I. Call to Order

President Mark McKnight called the meeting to order at 3:32 pm.

IIa. Agenda Approval

The agenda was approved.

II. Approval of 2017 Orlando Meeting Minutes

The minutes of the February 25, 2017 business meeting were approved.

III. Administrative Officer’s Report Janelle West

From her report:

MLA’s operating income for fiscal year 2016-2017, which ended June 30th, was $430,870.71, which was 98.85% of the budgeted amount. $14,856.24 was transferred into the operating budget from MLA’s named funds to underwrite awards and other designated expenses. An additional $25,997.07 was transferred from the IAML Neil Ratliff Outreach fund to cover expenses related to the Pan-American Regional IAML meeting, which occurred in conjunction with MLA’s 2017 Orlando meeting. Expenses for fiscal year 2017 totaled $439,894.07, or 93.23% of the budget. MLA ended the year with a budget surplus of $19,668.34.

On June 30, 2017, MLA’s investments totaled $1,476,516.57. Approximately 20% of this amount is invested in socially responsible funds with Calvert; the remainder is at Fidelity Investments.

MLA’s audit for fiscal year 2017 took place in the Fall. SVA reported no issues with the books, thanks in large part to the efforts of Pat Wall and Jim Zychowicz at A-R, who have worked diligently in recent years to ensure that our records are in order.

As of January 18, 2018, MLA had 597 individual members, 232 institutional members, and 11 corporate patrons & members. Overall membership is down about 11% from last year at this time. As of January 11, individual IAML membership was at 59 and institutional membership at 83.

Seven regional chapters now use YourMembership to collect annual dues. Dues received by MLA are returned in full to those chapters.

MLA’s latest election was open from November 1st until November 22nd, 2017. Ballots were sent to 501 eligible members using SurveyMonkey’s anonymous ballot capability. 322 responses were received, none of them invalid, for a response rate of 64%.

In 2017, MLA earned $1,223.48 in royalties on twelve titles published jointly with A-R Editions. This amount reflects 168 total units sold. The 2017 sales report from Scarecrow has not yet been received. One new title was published in 2017: Jean Harden’s Music Description and Access: Solving the Puzzle of
Cataloging (no. 34 of the MLA Technical Reports series). Six new titles are on track for publication with A-R in 2018.

Donations for calendar year 2017 totaled $42,735.00, every bit of which is greatly appreciated. No less appreciated are those officers, editors, and members who have variously refused honoraria or declined full reimbursement for travel expenses incurred on behalf of the Association.

On a personal note, I would like to thank Paula Hickner for graciously sharing her knowledge with me these past two years. She's been patient, generously accessible, and downright kind. Paula, it's been a privilege to learn from you, and I reserve the right to still pester you every once in a while.

Thank you.

IV. President's Report  Mark McKnight

From his report:

Looking back on my first year as President I marvel at how quickly the time has passed since we met in Orlando a year ago and I accepted the ceremonial gavel from outgoing president, Michael Rogan. For me, the year has been by turns rewarding, challenging, and educational, but mostly, fun! On the challenging side, little did I know, when I took that gavel in Orlando, that one of my first acts as president would be to issue a proclamation on behalf of the Board opposing President Trump's budget plan, “America First: A Blueprint to Make America Great Again,” which called for the elimination of the NEA, the NEH, and the Institute of Museum and Library Services. I’m happy to report that, no doubt due to MLA’s principled stand on this issue, these agencies are still firmly in place, with only modest cuts in their proposed 2018 budgets.

Just before Christmas we issued another public statement, this time in support of net neutrality. I’m less sanguine that our position on this issue will yield the same positive results, but at least we made our voice heard, and I thank MLA Board member Anna Kijas, MLA Open Access Editor Kathleen DeLaurenti, and other Board members for their leadership in preparing this statement. Also toward the end of 2017 the Board issued a new Code of Conduct, which you’ll find on our website and in the printed conference program. This document replaces our previous Nondiscrimination and Anti-Harassment Policy and also includes an overarching values statement. Several of our members responded with constructive suggestions during the review period and we are grateful for their comments. I would like to thank the Board’s Planning and Reports Officer, Gerry Szymanski, and the Board’s Planning Committee, with assistance from Anna Kijas, for working on this document.

