MUSIC LIBRARY ASSOCIATION

Minutes of the Meeting of the Board of Directors

Philadelphia, Pennsylvania
June 1-2, 1979

Friday, June 1: 9:30 AM-5:30 PM; Saturday, June 2: 8:30-11:35 AM.


I. Reports of officers.
A. Recording Secretary's report. George R. Hill.

1. Minutes of the New Orleans board meeting. It was moved, seconded, and unanimously passed, that the minutes of the previous meeting in New Orleans be approved with the following corrections:

p. 1, section IV.B, l. 2-3 change to: "Skinner has agreed to"

p. 2, section V.C Instead of paragraph 1, read the following: "MLA is now registered in 6 sections instead of 5: previous registrations in Mechanization and Statistics have been dropped, Bibliography (1), Cataloguing (2) and Library Schools and Other Training Aspects (3) have been retained, and Public Libraries (4), University and Other Research Libraries (5), and Conservation (6) have been added. IAML is also registered in Sections (1) through (4), and since members of the standing committees must be nominated by at least two registered IFLA members it was recommended that the two music library associations coordinate their nominations to strengthen the chances of the election of a music librarian to each committee. Nominations have been invited for additional members of the Bibliography standing committee and it was decided to nominate Calderini who had been sitting as a non-voting observer on the committee having been nominated by only one member (IAML). Other currently non-voting observers (also IAML nominees) in sections (2) through (4) respectively are Heinz Lanzke (FRG), Don Roberts (USA) and Eric Cooper (UK). FLA dues, already committed, should be paid immediately."

p. 5, section X, l. 5 insert: "Marian Ritter for" before Dean Vanderwall

2. Minutes of the New Orleans business meeting. Copies were distributed to the board with a request for corrections. If none are received, these minutes will be forwarded to the local arrangements chair in time for duplication for the San Antonio meeting.

B. Treasurer's report. Shirley Emanuel.

At the end of the first quarter, March 31, the Association shows balances about $5000 higher than on the same date last year. There are at present 2 checking accounts: Central Penn in Philadelphia (balance $9657) and in Ann Arbor (balance $2603). This latter will be closed in the near future. Emanuel distributed the 1st quarter 1979 financial report to the board.
C. Administrative Secretary. Brent H. Farber.

The move of the business office from Ann Arbor has been completed. Farber introduced Kathy Macfarland, his assistant for MLA, and reported that Sarah Shiffert, daughter of his partner, will be joining Multiservice Management and will be additional backup for MLA matters. A card informing correspondents of the new address is being sent in all outgoing mail.

Cl. Executive Secretary. William J. Weichlein.

The business office moved from Ann Arbor on March 5. Weichlein has made 2 trips to Philadelphia: once in March, and once in April. The move was done during a period of low activity. The first subscriber billing normally goes into the mail in July; the first member billing, in August. Weichlein has sent out approximately 200 change of address notices.

Some office equipment remained in the Ann Arbor office after the move. It was moved, seconded, and unanimously passed, that the proposal of the Executive Secretary and Treasurer concerning disposition of this property, as documented on an inventory dated January 21, 1974, be accepted.

Weichlein distributed copies of the Growth Index, 1965-79. There has been a substantial drop (approximately 400) in membership in June 1979 as compared with January. This indicates that a smaller number of those dropped for nonpayment of dues are eventually renewing membership. It was the consensus of the board that a followup letter should be sent to former members.

D. Convention Manager. William J. Weichlein.

New Orleans, 1979. The profit showing on the books at the moment is $1255.26; this may be somewhat smaller after the last expenses have been settled.

San Antonio, February 25-March 1, 1980. Weichlein is going to San Antonio next month to work out arrangements with the hotel and Vicki Skinner, local arrangements chair. We anticipate having a much larger exhibit space than was available in New Orleans.

New Haven, February 10-14, 1981. A program chair is needed, and Watanabe will contact Harold Samuel about this need.

Washington, DC, 1983. There is the possibility that the Library of Congress will host IAML and IASA in 1983 or 1984. It was the sense of the board after discussion that it is probably not a good idea to have back-to-back meetings or joint meetings with MLA.

E. Past-President's report. Dena J. Epstein.

Epstein reported writing to chapter chairs on May 16 soliciting items for the board meeting. She has been less able to visit chapter meetings than she had hoped, but received a report from Mary Ashe of a meeting Ashe attended of the Pacific Northwest Chapter on April 20 in Bellingham, Washington. Board members were encouraged to attend as many chapter meetings as is physically possible. Note was taken of the 16-page published history of the Midwest Chapter by Betty Olmstead.

As our liaison with the American Library Association, Epstein reported that she would be attending ALA in Dallas. She has been designated one of the participants in the AAGC-2 pre-conference. She will also attend as many sessions as possible to represent MLA interests. MLA will participate in 2 sessions for the Public Library Association in Dallas.

