MUSIC LIBRARY ASSOCIATION

Minutes of the Meeting of the Board of Directors

New Orleans, Louisiana
February 5-6, 1979

Monday, February 5: 2:00-6:05 PM; Tuesday, February 6: 9:35-11:55 AM, 3:00-5:40 PM.

Present: Mary Ashe, Ann Basart, Maria Calderisi, Shirley Emanuel, Stephen M. Fry, Gerald D. Gibson, George R. Hill, Kathryn P. Logan, Jon Newsom, Don Roberts, Martin Silver, Ruth Watanabe, William J. Weichlein. Members of the Association at various times as observers, and as discussants where noted. Dena J. Epstein presiding.

I. Recording Secretary's report. George R. Hill.
   A. Minutes of the Los Angeles board meeting.
      It was moved, seconded, and passed, that the minutes of the previous meeting in Los Angeles be approved with the following corrections:

      p. 2, section V, 8. 9  change "Professor Barry S. Brook" to "Documents in Musicology, Amsterdam, Netherlands"

      p. 3, section IX.A.1  change to "Copies of the current MLA brochure were distributed."

      p. 6, section IX, 8. 4  change "Executive Secretary" to "President"

   B. Board annual report to the membership.
      Through an oversight, the annual report of the Board in draft form had been sent by the Secretary only to the President. It was noted that a draft should have been sent to the Board with the minutes of the last Board meeting of the year. Copies of the report were distributed to the Board, and on February 6 it was moved, seconded, and unanimously passed, that the report for 1978 be approved.

II. Treasurer's report. Shirley Emanuel.
   At the moment, the checking account has a balance of $26,259.07, and the Association has a net gain of $20,000 for the year. Emanuel distributed the annual financial report 1978, and the 4th quarter 1978 financial reports to the Board.

III. Executive Secretary's report. William J. Weichlein.
   Weichlein distributed the Growth Index, 1965-79, covering the period from the beginning to the end of the Ann Arbor office: an analysis of members and subscribers by states as of January 1979; and an inventory of publication stock as of January 20, 1979. Weichlein has a part-time helper and is chipping away at the backlog of unfilled orders, unacknowledged claims, correspondence, and uncashed checks. The Board was introduced to Mr. Brent Farber of Multiservice Management Company. It is anticipated that the MLA office will move to Philadelphia on March 1, 1979.

IV. Convention Manager's report. William J. Weichlein.
   A. New Orleans, 1979. As of February 3, 272 preregistrations had been received, and the hotel had 210 room reservations. We therefore project an attendance of approximately 350. 30 exhibit tables have been taken by 15 firms, and we are $800 over the budgeted income from this source. Liselotte Andersson and Mary Wallace Davidson have been doing a marvelous job, and Weichlein's load has been correspondingly light.

   B. San Antonio, February 25-March 1, 1980. A contract has been signed with El Tropicano Hotel. Morris Martin is program chair, and Vicki Skinner has been asked to be local arrangements chair.
C. New Haven, February 10-14, 1981. Space has been blocked at the Sheraton Park Plaza Hotel. Harold Samuel is local arrangements chair.

D. Los Angeles, 1982. Stephen M. Fry has agreed to be local arrangements chair.

E. Washington, DC, 1983. Jon Newsom will seek to identify a local arrangements chair.

V. Members-at-Large reports.

A. Mary Ashe. The Public Library Committee (Cheryl Osborn, chair) has been in touch with Leon L. Drolet, chair of the PLA-AV Committee of ALA, and an hour-long session entitled "Balancing a Record Collection" has been scheduled during the ALA meetings in Dallas, June 24, 1979.

B. Ann Basart. [see XIII.F]

C. Maria Calderisi: IFLA. MLA has changed its registration in sections to the 6 in which IAML has also expressed interest. These standing committees of sections, together with recommendations for nominations to the ballot for election as nonvoting members, are: 1. Bibliography (Maria Calderisi); 2. Cataloging (Heinz Lanzke); 3. Library Schools and Other Training Aspects (Don Roberts); 4. Public Libraries (Eric Cooper); 5. University and Other Research Libraries; and 6. Conservation. Since 2 nominations are required for a place on the ballot, it was recommended that IAML and MLA coordinate nominations. IFLA dues, already committed by MLA, are due March 1. As a Canadian, Calderisi suggested that MLA should have an official representative who is a United States citizen, and therefore recommended that Clara Steuermann be appointed official representative of MLA to IAML. The next meeting of IFLA will be August 28-September 1 in Copenhagen, and the Music Round Table of IFLA will have a meeting during that time.