Perhaps the most challenging issue the Board faced this year was the NAACP’s Missouri travel advisory and calls by some members to move the location of our annual meeting from St. Louis in 2019 and 2023. I was greatly impressed by the way the Board deliberated this issue, weighing with all seriousness its many pros and cons, using a SWOT analysis. I am grateful for the wide variety of opinions our members expressed, privately to me, as well as on MLA-L, in addition to the legal advice of our attorney, Kathryn Goldman. In the end, we determined that the best way to face this issue was to do so in a positive, proactive, and constructive manner, and so I’m pleased to report that our annual meeting next year in St. Louis will be a themed conference, focusing on diversity and inclusion, and how we as music librarians can foster these principles in our own workplaces and use our skills and expertise to provide resources that highlight the rich cultural diversity of the St. Louis area. We also have numerous
opportunities while we are there to reach out to the communities of color in St. Louis, including the prospect of making music together—wouldn’t it be great, for example, to get some local area high school students to sit in with our Big Band! Doing so would not only demonstrate our values in a positive way but also bring visibility to MLA and our profession. That said, the Board does also recognize the fact that some members may not feel safe traveling to St. Louis and will choose not to attend. In light of this concern, we have decided to waive all fees for streaming the conference so that these members may attend virtually.

In other news, many of the initiatives begun by Michael Rogan and previous leadership teams are now in place and are yielding fruitful results. For example, as Janelle has already told you, we now have seven chapters who are piggybacking on MLA’s annual membership renewal process. I encourage the rest of the chapters to consider taking advantage of this opportunity as well. One of President Rogan’s many successful initiatives was to strengthen the relationship between our chapters and the national organization, and this is just one product of those efforts. Another of Michael’s strategies in this vein was to schedule the Board’s fall business meetings in conjunction with a meeting of one of the chapters. In 2016 we met in Bloomington-Normal with the Midwest Chapter. This past fall, after much initial resistance from Board members, I convinced them that we should meet in New Orleans with the joint conference of the Texas and Southeast chapters. I think they ended up having a pretty good time, and I thank Lisa Hooper, our host at Tulane University, for the warm hospitality we enjoyed while there. We have already received an invitation from the New York State-Ontario chapter to attend their joint meeting with NEMLA and the Quebec chapter of CAML in Montreal this fall. I’m sure this will also require a bit of Board arm-twisting, but I hope we can make it happen. Sooner or later, the Board hopes to visit all our chapters, while recognizing that the varied periods of the year in which some of you meet may require some flexibility on our part.

As you know, we have once again provided livestreaming and video recording of our plenaries and other sessions this conference. This past summer I signed a contract with V-Cube Web Broadcasting, to continue this service for the next five annual meetings, locked in at the same rate that we have been paying.

Our publication initiatives with our co-publishing partner, A-R Editions, are humming along, thanks to the hard work of our editors, Maristella Feustle, our Index and Bibliography Series Editor, Jonathan Saucedo, our Technical Reports and Monographs in Music Editor, and Kathleen Abromeit, our Basic Manual Series editor, as well as Jim Zychowicz and his team at A-R Editions. Our newest editor, Open Access Editor Kathleen DeLaurenti, is also working on several exciting projects that will expand MLA’s presence in this area. You will be hearing more about these in the coming months. Two monographs have appeared this year, Jean Harden’s book on music cataloging, titled *Music Description and Access; Solving the Puzzle of Cataloging*, and, hot off the press, *Music Information Literacy: Ideas, Strategies, and Scenarios*, edited by Kathy Abromeit. In addition to these two volumes, I’m thrilled to report that we have five more titles set to come out this year, and I recently signed a publication contract for another book in our Basic Manual series. This one will be an update of Alice Carli’s volume on binding and preservation of printed music. Finally, more hot-off-the-press good news! Volume Two of the Basic Music Library, World Music, is now available! Volume Three is currently in the editing stage, and I’m told that it should be ready for MLA 2019. General editor Dan Boomhower, isn’t here, but I would like to recognize all the work, persistence, and determination he and the volume editors Ed Komara, Liza Vick, and Amanda Maple have demonstrated to make these volumes happen over many long, frustrating
years. I also want to thank all our members who have submitted proposals or have contributed content to these various volumes. Our publications are one very visible way we can highlight the work that we do. While they may not make any of us rich, they provide a valuable service to the library profession and our communities of users.

Among the other very rewarding events of my year was the opportunity to represent MLA at the 2017 Annual IAML Congress in Riga, Latvia. It was very gratifying to learn about the various initiatives our colleagues in other countries are involved in, and I especially enjoyed the camaraderie that is always present at IAML congresses. I am very excited about the 2018 congress in Leipzig, and I encourage everyone to consider attending, if you can. Leipzig, as you know, is a city with a rich cultural heritage and the meeting promises to be a wonderful experience.

