

TASL Executive Board Meeting Minutes April 25, 2015

Welcome, Introductions, and Call to Order: An executive board meeting of the Tennessee Association of School Librarians was held in Murfreesboro, TN at Linebaugh Public Library located at 105 West Vine Street on April 25, 2015. The meeting convened at 9:37 a.m. with President Lora Ann Black presiding.

Voting Members Present

Lora Ann Black, President 2015
Mindy Nichols, President Elect 2015
Shannon Minner, Secretary
Nancy Dickinson, Treasurer, Finance Chair
Mona Batchelor, Past President
Dana Lester, Walking Horse Area Rep
Cami Townsel, Highland Rim Area Rep
Vicki Winstead, Appalachian Area Rep
Michelle Castleberry, East Tennessee Area Rep, Professional Development Co-Chair
Amy Balducci, Mississippi River Region Rep
Raina Scoggins, Volunteer Area Rep

Voting Members Not Present

Lea Glass, West Tennessee River Area Rep
Kim Wattenbarger, Cumberland Area Rep
Sherry Copeland, Western Plains Area Rep

Others Present

Beth Frerking, Advocacy Chair
Jeff Garrett, TEA
Misti Jenkins, Awards Chair
Jennifer Grady, Tenn Share
Krista Grace, Professional Development Co-Chair

Welcome, Introductions, and Call to Order

Celebrating retirement of Nancy Dickinson

Approval of Minutes

The "Proposal for Approval of TASL of January 24, 2015 minutes from the January 2015 meeting were approved electronically prior to this meeting via a Doodle Poll. 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 and shared the Profit and Loss statement from the current 2015 calendar year and current balances for checking account and savings account.

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Lora Ann Black discussed our Fidelity Bonds came up to be renewed and it has been taken care of. She also thought it would be prudent to study our insurance to get the best rates. She got a quote from a local business and she was assured that we are getting the best service with our current insurance agency. The insurance is a bond on the treasurer.

Profit & Loss January 1 through April 22, 2015

	<u>Jan 1 - Apr 22, 15</u>
Income	
2014 Conference	850.00
2015 Conference	500.00
2015 Membership	14,960.00
2015 Preconference	25.00
2015 Summer Workshop	1,295.00
Interest Inc	1.24
PayPal	1.78
VSBA Stickers	116.60
Total Income	<u>17,749.62</u>
Expense	
2015 Summer Workshops Expenses	135.00
Advocacy	100.00
ALA	185.00
ALA Conference 2015	1,578.12
Insurance	347.00
MemberClicks	1,678.00
PayPal Services	626.56
Refund - 2014 Conference	105.00
Tax Preparation	100.00
TLA Dues	60.00
Treasurer Expense	56.88
Total Expense	<u>4,971.56</u>
Net Income	<u><u>12,778.06</u></u>

Committee and Task Force Reports

2015 Conference Report. Actions taken:

February 2015

- Mona Batchelor created the online Call for Member Presenters Form.
- Issued call for member presenters via email and in February 28 newsletter.
- Receiving completed contracts from paid presenters.

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- Scholastic confirmed as 2015 Bookstore Vendor. List of titles to be available for purchase in the bookstore was compiled and communicated to Scholastic.
- Vendor/Exhibitor Letter, Contract, and Step-by-Step Instructions were updated and emailed to Jamie Bevins for distribution in March.
- Online Vendor/Exhibitor Forms created.
- Online Registration Forms created.
- Emailed Cami Townsel regarding one mile fun run – form a race committee to discuss registration, etc.

March 2015

- Emailed Beth Frerking, Becky Jackman, and Kat Hall regarding progress of Novel Conversation planning.
- Emailed Jamie Bevins, Exhibits Chair, to confirm opening of Vendor Registration March 10.
- Exhibits/Vendor Registration and Vendor Session proposals opened March 10.
- Communicated with inquiring vendors, vendor presenters, and member presenters.
- Receiving Vendor Session Proposals.
- Receiving Member Presenter Proposals.
- Explored Tennessee gift baskets for presenter gifts.
- Received signed bookstore contract from Scholastic.
- Emailed a reminder regarding membership renewal to be eligible for member presenter.
- Updated “Make Your Case” for attending TASL Conference documents for website. Mona Batchelor posted to website.
- Worked with Mona Batchelor to design online registration for conference and preconference events.
- Received featured presenter contracts.
- Cami Townsel has formed her committee for the Fun Run: Jacqueline Gregory – LIS, Glenview Elementary School; Denise Tabscott – LIS, Thurgood Marshall Middle School; Jeannette Lambert – LIS, Pearl Cohn High School
 - Mike Howard (Educational Services) is donating a “FitBit” for the Fun/Run Walk.
 - Donations will be taken to benefit the Freedom to Read Foundation.
- Submitted an article for the SLM Edition of *TASL Talks* regarding upcoming conference registration.