The President asked that the Finance Committee bring forth a recommendation about allocating MLA resources for travel to IFLA. On February 6, on recommendation of the Finance Committee, it was moved, seconded, and passed (6 in favor, 0 against, 3 abstentions) that up to $500 be allowed for a representative to attend the IFLA meetings in Copenhagen.

D. Jon Newsom. [no report]

E. Don Roberts.

1. IAML-US: Roberts conveyed thanks to the Board for having granted permission to enclose IAML materials in the recent MLA mailing. The appeal has so far resulted in 30 new personal memberships, and 4 new institutional memberships.

2. Business Operations Search Committee: It was anticipated that the Business Office will be moved by March 1, 1979, to 2017 Walnut Street, Philadelphia, PA 19103, and this address will appear in the masthead of the March issue of Notes. [A telephone number for MLA has been established in Philadelphia: (215) 569-3650.] MLA has not yet heard from its New York attorney concerning the letter of agreement [it had heard by telephone before the end of the New Orleans meetings] but a formal contract, allowing for cancellation with 90 days' written notice by either party, is in negotiation between MLA and Multiservice Management Company of Philadelphia. The Ann Arbor office will tie up loose ends after March 1 and then be phased out.

The President distributed copies of her letter to Freedman & Kollins, our attorneys, and a draft for discussion of possible administrative changes flowing from the new business office arrangements.

F. Martin Silver. Silver distributed copies of the 1978 index to Board minutes.

VI. Vice-President/President-Elect's report. Ruth Watanabe. [Combined with X.]
VII. President's report. Dena J. Epstein.

A. Election results. New members joining the Board at the end of the New Orleans meeting were announced and introduced: Stephen M. Fry, Gerald D. Gibson, and Kathryn P. Logan.

B. Relations with other organizations.

1. ALA (American Library Association).
   a. Midwinter meeting reports. Written reports from Jerry Emanuel, Charles Simpson, and Don Seibert were distributed. Interest centered particularly on the Cataloging and Classification Section of the Resources and Technical Services Division, which has begun to plan for post-AACR II cataloging code maintenance. The Executive Committee of the Cataloging and Classification Section has voted to recommend that representatives of the special library associations be made members of the committee, with participation in straw votes, but not on matters of substance. An effort will be made to persuade the Council of National Library and Information Associations to assume a role in catalog code revision. [see also VIII.B below]

   b. Future liaison. On February 6, it was moved, seconded, and unanimously passed, that the appointment of Epstein as MLA representative to ALA for a 2-year period be approved. It was moved, seconded, and passed (8 in favor, 0 against, 1 abstention) that the Association allow up to $250 for travel expenses to the ALA meetings in Dallas.

2. CNLIA (Council of National Library and Information Associations). Susan Sommer's written report contains a recommendation that MLA draft a single-page statement for submission to the White House Conference on Libraries on the importance of music, particularly in the context of the public library. This matter was referred to the Public Library Committee, with the request that it explore the possibility of producing such a document by April 1.

3. IAML (International Association of Music Libraries). [see V.C above]

4. Library of Congress. It was moved, seconded, and passed, that Watanabe be instructed in her capacity as President to write a letter to Joseph Howard, with a copy to William Welch, protesting the delay in the implementation of MARC for music.

4a. MPA (Music Publishers Association). Frank Campbell has asked to be relieved of his assignment to the joint MPA/MLA Committee, and has recommended that Neil Ratliff be his successor. Melva Peterson will be chair of the next meeting of the group.

5. OCLC Music Users' Group. It was noted that this organization will be meeting in New Orleans in the Creole Room. On February 6, it was moved, seconded, and passed (8 in favor, 0 against, 1 abstention) that it be policy that all arrangements for meeting rooms at a national meeting of the Association are to be made through the convention manager.

6. Sonneck Society. Mention was made of the joint sessions being held in New Orleans.

7. SLA (Special Libraries Association). Notification of the death of Frank McKenna, our telegram of condolence, and the response from SLA, had previously been distributed to the Board.

