

**MUSIC LIBRARY ASSOCIATION**  
**Minutes of the Board of Directors**  
**Online Meeting, June 24, 2013**

Monday, June 24, 2013, 2:07-3:47pm EDT

Present: Stephanie Bonjack, Pamela Bristah (recording), Paul Cary, Michael Colby (presiding), Michael Duffy, Paula Hickner, Steve Landstreet, Jerry McBride, Rick McRae, Mark Scharff

Absent: Linda Blair

The meeting was called to order by President Colby at 2:07pm.

**1. Agenda**

**It was moved to approve the agenda.** The motion passed unanimously.

**2. Conferences and Program Committee Structure Task Force Report** (Amanda Maple)

The task force was charged to start “from scratch” in identifying issues, and to recommend one or more possible alternatives to the current conference program structure and balance, suggest a revised program committee membership and terms, and propose a timeline for implementation of the suggestions. The task force submitted a report for Board review, available at <http://www.musiclibraryassoc.org/about.aspx?id=1118>

The Board found the report highly valuable, and enthusiastically commended the task force for its work. The task force had been charged to examine ten years of convention budgets, and began with data from the most recent annual meetings, 2009-2012, intending to work backward from there once they developed a process for data-gathering and analysis, and to add this information to their report. Board consensus was that the report was sufficiently thorough as is, and to accept it as a final report. The Board noted that MLA has already made one change recommended in the report, to replace the final banquet at the 2014 meeting with an alternative social event, with food.

It emerged from the task force’s examination of convention budgets that MLA needs more detailed breakdowns for convention expenses and income. The hotel bill is MLA’s largest single expenditure each year, but the detail in hotel bills and the costs for hotel services vary widely every year, making it difficult to match hotel charges with MLA’s expense lines with any consistency. Hickner said that convention managers can help by supplying hotel cost details from banquet event orders (BOEs), provided they’ve kept them on file; she will supply the BOEs to the Board from her tenure as convention manager, and will ask Bonna Boettcher and Laura Gayle Green for theirs. Cary said that the administrative officers have worked in recent years on breaking out expenses into more detailed budget lines.

**The Board approves the report of the Conferences and Program Committee Structure Task Force, and accepts it as their final report. The Board will explore the report’s individual recommendations, solicit reaction from the membership, and consider implementation. Comments from the conference survey will be removed from the published version of the report, as they are confidential. The Conferences and Program Committee Structure Task Force is disbanded.** The motion passed unanimously.

The task force report was referred to the Planning Committee to collect and consider responses from the membership, and to prioritize the recommendations in the report, with suggested timelines. Landstreet will request the Web Manager add the report to the MLA site, minus confidential comments from the conference survey, and will announce on MLA-L that the report is available, requesting readers send responses to him by July 31. The Planning Committee will collect responses in July, and formulate priorities by the fall Board meeting. One approach to setting priorities is to consider which recommendations can be implemented by the 2014 meeting, and which must wait for the 2015 meeting.

Board consensus was that, in order to implement the recommendations for changes in the Program Committee structure, it was essential for the 2015 Program Committee be established by the 2014 meeting in Atlanta.

McBride will write a report on chapters and the convention in two parts, the first on the new site selection process, and a follow-up on decisions arising from the recommendations of the task force; his reports will be published in the MLA Newsletter and possibly the MLA Blog.

### **3. ProMusicDB Proposal** (Beth Iseminger)

The BCC and Metadata Subcommittee asked the Board to consider endorsing a music metadata project founded by Christy Crowl. ProMusicDB seeks to become a database for music equivalent to IMDB for cinema. The database will compile information related to live concert performances, studio recording sessions, and other performances by musicians who are active in a variety of types of music. It looks to bring together various sources of information, including information from the musicians themselves. The project is being developed as an authoritative resource with an authoritative name form, and has buy-in from various musicians' unions and record companies, as well as other groups. It is intended to be free.

McBride asked if there was any possibility for continuing involvement of MLA members, or groups such as the Metadata Subcommittee; Colby will consult with the chair, Lisa McFall, and Christy Crowl.

**It was moved by Stephanie Bonjack and seconded by Rick McRae that MLA endorse the ProMusica project.** The motion passed unanimously. Colby will notify Crowl, McFall, and Iseminger.

### **4. 2014 Pre-Conference Workshop Proposal** (Education Committee and Career Development and Services Committee)

The committees submitted a revised proposal for a preconference workshop, *Leading and Coping With Change: What Every Music Librarian Needs to Know*, with budget figures developed in consultation with Convention Manager Laura Gayle Green. Board consensus was that the headline speaker(s) will determine the success of the workshop. Colby will request the committees provide potential names for the workshop's major speakers by the next Board meeting, July 11.

McBride said that preconference workshops are increasingly important in drawing attendees to the MLA conference, and suggested the Education Committee work on ideas at least one year out, and develop two proposals each year so the Board can select the stronger, returning the second proposal to the committee for further development.

### **5. Chapter Grants** (McBride)

The Pacific Northwest Chapter requested funding for an oral history of the chapter. **It was moved by Michael Duffy and seconded by Mark Scharff to support the PNW Chapter grant proposal with \$500 in funding.** The motion passed by a majority. McBride will notify the chapter of the grant, and of the new policy for gas/mileage reimbursement for all MLA travel, adopted at the May 2013 Board meeting.

### **6. Next Meeting and Adjournment**

The next meeting of the Board will be held online on Thursday, July 11, 2013, 2-3:30pm EDT.

**It was moved by Steve Landstreet and seconded by Mark Scharff to adjourn the meeting.** The motion passed unanimously. The meeting adjourned at 3:47pm.

**Appendix I: New Policies Adopted by the Board**

- 1. To endorse the ProMusicDB project (3)**