April 2015

- Contacted Embassy Suites to secure 2018 TASL Conference Dates. Signed contract.
 - September 9-11, 2018 (Sunday-Tuesday)
- Receiving Vendor Session Proposals.
- Receiving Member Presenter Proposals. Approximately 35 members submitted proposals for 2015 conference.
- Receiving final featured presenter contracts. Awaiting Nathan Hale’s.
- Reviewed 2014 Conference Evaluations.
- Continued work on conference schedule in view of conference evaluation comments.
 - Working to eliminate long breaks on Friday afternoon.
- Continued work on conference program layout and text.
 - Received president’s welcome for conference planner from Lora Ann Black.
 - Drafted/revised conference chair article for conference planner.
- Began drafting Advance Schedules for featured presenters.

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- Invited all featured presenters to the VSBA Banquet and received RSVPs. Seven of the eight will be joining us.
- Reserved hotel accommodations and received confirmation for all paid presenters and the JLG scholarship winner via Jennifer Jones @ ES.
- Lora Black will create signage for registration desk and author signings.
- Received email from Michael Chia of Guidebook to renew for this year's conference. Mona Batchelor is working with Michael to set up the app.
- Lora Ann Black is exploring insurance providers for both conference and summer PD events.
- Launched Early Bird Registration for conference, preconference, and fun run.

Future Committee Plans:

- Secure insurance for both conference and summer PD events.
- Select and notify Member Presenters.
- Dana Lester will continue to secure sponsorships and donations.
- Secure transportation for authors. (Misti Jenkins)
- Secure session facilitators. (Misti Jenkins)
- Secure signing facilitators.
- Continue to develop conference planner.
- Secure menus for business luncheon and VSBA dinner
- Solicit any further volunteers before school dismisses for summer.
- Finalize and purchase featured and member presenter gifts.
- Finalize Advance Schedules for featured presenters.
- Post conference information on Conference Webpage.
- Continued communication with membership regarding registration and conference events.

Advocacy

Beth Frerking shared the Advocacy report, stating, "The advocacy committee has three activities to report.

- We kicked off the year with the bookmark contest. Many thanks to Paige Eisemann for all of her work on this.

The winners were:

Primary –

Winner:

Kush Clayton

Kindergarten

Riverdale Elementary School

2015 First Place Primary Division

Librarian: Amy Balducci

Honorable Mention:

Savannah Miller

2nd Grade

White Bluff Elementary School

2015 Honorable Mention Primary Division

Librarian: Ann Cothron

Intermediate –

Winner:

Dakota Velasquez
3rd Grade
Apison Elementary School
2015 First Place Intermediate Division
Librarian: Sharon Farley

Honorable Mention:

Tyee Clayton
3rd Grade
Riverdale Elementary School
2015 Honorable Mention Intermediate Division
Librarian: Amy Balducci

Middle –

Winner:

Molly Mayes
8th Grade
Freedom Middle School
2015 First Place Middle School Division
Librarian: Leah Bishop

Honorable Mention:

Grace Johnson
7th Grade
Houston Middle School
2015 Honorable Mention Middle School Division
Librarian: Mary Ann Cole

High –

Winner:

Lateveous Owens
11th Grade
Ridgeway High School
2015 First Place High School Division
Librarian: Susan Harris

Honorable Mention -

Hoon Chun
12th Grade
Ezell Harding Christian School
2015 Honorable Mention High School Division
Librarian: Peggy Bebout

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- A push was made through the listserv to have librarians call Lamar Alexander’s office to include school libraries in the reauthorization of ESEA.
- National Library Legislative Day is May 4 & 5. I will travel to Washington DC to participate as part of the Tennessee delegation.
- Lora Ann Black was contacted by someone at ALA about helping them get in with a congressman. She contacted Phil Roe to support LSTA and ESEA but it was a tough time in his life due to the death of his wife. He has promised to watch that legislation and be a supporter if he could.