I would like to close with one more round of thanks—to our outgoing Board members, Suzanne Lovejoy, Gerry Szymanski, and Hermine Vermeij; our Recording Secretary Lisa Shiota, our Assistant Administrative Officer Paula Hickner, and Past President Michael Rogan. They have all given selflessly of their time, their energy, and their talents, and MLA is a better organization because of their commitment. I’d like to ask them to stand and receive a hearty round of applause.

V. Other Reports

A. Convention Manager (Diane Steinhaus)

This is Diane’s last meeting as Convention Manager. She thanked the members of the conference planning team for making this experience so rewarding: Wendy Sistrunk, Leslie Andersen, Katie Buehner, Jim Zychowicz, and Development Officer Lindsay Brown and Administrative Officer Janelle West. Diane thanked Director of Events Susan Hemberry and Event Services Manager Audrey Siebenthaler at Hilton; Micah Gaeta and his staff at PSAV; and Charlie Chowtham and John Bach from V-Cube, who have been creating the livestream and recording videos from the conference. The Portland Hilton staff handled the meeting with grace, and they enjoyed having us here. We will be meeting at Hilton hotels for the next five years; the locations and dates are posted at http://www.musiclibraryassoc.org/?page=Meetings. Because the association no longer relies on invitations from regional chapters, this allowed the Convention Managers to look at locations that we may not have considered before. Diane noted that this year’s conference was an experiment in having a smaller footprint by having the exhibitors and plenaries swap the same room. Please provide feedback on this experiment in the post-conference survey that will be sent out soon.

B. Program Chair (Leslie Andersen)

Leslie reported that for this year’s meeting, the Program Committee evaluated 63 proposals, with 36 presentations and 12 posters accepted, for an acceptance rate of 72%. The Program Committee has been looking for more efficient ways to create the program, and has made a recommendation to the Board for event planning software. Leslie thanked the Board, the Program Committee (Kirstin Dougan, Erin Conor, Andy Leach, Greg MacAyeal, and Anne Shelley), the Hilton hotel staff, Charlie and his staff from V-Cube, MLA’s Business Office, Web Manager Katie Buehner, Guidebook editor Steve Henry, and Convention Managers Diane Steinhaus and Wendy Sistrunk. She thanked all of the MLA members for creating the annual meeting program.
C. Notes Editor (Deborah Campana)

Debbie thanked all of the Notes Staff for their work: Assistant Editors Laura Stokes, Michael Fling, Anne Shelley; Music and Book Reviews Editors Keith Cochran, Patricia Stroh; New Media Reviews Editor Steve Henry; Book List Compilers James Procell, Matt Ertz; Music Received List Compiler Kathy Abromeit; New Periodicals List Compiler Lindsay Brown; Music Price List Compiler Peter Munstedt; Advertising Manager Scott Stone; and Notes Indexer Marty Jenkins.

The March issue of Notes includes a report on the 2016 survey of MLA’s Personnel Characteristics by Jon Saucedo and Joe Clark, an article by Patricia Sasser on the history of a Norwegian girls’ school through its 19th-century binder collection, and David Hunter’s article on newly discovered correspondence between Richard S. Hill and William Scheide. Based on A-R Editions’ study on the journal’s page count, it was possible to enlarge the font size for the reviews, making them easier to read. The style sheet has been redesigned and updated, thanks to the efforts by Web Committee members Katie Buehner, Jason Imbesi, Ray Heigemeir, and Paul Cary; Assistant Editor Michael Fling, and Debbie’s assistant, Cameron Chan.

Notes staff has been working on getting the journal listed on the SHERPA/RoMEO website (http://www.sherpa.ac.uk/romeo/index.php?la=en&flDnum=|&mode=simple), which will state that authors can submit their articles to their respective institutional repositories. This website outlines information about publisher copyright policies and archiving. They are in the final stage of reviewing the author copyright transfer statements with the association’s legal counsel. Thanks go to Anne Shelley, Bonna Boettcher, Dick Griscom, and Tracey Rudnick for their help.

The electronic version of Notes has been available on the MLA webpage for over a year. Thanks go to Anne Shelley, Scott Stone, Katie Buehner, and Jason Imbesi for creating the workflow for the e-version. The Board has approved the option for MLA members to request a paperless subscription for the journal, starting with the next membership renewal cycle.

In the past year, the Notes online royalties alone totaled $95,000. Debbie thanked everyone for reading Notes in paper and online. Please contact her concerning ideas for future articles.

