board discussed and revised the language and the tone of this letter to reflect our advocacy position.

Karen Haggard MOVED we empower our president to address the Tullahoma City Schools' librarian job cuts and future similar incidences by sending a letter to appropriate governing bodies as a way of advocating for library positions. **Seconded by Cristol Kapp. MOTION passed (M-AUG2013-3).**

This letter will be sent via snail mail and we will accommodate future requests in regard to this issue.

The advocacy conversation needs to be on-going and we need to generate proactive ideas to promote the need for librarians to avoid being in a reactive position.

Board Retreat Follow-up

Goal #1: Solid transitions for our leadership team

- Action: Invite new board members/committee chairs to the board meeting at conference (Beth)
- Action: Be sure everyone has a paper copy of the handbook (mail if necessary) (Mona)
- Action: Outgoing person make contact with incoming person at conference (Beth)

Goal #2: Improve teacher Collaborations:

- Action: Publish some back-to-school marketing strategies (eg RSS feeds, bathroom readers), send it out, call to join a circle. Ask Amanda Mason if she will do this and moderate the circle. (Beth)

Goal #3: Improve Organizational Partnerships:

- Action: Contact TEA (Tina Parlier) to get a list of associations and administrator emails, and ask how to submit TEA magazine articles (Ann)
- Action: Discuss at August board meeting (Beth put Ann on agenda)
- For later action – Be aware of other organizations' call-for-presenters, "Make it the principal's idea," send our PD announcements to administrators

Goal #4: Work with Teacher/Administrator preparation programs:

- Action: Create a task force to create a presentation template. (Suggested participants: Allison Maynard, Alice Bryant, Kanina Davis, Holly Matthews, Shannon Minner). Their charge: Create a presentation template to be used by librarians presenting in teacher/administrator preparation programs. The presentation should demonstrate the crucial role of the librarian as part of the educational team. (Beth)
- Future Action: Identify programs and contacts within the programs
- Future Action: Form and train a cadre of people to speak

Goal #5: Improving recognition of our Outstanding Administrators:

- Action: Notify peers (e.g. Press release to professional journal). Add this to awards committee's charge (Beth)

The name in parenthesis is the person who is going to follow up on it.

Retired Librarians Reach Out

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Cristol Kapp volunteered to explore ways to encourage retired librarians to stay active in TASL. Joy Branham was suggested as a recent retiree to help develop this idea.

Treasurer's Computer

We discussed the need for a new treasurer's computer. The current one is outdated. Nancy Dickinson will oversee the purchase in the \$1,500-2,000 range if needed. This is vital piece of equipment for TASL operation and a quality machine should be procured.

Mona Batchelor made a **MOTION** we purchase a new laptop computer to be used by the treasurer. Vickie Winstead seconded. **MOTION** passed (M-AUG2013-4).

Adjournment

Karen Haggard **MOVED** to "adjourn the meeting" and this was seconded by Cristol Kapp. Meeting adjourned at 1:00 pm (M-AUG2013-5).

August 2013 Motion Summary

M-AUG2013-1: Mona Batchelor made a **MOTION** TASL join the Freedom to Read Foundation at a cost of \$100 per year dues. Nancy Dickinson seconded. **MOTION** passed.

M-AUG2013-2: Raina Scoggins **MOVED** we accept the Finance, Technology and Professional Development committee handbook descriptions as revised. Lea Glass seconded. **MOTION** passed.

M-AUG2013-3: Karen Haggard **MOVED** we empower our president to address the Tullahoma City Schools' librarian job cuts and future similar incidences by sending a letter to appropriate governing bodies as a way of advocating for library positions. Cristol Kapp seconded. **MOTION** passed.

M-AUG2013-4: Mona Batchelor made a **MOTION** we purchase a new laptop computer to be used by the treasurer. Vickie Winstead seconded. **MOTION** passed.

M-AUG2013-5: Karen Haggard **MOVED** to "adjourn the meeting" and this was seconded by Cristol Kapp. Meeting adjourned at 1:00 pm.

Respectfully submitted,

Lora Black
TASL Secretary 2013

Dates to Remember

- School Library Fair/ DataFest – September 19 – 20, 2013
- Fourth Exec Meeting - October 3rd (Conference) at close of the exhibit hall at 8:00 pm.
- TASL Annual Conference - October 3 - 5, 2013
- AASL Annual Conference - November 14-17, 2013