Awards

- New committee members chosen.

Name	Email	Tier	Gender	Region
Foster, Lana	llfoster@roaneschools.com	Middle	Female	Volunteer
Jenkins, Misti	jenkinsmi@rcschools.net	High	Female	Walking Horse
Nanney, Carol	nanneyc@k12tn.net	Elementary	Female	Western Plains

- Awards applications updated and sent to Mona Batchelor to update on website.
- Email sent on MemberClicks about the awards.
- I still need to meet up with Karen King to get her DAHR plaque to her. We have had a series of unfortunate events and have been unable to meet up yet.
- Misti Jenkins need to get a blurb written about applying for awards for the next TASL Talks.
- Lora Ann Black brought us up to speed on our long range goal of publicizing our administrator award winners to their peers. She found and contacted a gentlemen from the Tennessee Principals Association. The newsletter had already run but he is receptive to sharing an article about the topic or the names of the winners on their List Serv or newsletter.

Certification

No report

Finance Committee

No additional report. See Treasurer’s report above.

Intellectual Freedom Committee

Brian Seadorf reported

- The Intellectual Freedom committee is brainstorming ways to promote Banned Book Week this fall. Because that falls during conference week, the plans are to work in advance of conference promoting participation in a minimal way. We hope to create a FB campaign asking members to showcase and share Banned Book Week displays. Plans are to start promoting it in August through MemberClicks and our TASL FB page. Input, ideas and committee participation is welcome.

Long Range Planning Committee

Mona Batchelor reported

- The TASL 2015 Long Range Planning Committee was finalized on February 19 and consists of Misti Jenkins, Pam Renfrow, Vicki Winstead, and chaired by Mona Batchelor.

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- The committee has not yet met. Hopefully, that can occur sometime in the early summer. Before that meeting they will review past LRPC outcomes and try to build upon those goals, as well as established additional goals.

Membership Committee

Below are the statistics for the membership year:

	2/9/2014	1/23/2015	4/12/2014	4/24/15
Librarian	208	201	430	443
Librarian on Leave	002	001	005	005
Librarian Assistant	001	005	004	008
Retired Librarian	010	013	015	021
Supervisor/Professor	003	010	009	015
Student	025	004	049	050
Corporate	003	002	005	006
Friend of TASL	<u>005</u>	<u>004</u>	<u>008</u>	<u>011</u>
TOTAL	257	240	525	559

Professional Development

Michelle Castleberry submitted the TASL Summer PD Proposed Schedule.

- Corinne Hill has signed her contract and been secured.
- A call for presenters went out and will close at the end of this week. Krista and Michelle will be looking over the proposals and plugging those in soon.
- Door prizes have been and are continuing to be secured including: travel mugs made for Summer PD, t-shirts, memberships, signed books and others.
- Emails have been sent telling members about Summer PD, registration and all the great things that we are planning for them.
- Mona Batchelor updated and added information to the website, prepared the registration form and opened it up to all members.

Other comments:

- Krista Grace came on board as the West TN Co-Chair. Krista has ordered some travel mugs for attendees. She has also been working on securing door prizes and so far has gotten apparel and books donated.
- The West TN Summer PD are in need of presenters to share high school related topics with attendees.
- Davidson Titles is allowing West TN members to come to their warehouse and shop all their books, including discounted titles. A rep will also be at East TN with books for sale.

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- Michelle has been in contact with a local author who has graciously donated an autographed copy of her book. The author in turn has also gotten in touch with other local authors she knows and they have also donated autographed copies of their book.