D. Publicity & Outreach Officer (Sara Nodine)

Sara stated that she had represented MLA at the Society for Ethnomusicology’s (SEM) annual meeting last October for the first time in a while, and spoke with several students and faculty members. She will be at the annual meeting for the American Library Association (ALA) in New Orleans in June, and asked for volunteers to help with the exhibit table and for folks to meet up for dinner during the conference. She thanked those who have helped or are helping with MLA’s blog and social media accounts. This is Sara’s last year as Publicity and Outreach Officer and is in process to transition to a new person soon. Lindsay Brown and Scott Stone are part of the search committee. Sara has enjoyed getting to know everyone and thanked the Board, her home institution, and the membership for allowing her to serve the association and share our stories.

E. Development Officer (Lindsay Hansen Brown)

Lindsay gave her first report as Development Officer. This year’s silent auction raised $1,398. $53 was donated to the MLA Fund, and $175 was raised from the raffle for Carl Philipp Emanuel Bach: The
Complete Works. She thanked the volunteers at the silent auction table, Marketing Subcommittee chair Liza Weisbrod, and everyone who had donated. The Pacific Northwest and California chapters each donated money for the Diversity Scholarship in honor of Judy Tsou and Michael Colby, respectively, for their matching challenges and for their retirements. If you are interested in setting up a matching challenge for the next Diversity Scholarship, please let her know.

There was a great response to the Planned Giving Survey. The Planned Giving webpage will be revamped to provide estate planning and planned giving tools for members.

The Development Committee is looking for new ways to get discounts for buying books from publishers, and is preparing ways to demystify the many different funds that people can donate to. Lindsay thanked everyone for their ongoing support for MLA. Please contact her for any ideas on fundraising initiatives and for donations.

VI. Remembrances

Susan Bower was remembered by Linda Barnhart, who could not attend the meeting; her remembrances were read with additional comments by Marlene Wong. Kay Burnett was remembered by Marlene Wong. Dan Cherubin was remembered by Alec McLane. Gudrun Kilbrun was remembered by Rick McRae. Charles Slater was remembered by Joe Boonin. Mark Smith was remembered by Pamela Bristah. Norris Stephens was remembered by Jim Cassaro. A moment of silence followed each remembrance.

VII. Awards Mark McKnight

A. MLA Diversity Scholarship

This scholarship program, funded by the membership of MLA, offers candidates from under-represented groups an opportunity to pursue the master’s degree in library and information science (MLIS). The goal of the scholarship program's first year is to increase the number of underrepresented racial/ethnic minorities within music librarianship by providing support for master’s-level LIS education. The inaugural recipient is Enrique Caboverde. Mark thanked the Diversity Scholarship Award Committee and its chair, Michael Colby.

B. Lenore F. Coral IAML Travel Grant

The Lenore F. Coral IAML Travel Grant is intended to help support travel and conference fees to attend an annual meeting of the International Association of Music Libraries, Archives and Documentation Centres. The grant, a cash award, is usually offered biennially, in even numbered years, or more frequently at the discretion of the MLA Board of Directors. This year’s recipient is Vivian Tompkins, a doctoral candidate in musicology at the University of Oxford. Mark thanked the award committee and its chair, John Shepard.

C. Kevin Freeman Travel Grant

MLA awards the Kevin Freeman Travel Grant to students, recent graduates, or in first three years of their careers who are new to the profession for support to attend the MLA annual meetings. This year’s recipients are Jessica Abbazio, Memory Apata, Abby Flanagan, Daniel Ray, and Wendy Wong. Enrique
Caboverde also received the grant in addition to the Diversity Scholarship. Mark thanked the award committee and its chair, Kyra Folk-Farber.

D. Publications Awards

1. The Vincent H. Duckles Award for the best book-length bibliography or other research tool is presented to Jane Gottlieb, for *Music Library and Research Skills*, 2nd edition (New York; Oxford: Oxford University Press, 2016)

2. The Richard S. Hill Award for the best article on music librarianship or article of a music-bibliographic nature is presented to Kevin Kishimoto and Tracey Snyder, for “Popular Music in FRBR and RDA: Toward User-Friendly and Cataloger-Friendly Identification of Works,” *Cataloging & Classification Quarterly* 54, no. 1 (2016): 60-86.

3. The Eva Judd O’Meara Award for the best review in *Notes* is given to Daniel Batchelder, for his review of *Walt Disney’s Snow White and the Seven Dwarfs: Master Score*, music by Frank E. Churchill, lyrics by Larry Morey, and additional underscore by Leigh Harline and Paul J. Smith (Milwaukee, WI: Hal Leonard Corporation, 2015) in *Notes* 73, no. 1 (2016): 157-16.