8. Z 39. Jerry Emanuel has asked to be relieved of his assignment as alternate representative to the Committee. The MLA national meeting was listed in its recent newsletter.
VIII. Committees and projects.

A. Audio-visual Committee. Watanabe as President will make appointments.

A. Automation Committee. A written report was received by the Board.

B. Cataloging and Classification Committee. [see also VII.B.1.a above] On February 6, Don Seibert met with the Board, summarizing progress since the Board's approval in principle of his draft resolution on catalog code revision [Board minutes, meeting in Los Angeles, November 4-5, 1978, p. 4, section IX.B.1.d]. The MLA committee contacted the special library associations, and on January 6 there was a cordial meeting in Washington, DC, of representatives of the 10 groups that had agreed with the draft resolution. This meeting included the current chair and immediate past chair of CNLIA, the board of which organization is scheduled to meet in March. It was the consensus of the group that an ad-hoc committee should be set up for a 6-month trial period, probably beginning in April. There is a possibility that Seibert may be asked to chair this committee. It was moved, seconded, and passed (8 in favor, 0 against, 1 abstention) that the Board approve in principle the participation in such a committee. At the executive session of the Board held at 3:45 PM on February 6, on recommendation of the Finance Committee, it was moved, seconded, and unanimously passed, that Don Seibert be supported as MLA's representative to the ad-hoc committee, and that the Board declines to appropriate specific funds for his use, but urges the President to use the discretionary funds available for travel for this purpose, requesting a report of progress from Seibert in time for the June board meeting.

D. 50th Anniversary. Don Leavitt met with the Board to discuss ideas and suggestions. It was thought that perhaps celebratory publications might be divided between Notes and monographic types, and might include a combination of the published and unpublished work of Richard S. Hill (from the period around World War II, including some correspondence and an article from the Quarterly Journal of the Library of Congress); possibly an article on the history of MLA by Carol Bradley for Notes; and perhaps a historical survey of music cataloging codes by Don Seibert. Leavitt sought re-authorization to expand the committee (present membership: Leavitt, Jean Gail, Michael Keller) as needed, to include current board members, especially Kathryn Logan as liaison and idea-generator. After some discussion, it was moved, seconded, and unanimously passed, that an appropriation in the amount of $2000 be authorized for the commissioning of a musical work in commemoration of the 50th Anniversary of the Association.

D. Legislation. A newsletter from Congressman Fred Richmond's office was circulated to the Board.

E. MLA Prize. The Board received a report from the Committee making suggestions for revision of categories. Epstein will ask Donald Thompson, chair, to draft guidelines for submission to the Board either now or at a meeting in the future.

E. Music Library Administration. Board members were reminded that by their silence they had given approval to the questionnaires submitted at the last board meeting [Board minutes, meeting in Los Angeles, November 4-5, 1978, p. 5, section X.A1].

F. Newsletter. [no report]

G. Proposed MLA-LC Committee. A written suggestion for a committee from Carolyn Hunter had been circulated to the Board by the President. It was moved, seconded, and unanimously passed, that the President be instructed to indicate that on the basis of the written proposal the Board feels that no clear need for the proposed committee has been demonstrated.
G. Public Library Committee. [see also V.A above] Epstein circulated a letter to the Board from Ida's Reed commending recent efforts on behalf of public librarians.

[At this point, the meeting of February 5 was adjourned at 6:05 PM. The Board reconvened at 9:35 AM on February 6; items reopened for discussion and action at that time have been incorporated in these minutes under the appropriate headings.]

H. Publications. Epstein reported that as specified in her letter of January 9 to members of the Board, she has assumed Board approval for the publication of Alison Hall, Index ad opera omnia Palestinae, and has informed the Publications Committee.

1. DaCapo -- Earlier American Music. Correspondence between Epstein and Bea Freedland, Executive Editor of DaCapo Press, had been circulated to the Board. The intent in modifying the royalty agreement was that royalties assigned to H. Wiley Hitchcock may be reassigned to the actual editor of the individual volumes, with no diminution of MLA's royalties. Hitchcock remains general editor of the series, with Freedland assuming responsibilities only in the area of production. Shirley Emanuel will investigate the contractual arrangements further with Ruth Hilton, Treasurer of the Association at the time a memorandum of agreement was signed on March 18, 1970.