Technology Committee

No report

VSBA

Scot Smith electronically reported

- "The nominating committees for the Primary (K-2) and Young Adult (Middle and High School divisions) have already met and come up with their lists for 2016-2017. The Intermediate committee will meet soon. Once complete, the four lists will be placed on the VSBA page on the TASL web site"
- The voting deadline for 2014-2015 is May 4. We hope to have the votes quickly tallied and an announcement about the winners by May 11. TLA co-chairs Jeanine Akers and Amy Dye-Reeves are in charge of voting. This year, they have created surveys that will allow for online voting. Once the winners are announced, I will make first contact with the winning authors about the award and the possibility of attending the 2016 TASL conference.
- Lee Hope has stepped down as the chair of Young Adult nomination committee. Karla Keesecker of Unicoi County Schools will take over as chair. Pat Shaffer of Nashville Public Library and Jamie Bevins of Knox County Schools will remain as chairs of the nominating committees for the Primary and Intermediate divisions. Several committee members have left the nomination committees, and new members will be invited to join during the summer.

Constitutional Task Force Report

The Constitutional Task Force is comprised of Jeanine Akers, Mona Batchelor, Lynn Caruthers, Allison Maynard, and Ann Nored. We began working virtually last November. Our mission was three-fold.

- First, to examine the current TASL Constitution and Bylaws document in search of errors and outdated language
- Second, to survey presidents of the AASL Region 4 school library associations to determine if they were affiliated with their state education associations and,
- Third, to survey the TASL membership to discern the level of importance of TASL's TEA affiliation.

Suffice it to say, some things have changed since the constitution and bylaws document was written and/or revised. Several changes were apparent based upon how we operate now. Additionally, any typos or grammatical errors were corrected. A copy of the proposed revised document accompanies this report. In surveying the other state school library association presidents in our region, the task force discovered that none are affiliated with their state education associations. Some were in the early days of their formation, but un-affiliated many years ago. The most recent un-affiliated sometime in the 1980s.

The membership survey conducted in March-April represented a near even split as far as respondents who were TEA members and those who were not. When responding to the importance of TASL's official affiliation, the majority answered on the "unimportant" end of the scale. The committee also discovered that TASL is not listed as an affiliate on the TEA website. In light of those outcomes and discoveries, the task force recommends the following:

- TASL remove TEA from the constitution as an official affiliate, thereby, freeing TASL to remove the TEA membership strictures from the TASL officer requirements

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- TASL continue to gather and submit TEA membership survey information at the annual meeting, if TEA is interested in TASL doing so, but this need not be in any of our governing documents.
- Continue to foster a working relationship with TEA by including a TEA representative at the board level (non-voting)

The proposed revisions document reflects our recommendations.

The TASL Constitutional Task Force asks that the TASL Executive Board vote to move forward with the proposed governing document and affiliation changes. At that point, the membership should be made aware of the proposed changes via the website and newsletter. Lastly, a vote for implementation should occur during the annual business meeting on September 25, 2015.

Special thanks to those who served on the task force, a focused group of impartial people who took the task very seriously.

Nancy Dickinson brought up the one thing that has kept the group from disaffiliating with TEA before is having an attorney on call. Mona has in writing from a TEA representative that the only legal representation through TEA is with a member.

A discussion was had about removing the barriers to leadership because due to our affiliation with TEA there are some requirements for a minimum number of officers to also be TEA members. This move is nothing personal against TEA. We would still like to work with them and we appreciate the efforts they make to advocate for us.

M-APR2015-1: Motion made to move this forward to a vote by the general membership. Motion made by Raina Scoggins, second by Nancy Dickinson, all voted in agreement. MOTION PASSED.

Nominating Committee

- The TASL Nominating Committee 2015 was finalized on February 9th and consists of Nancy Dickinson, Becky Jackman, and Mona Batchelor, chair. The committee has worked expeditiously to compile what we feel is an excellent slate of officers for the 2016 TASL membership year. That slate is as follows:
President – Mindy Nichols
President-Elect – Misti Jenkins
Treasurer – Lynn Lilley
Secretary – Dana Lester
- The committee plans to publish the slate, along with photographs and biographies of each of the candidates in the next issue of *TASL Talks*. That issue is planned for early summer, well ahead of the 30 day constitutional requirement that the membership be notified in advance of the vote at the annual business meeting.
- In an effort to make all TASL processes run more smoothly and efficiently, the committee has discussed the possibility that, once the work of this committee is finalized and public, sharing information produced and or gleaned through the committee work with the next year's chair could prove beneficial and a time saver.