Mark thanked chair Alan Karass and Publication Awards Committee for the selection of recipients.

E. Research Awards

The Carol June Bradley Award was not awarded this year, as the Board suspended granting the award until fundraising allows the Bradley fund to support the award.

The Dena Epstein Award supports research in archives or libraries internationally on any aspect of American music. The award was not given this year, due to insufficient income from the endowment.

The Walter Gerboth award is awarded to an MLA member in the first five years of their professional library career, to assist with research-in-progress in music or music librarianship. The award was not given this year, as there were no applicants.

F. A. Ralph Papakhian Special Achievement Award

This award recognizes extraordinary service to the profession of music librarianship over a relatively short period of time. This year’s recipients are Michael Colby and Judy Tsou. The Diversity and Inclusion Initiative (DII), which was jointly funded by the Institute of Museum and Library Services (IMLS), the Association for Research Libraries (ARL), and MLA, ran from 2012 to 2017. Towards the end of this initiative, Judy and Michael stepped forward to fundraise for MLA’s own Diversity Scholarship with matching challenges. They generously gave their time, energy, and personal resources. Their efforts resulted in the association being able to offer a diversity scholarship without a gap between the DII and MLA’s own scholarship. This award is presented to Judy and Michael in recognition of their commitment to diversity in the association and in the profession.

G. MLA Citation Award

The MLA Citation Award, the Association’s tribute for lifetime achievement, is awarded in recognition of distinguished service to music librarianship over a career. Citation recipients become Honorary Members of MLA. The MLA Citation for this year is awarded to Geraldine Ostrove.
Mark McKnight read the text of the award:

A vocal advocate for music and music librarianship throughout her long and distinguished career, and passionately devoted to the Music Library Association, her style, grace, eloquent and persuasive prose have graced many pages of publications, and her broad vision of the application of music subject headings and form/genre information will be influential for generations to come.

Highly visible and active within various library and scholarly organizations, she has served MLA, most notably as president from 1985 to 1987; in IAML, as vice president of its Bibliography Commission and president of the U.S. Branch. She was the founding author of the “Recent Publications in Music” column, which appeared in *Fontes Artis Musicae* (1989–2012), a global bibliography of music publications that many found useful for collection development purposes.

In recognition of her career-long contributions, specifically in clarifying the complex nature and application of music subject headings, as well as the separate treatment of music form and genre in subject cataloging, the Music Library Association is pleased to confer upon Geraldine (“Gerry”) E. Ostrove, the MLA Citation.

**VIII. Searches and Election Results** Mark McKnight

Mark McKnight announced the new Board Members-at-large: Beth Iseminger, Assistant Fiscal Officer; Bruce Evans, Assistant Planning and Reports Officer, and Rachel Fox von Swearingen, Assistant Parliamentarian. The new Recording Secretary is Misti Shaw, and the new Vice President/President-Elect is Susannah Cleveland. Mark expressed gratitude for the work of the outgoing Board members: Past President Michael Rogan, Recording Secretary Lisa Shiota, Fiscal Officer Hermine Vermeij, Planning and Reports Officer Gerry Szymanski, and Parliamentarian Suzanne Eggleston Lovejoy. He also thanked the Nominating Committee and chair Andrew Justice, and everyone who had volunteered to run.

Three searches were conducted at Portland, with the following appointments approved by the Board: Assistant Administrative Officer: Tracey Rudnick; and Assistant Convention Manager, Andrew Justice. The Publicity & Outreach Officer is pending. Many thanks go to chairs of search committees: Paul Cary, Wendy Sistrunk, and Sara Nodine; and to the outgoing officers: Paula Hickner, Diane Steinhaus, and Sara Nodine. Mark thanked all those who had applied for the officer positions.

**IX. Old Business**

None.

**X. New Business**

Mark announced that Jane Nowakowski, who has been running the conference roommate clearinghouse for thirty years, is retiring. The Board offers her a small token of appreciation for coordinating the roommate service singlehandedly. Mark pointed out that this service is an excellent example of a member seeing a need, stepping in, and creating a solution for it. If anyone is interested in taking over this unofficial position, please contact Mark.

**XI. Announcements**

Liza Weisbrod was randomly chosen from all raffle entries as the winner of *Carl Philipp Emanuel Bach: The Complete Works*, published by The Packard Humanities Institute.
2019 Program Chair Anne Shelley’s video invitation for next year’s St. Louis Meeting (Feb. 20-24, 2019) was broadcast.

**XII. Adjournment**

President Mark McKnight adjourned the meeting at 4:59 pm.