2. Garlan: Publishing series. Epstein had circulated to the Board copies of a letter from Lawrence Davidow, Acquisitions Editor at Garland Press, and her response. Walter Gerboth is investigating the possibilities of establishing a bibliographic series.

IX. Notes.

William McClellan, Editor, and Harold J. Diamond, Advertising Editor, joined the Board for this discussion. Edwards Brothers still remains competitive in terms of price, and it has now assumed the responsibility of mailing the issues. Susan Sommer is the new Book Review Editor, and Gordon S. Rowley will prepare RILM Abstracts material from Notes. The directions to contributors are being revised currently. Notes receives 12-14 unsolicited articles per year on average, and 30%-40% of these are eventually published. It would like to receive more material on discography. McClellan summarized the article content of the March and June issues.

Diamond provided verbal amplification to his memorandum of January 26, previously distributed to the Board, recommending an increase in advertising rates: covers, $160; full page, $145; half page, $85; quarter page, $52.50. It was moved, seconded, and unanimously passed, that this rate structure be accepted, except that the rate for covers be made $200 instead of the proposed $160.

X. Meeting with chapter representatives.

The Board was joined by the following chapter representatives: Arne Arneson, Mountain-Plains; Stephen M. Fry, Southern California; Marion Korda, Midwest; Pamela G. Massey, Mountain-Plains; Donna Mendro, Texas; Robert Parks, New York/Ontario; Ned Quist, Chesapeake; Karl van Ausdal, Greater New York; Dean Vanderwall, Pacific Northwest; Ann Viles, Pennsylvania; and Marlene Wong, Northern California. [Kathryn P. Logan and William J. Weichlein were absent during this part of the meeting.]

Chapter newsletters. Some discussion was held; in the interests of communication, chapters were encouraged to send their newsletters to board members.

Archives. Texas and Mountain-Plains are among the chapters that keep archives. It would be interesting to chronicle individual members' activities.

Projects. Greater New York Chapter intends to publish a directory of music research sources in metropolitan New York. The chapter also presented a panel discussion on sound recordings for the New York Library Association meetings in November. Pennsylvania and Mountain-Plains are working on
union lists of reference books cited in Duckles. Northern California is updating a union list of periodicals. Southern California is revising a list of holdings of libraries in Southern California, the University of California, and the California State College and University system; it also projects a union list of recordings in Southern California.

Chapters were encouraged to give more than a few days' advance notice to the Past President, who will make an effort to attend as many chapter meetings as is feasible. The new business office in Philadelphia will be willing to send copies of chapter meeting notices to other chapter chairs if requested.

XI. Future Board meetings.
A tentative MLA calendar, 1979-80, was distributed. It was agreed that the next meeting of the Board would take place in Philadelphia, either on June 1-2 or June 2-3, depending on a professional commitment of the Recording Secretary. [The matter has now been resolved, and the meeting will be held June 1-2.]

XII. Appointment of Treasurer and Executive Secretary.
In the absence of both, it was moved, seconded, and passed (7 in favor, 0 against, 2 abstentions) that the Treasurer and Executive Secretary be appointed to their respective offices for another year.

XIII. New business.
A. Copyright Office. Epstein will ask Carolyn Hunter for a written proposal for an MLA Copyright Committee.
B. IRS attitude toward MLA officers' tax deductions. One of the past presidents of the Association has had certain travel expenses queried during a recent audit of a personal tax return by the Internal Revenue Service.
C. Board policy regarding officers' recommendation of individuals. After discussion, it was moved, seconded, and passed (8 in favor, 0 against, 1 abstention) that as a matter of policy, no MLA officer is authorized to speak on behalf of MLA or as an officer of the Association in making recommendations for a specific position. It is recognized that members of the Association retain the right to respond to enquiries as private individuals or in their own professional capacities.

It was further agreed that this statement of policy supersedes the statement passed by the Board in 1977. [Board minutes, meeting in Evanston, Illinois, November 11-12, 1977, p. 8, section XIII.A].
D. Proposal for a Reference/Public Service Committee. Basart distributed a written proposal for such a committee, setting a number of possible purposes. In the discussion, mention was made of the considerable impact of technological advances and administrative decisions on public services. It was agreed that this matter should receive further consideration at a future board meeting, and members were encouraged to communicate informally with Basart in the meantime.

The meeting was adjourned.

Respectfully submitted,

George R. Hill
Recording Secretary