Area Representative Reports

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West Tennessee River Region

Representative Lea Glass

- I am continuing to promote membership and communicate with those in my region.

Mississippi River Region

Representative Amy Bladucci

- Battle of the Books has landed in Shelby County, as many schools both elementary and middle participated in a variety of competitions. Amy Venkus' LMS of Appling Middle School in Bartlett led her team to win the Shelby County middle school division in which 10 public and private schools across the county competed. The elementary finals are set to take place in May.
- Houston Middle School LMS Mary Ann Cole organized the Mustang Marathon this school year for her middle schoolers. The marathon lasted from September until the beginning of April. For the inaugural year, her mustangs read 1,853 books for a total of 492,549 pages.
- The MS River Region is excited to be represented by several TASL bookmark contest winners!
 - Primary Division Winner– Kush Clayton from Riverdale Elementary in Germantown, TN
 - Intermediate Division Honorable Mention – Tye Clayton from Riverdale Elementary in Germantown, TN
 - Middle Division Honorable Mention – Grace Johnson from Houston Middle School in Germantown, TN
 - High School Division Winner – Lateveous Owens from Ridgeway High School on Memphis, TN

Western Plains Region

Representative Sherry Copeland

- I have been in contact with members and I have been reaching out to non-members. I plan to continue to these efforts.

Highland Rim Region

Representative Cami Townsel

- Stephanie Ham (Metro Nashville Public Schools Library Lead) includes TASL information in all of her MNPS Librarian newsletters. She has also requested for librarians to apply to present at the upcoming TASL conference.
- **My Amazing Librarian** award goes to **Lakisha Brinson** of Robert E. Lillard Elementary School. Limitless Libraries sponsored an *Amazing Librarian Award* which involved students, faculty, and



parents to nominate a librarian whom they felt is amazing in the profession. They received over 600 nominations throughout the Metropolitan Nashville Public Schools district. Lakisha was determined the winner and is being awarded a trip to attend the ALA conference this summer in San Francisco, CA. Other awards presented to librarians from Limitless Libraries include the following:

Community Partnerships Award: **Jamie Claybrooks**, Mt. View Elementary School

Student Choice Award: **Denise Tabscott**, Thurgood Marshall Middle Prep

Creativity in Library Service Award: **Amanda Smithfield**, Hume-Fogg Magnet School

Congratulations to all for being a great representation for our profession!

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- **Library Services** department of Nashville Public Schools also awarded Librarians of the Year awards to Connie Sharp (Sylvan Park Elementary School), Sabrina McClure (H.G. Hill Middle School), and Amanda Smithfield (Hume-Fogg Magnet High School).
- Cami Townsel will be a presenter at the Black Caucus of the American Library Association's Ninth National Conference in August which will be held in St. Louis, Missouri. The presentation will focus on collaborative research lessons entitled, "*Exploring the Lives of Black Americans from the 1800s to the Modern Day Civil Rights Movement.*"

Walking Horse Region

Representative Dana Lester

- Emailed lapsed members with a reminder to renew their membership
- Have made several contacts with members in surrounding counties who agreed to be a TASL "cheerleader" in their district. They will remind librarians in their district about conference, PD days, etc.
- Group of librarians in this region are putting on a local Southeastern Young Adult Book Festival. On May 1st they are having a Trivia Night in Murfreesboro to fundraise and bring attention to their festival.

Cumberland Region

Representative Kim Wattenbarger

- No report.

Appalachian Region

Representative Vicki Winstead

- The only concern I have received from my region is a request to move the Summer PD a little more "East". It is about a 3 hour drive for most of my area this summer. I have had several emails about it and just told everyone I would share their concerns. Vicki thinks it would be good if it were in the Knoxville area.
- Vicki is trying to encourage more membership.
- There was a discussion about continuing to move it to different locations and possibly putting it in the Knoxville area next time.

Volunteer Region

Representative Raina Scoggins

- I have sent reminders to everyone about membership and encouraged participation in the summer professional development.
- I have talked with the non-renewed members from Knox County and sent emails to the other lapsed members.
- TEL training coming to UT Knoxville. This training is more towards forming partnerships and networking rather than the nuts and bolts of TEL. You can sign up to attend on the TEL website.

East TN River Region

Representative Michelle Castleberry

- I have emailed my district several times with news about Summer PD, contests, and membership renewal. I also emailed lapsed members and asked them to rejoin, adding that they could also sign up for Summer PD and ALA. I have had two lapsed members respond and renew.
- Regional News
 - Cristol Kapp has been very busy creating this website, <https://www.causeway.org/causes/makerspace-tables-and-chairs>, in order to raise funds for her Maker Space.

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- Michelle Castleberry has been working with 3rd, 4th and 5th grade students to take Reader's Theater to the stage. Students are practicing fluency and comprehension, while also creating props, sets and costumes to prepare for an upcoming school performance of their plays. 3rd grade students are doing fractured nursery rhymes, 4th grade students are doing Greek myths, and 5th grade students are doing favorite picture books.
- Charlene Yarger, from Spring City Elem, reports: One thing I learned at the TASL conference this past year was how one person does book clubs. I had contemplated trying it, so I went back and talked with a teacher about how best to present an idea to the principal. (I am fairly new—and she is a much more seasoned teacher who has some good ideas...) She said it would be good to type up my plans and present them to her by talking with her, and also giving her my written plans. So I did. Turns out the principal also had been thinking about me doing a book club. However, I thought I would do it with 5th grade. She thought 3rd grade would be better. So all of my plans went out the window. It is working out really well, despite the delayed start. I meet with 3rd grade girls on Tuesday before school, and 3rd grade boys on Thursday before school. I have between 20-40 girls show up and about 15 or so boys (out of about 105 third grade students).

Other Points to Note:

Discussion about how we as an organization can prepare librarians for a push towards being a technology educator.

- Cami Townsel is going to look into TASL affiliating with ISTE.

Other Business

- A new committee is going to start. The purpose will be to welcome new librarians to their profession with a card and encouraging them to join TASL. Krista Grace will head the committee.
- Review of goal for school librarians to educate future administrators and teachers about what librarians can do for them and how to collaborate with the school librarian.
 - * Reminder of the Administrator Presentation available on the TASL website. Look in the 2014 TASL Conference under Supplemental Materials
 - * Christopher Harris' "An Administrator's Guide to School Libraries"

Reports from Affiliates

AASL/ALA

- ALA Annual conference will be in San Francisco, June 25-30, 2015. Good luck to Mona Batchelor as she vies for Affiliate Assembly Chair Elect and to all the others seeking leadership/committee roles. Those planning to attend should watch for informational emails about various opportunities.
- Registration is open for AASL which will be in Columbus, OH November 5-8.
- TN was represented at ALA Mid-Winter in Chicago. Representatives worked with other affiliates in discussion groups and attended informational meetings. Information about the upcoming conferences was shared, as well as advocacy efforts and other important

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news. Two in particular were the reauthorization of the ESEA to include school library funding and LSTA which funds a portion of TEL.

- In March, Lora Ann Black worked with ALA representative, Kevin L. Maher, Assistant Director, Office of Government Relations and US Congressman, Phil Roe to secure support for LSTA. While the process of participating in the appropriations process is complicated, we were promised they would watch this legislation closely. While we were unable to meet all our goals, Mr. Maher felt we had been helpful in establishing important foundational relationships that may be productive in the future.
- The AASL Concerns and Commendations process is underway. Tennessee has nominated the Knox County Public Library's Festival of Reading for commendation. This program was submitted by Beth Frerking and Lora Ann Black, Mindy Nichols and Sarah Searles collaborated on completing the nomination form. TN's submitted concern supports TASL's long range goal of becoming involved in teacher/administrator education programs.
- Last, the AASL has requested a letter stating affiliates are in support of the conference city of choice for AASL 2017. Louisville, Kentucky is a possibility. With consent from the board, TASL will draft and submit a letter expressing our approval of Louisville.
- AASL sent a small amount of handouts of Advocacy materials. Those of us who are in attendance took the materials.

TLA

No report

TEL

Erin Loree started as the new TEL Administrator on February 17. Erin has been getting acquainted with TEL and the state library system as well as meeting with various school and library groups throughout the state.

I. TEL Databases

Gale Resources

On April 2nd, Gale released an update to three of their platforms - *GVRL (Gale Virtual Reference Library)*, *In Context*, and *InfoTrac* resources (including the *PowerSearch* platform). The enhancements include:

- improved accessibility to people with disabilities, including those with blindness or low vision
- new responsive design to improve the experience for users on mobile devices
- more consistent design across the three product families

HeritageQuest

On March 4th, ProQuest released an update to HeritageQuest giving the interface a more modern look and streamlining the research process for genealogists. Additional content was added:

- *U.S. Federal Census collection from Ancestry.com* including supplements (e.g., 1940 Enumeration District Maps)
- 20,000 city directories

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- Expanded content in the Revolutionary War Collection

TutorTN

The three county pilot program (Henry, Putnam and Unicoi counties) continues through May and usage has exceeded expectations. Discussions are underway to investigate options for implementing on a state-wide level.

II. TEL Training & Outreach

February 4	Nashville	Alignment Nashville
February 9	Nashville	CORE Mid Cumberland Region
October 27-29	Nashville	LEAD Conference
March 10	Clarksville	Red River Regional Library

III. 2015 TEL Workshop

The 2015 TEL Workshop will be held 1-2, 2015, at the UT Knoxville Hodges Libraries. This year’s workshop aims to build knowledge and use of TEL by identifying and strengthening partnerships, sharing innovative methods of promotion, and navigating potential roadblocks. It is not a “nuts and bolts” workshop

IV. Share

Here are a couple of great resources. Both are free.

1. Sync: : A program that gives away two complete audiobook downloads – a current Young Adult title paired thematically with a classic or required summer reading title – each week to listeners 13 and over while SYNC is in session each summer. Excellent quality and choice. Check out this year’s list on the website.

<http://www.audiobooksync.com/>

2. Epic!: <https://www.getepic.com/educators/> **Epic! is the first all-you-can-read eBook service for kids.** Free subscription for educators to be used in the school library and classroom. Not free for parents! "Epic! for Educators," an entirely free version of our award-winning eBook reading app for iOS devices. Now available to all U.S. and Canada-based elementary school teachers and librarians.

Tenn-Share

Jennifer Grady reported

- The School Library Collection Fair Friday, October 23rd. This year 3 events will be compressed into one including the School Library Collection Fair, DataFest, and the Fall Conference. The event will now be called “Share Fest”. It will be held at the Nashville Public Library on the 3rd floor. Lunch will be served there. A call for proposals will be going out soon.

TEA

Jeff Garrett wants our member to consider TEA as an important organization to join. He reported on some recent legislation.

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- Tuesday, February 24 – Emily Mitchell, Rutherford Association of Education President spoke before the House Education Sub-Committee regarding the unfair use of using test scores on teacher evaluation.
- While working on the Elementary and Secondary Schools Act reauthorization legislation, Lamar Alexander was able to get the revision from what we call NCLB changed it to legislation called Every Child Achieves, which would allow states to create their own accountability system to determine how much standardized testing scores should account for student and faculty evaluations.
- “Legislative Victories” that TEA has helped play a role in
 - “For Profit Charters” – Out of state privatizers who seek to gain a profit from Tennessee students. It would have allowed them to operate in the state at the cost of tax payer dollars.
 - Innovation school districts plans would have wiped out tenure and planning time protection along with many other rights.
 - The state tried to eliminate teachers on county commission.
 - Helped defeat of “parent trigger expansion” which involved allowing a simple majority of parents to initiate a charter conversion on a school and force adoption of transformation laws on a school. Though it failed this year TEA expects this will be back next year.
 - Helped defeat the private school vouchers in the Senate.

Unfinished Business

Two-year/Lifetime Membership Clarification

- At the August 2014 Board meeting, a motion passed to offer a two-year membership. Plans to implement this for 2016 are underway.
- A two-year membership option has been proposed and accepted by the Executive Board. It will be presented to the full membership for a vote of approval at the annual business meeting on September 25, 2015. The cost for this membership will be \$50.
- Lifetime membership is currently not being offered and during the discussion it was brought up that
 - In terms of finances it would be necessary for us to closely watch the money so that we would have funds to pay for future events.
 - The membership chair, Cristol Kapp, will research how other organizations handle their lifetime membership.

Minimum Standards for the Approval of Public Schools. 0520-01-03-.07 LIBRARY INFORMATION CENTER, REQUIREMENT F.

- They are now posted and the membership has been informed about the post.
- We will look into getting Erin Loree from TEL to do a presentation at the Summer PD to help people figure out the formula.

New Business

Updating Officer Handbook

Lora Ann Black

- TASL board members were given a copy of the proposed revisions made to the Officer and Committee Handbook and reviewed.

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- **M-APR2015-2:** Nancy Dickinson made a MOTION to accept the proposed clerical changes to the TASL Officer and Committee Handbook. Mindy Nichols seconded. MOTION PASSED
- Discussion over the revision of using the word “required” when speaking about the area representatives attending the board meetings. We don’t want that to be a barrier to librarians volunteering for the position.
- After much discussion the word “required” was changed to “expected”.
- **M-APR2015-3:** Vicki Winstead made a MOTION that we accept the proposed changes as amended by the discussion to the TASL Officer and Committee Handbook. Michelle Castleberry seconded. MOTION PASSED

Long Range Goals Review

Lora Ann Black

Long Range Planning Recommendations from 2014

Goal 1: Promoting cooperation among school librarians

Objective: Facilitate regular roundtable meetings for librarians of similar schools in the same area.

Activities: Area reps will facilitate roundtable meetings in their area at least once during the school year.

Resources required:

1. Meeting place
2. Agenda
3. Refreshments

Goal 2: Involve more people in TASL.

Objective: Continue to increase TASL membership

Activity: Offer 2year membership rate of \$50 or \$55

Resources required: Is there a way to automatically send reminders to lapsed members through the TASL website?

Activity: Reach out to lapsed members find out why and how we can get them to renew.

Objective: Increase active participation in TASL’s projects

Activity: With the exception of the finance, nominating, and long range planning committees.

Committees should have at least one member who has not been involved with a TASL committee previously.

Resources required: None

Goal 3: Become more involved with presenting to organizations for administrators and students in teacher preparation programs.

Objective: Work with Teacher/Administrator preparation programs

Activities: Continuing the work started by the 2013 TASL task force that developed the administrator presentation. Form and train a cadre of people to speak. Identify programs and contacts within Tennessee teacher and administrator training programs.

Goal #4: Improve Organizational Partnerships

Objective: Have librarians present at related professional conferences

Activities: Create a committee to track other organizations’ conferences and ask specific members to submit proposals to present at them.

Goal #5: Improving recognition of our Outstanding Administrators:

Objective: Notify the winner’s peers of the recognition (e.g. Press release to professional journal).

Action: Update the handbook to add this to awards committee’s charge

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Other Business

Nancy Dickinson read the thank you note from LaVergne Lake Elementary School. TASL donated \$50 for memorial books in honor of their librarian Joanna Miller Whitmire.

Adjournment

Nancy Dickinson MOVED to “adjourn the meeting”. Raina Scoggins seconded. The meeting adjourned at 11:55 am (M-APR2015-4).

ADDENDUM: Electronic Proceedings

EM-APR2015-1: Twelve TASL Executive Board members voted to approve the board minutes from January 2015 meeting.

April 2015 Motion Summary

M-APR2015-1: Motion made to move this forward to a vote by the general membership. Motion made by Raina Scoggins, second by Nancy Dickinson, all voted in agreement. MOTION PASSED

M-APR2015-2: Nancy Dickinson made a MOTION that fix the clerical changes to the TASL Officer and Committee Handbook. Mindy Nichols seconded. MOTION PASSED

M-APR2015-3: Vicki Winstead made a MOTION that we accept the proposed changes to the TASL Officer and Committee Handbook. Michelle Castleberry seconded. MOTION PASSED

M-APR2015-4: Nancy Dickinson MOVED to “adjourn the meeting”. Raina Scoggins seconded. The meeting adjourned at 11:55 am (M-APR2015-4).

Respectfully submitted,

Shannon Minner
TASL Secretary 2015

Dates to Remember

- TASL Road Trip East – June 17, 2015
- TASL Road Trip West – June 19, 2015
- ALA Annual Conference – June 25 – 30, 2015
- TASL Annual Conference – September 24 – 26, 2015
- AASL – November 5-9, 2015 in Columbus, Ohio