F. President's report. Ruth Watanabe.

Watanabe distributed copies of an article on the New Orleans meeting from Library Journal, May 15, 1979, pp. 1101-02, and a review from the Wilson Library Bulletin, April 1979, p. 585, of the Basic Music Library list. She stated that
in her view the Association is on the verge of making dramatic advances, and that the work of the former Goals and Objectives Committee [summarized in Notes, September 1975, pp. 15-30] was beginning to come to fruition in many significant ways.

II. Reports of Committees.


Newson reported a checklist of issues potentially involving appropriations of funds. Disposition of motions presented to the board are given here for the sake of compactness.

1. It was moved, seconded, and passed, that a supplemental appropriation of $500 be allowed for the President's Discretionary Fund. This fund has been set at $500 annually since it was instituted, and has been used mainly for various travel expenses.

2. In recent years, the dues structure has been modified approximately every other year. The Budget Committee will probably discuss this matter and report at the next board meeting.

3. Publications. The estimated $2,500 cost overrun reported by Linda Solow in her report on Fuld/Davidson, 18th-Century American Secular Music Manuscripts, should have no adverse effect on the budget.

4. CNLIA. [For board action, see II.C below.]

5. RILM request for funds. [See IV.C below.]

6. Newsletter. It was moved, seconded, and unanimously passed, that $306 be appropriated to fund Suzanne Perlongo's travel and hotel expenses to attend a conference of library newsletter editors in Dallas, with the proviso that she submit a written report of the meeting to the board and that a copy of the guidelines be put into the files for future newsletter editors.

7. OCLC Music Users Group. No action was taken.

8. Anniversary celebration. [See VI.A below.]

E. Administration.

Questionnaires will be mailed to arrive approximately September 15, according to current committee thinking. The board was informed of the projected timetable, and no objection was raised.

C. Cataloging and Classification.

The board had received copies of correspondence from Theodore Wiener of CNLIA bearing dates of May 21 and March 28 concerning the ad-hoc committee for liaison with ALA and eventual revision of AACR-2, and from Don Seibert bearing dates of February 28 and April 6. [See also III.A below.]

Also previously circulated was a letter of April 8 from Seibert to Watanabe proposing a new subcommittee of the Cataloging and Classification Committee to explore subject headings. It was moved, seconded, and unanimously passed, that the board wishes a more specific statement of the purposes of the proposed subcommittee before it takes action.

D. Education.

A proposed questionnaire was circulated to the board for approval prior to being sent to 67 library schools; completed forms are to be returned to Susan Sonnet. It was moved, seconded, and unanimously passed, that the questionnaire be approved in an amended form to include a question 6: "Are there music courses on the campus, and if so, can they be credited toward the library degree", and to change "MIS" to "master's degree" in question 3.

It was moved, seconded, and unanimously passed, that the preliminary plans for the AACR-2 workshop to be held in San Antonio on February 25 or 26, 1980, as submitted by the Education Committee on April 27, 1979, be approved.
It was moved, seconded, and unanimously passed, that non-members of the Association be charged 50% more than members for this workshop.

In a related action, it was moved, seconded, and unanimously passed, that MLA support travel expenses for Dena Epstein to Dallas, and travel, overnight expenses, and registration for Judy Wiedow, contingent on the approval of the AACR-2 San Antonio budget. It was the intent of the board that Wiedow's support come from the tentative budget submitted by the Education Committee for the San Antonio workshop.

E. Joint Committee on the Union List of Serials.
Watanabe summarized a letter of May 9 from Wilma Reid Cipolla, informing her that perhaps there is no chair of the joint committee at this point, since possibly Hans Weber has resigned. Epstein will investigate and communicate with Cipolla.

F. Publications.
The board received a report from Linda Solow, chair, dated April 30, with supporting documents. Actions taken refer to section 2 of her report:

A. It was moved, seconded, and unanimously passed, that the questionnaires submitted for use in preparing the 4th edition of A Checklist of Music Bibliographies (In Progress and Unpublished) be approved.
B. It was moved, seconded, and passed (5 in favor, 3 against, 1 abstention) that the revised draft "Manuscript Acceptance Policy" for MLA publications other than contributions to Notes be approved.
C. Fuld/Davidson, 19th-Century American Secular Music Manuscripts was approved for publication by the board more than 5 years ago; in its revised version it was passed by the Publications Committee in New Orleans.
D. Editors of individual publications. It was felt that board action was not necessary to allow for appropriate credit to be given in the publication, since the editor or main contributor's name would appear in any case.
E. and F. The business office will see to the distribution of the requested documents.

G. Other: Constitution Revision Committee.
It was the sense of the board that the committee should study the present constitution and administrative structure, but that no other action on the part of the committee was indicated until charged by the board. It was widely recognized that the business office operations will require a period of settling in before structural changes in the administrative organization can be considered.

III. Reports of Joint Committees.

A. CNILIA (Council of National Library and Information Associations).
[See also II.C above.] A copy of the 1979 LC Information Bulletin, page 146, summarizing the January 6 meeting of the specialist library associations to set up the ad-hoc joint committee, had been circulated to the board. Melva Peterson, substituting for Susan Sommer, attended a meeting of CNILIA in May at which the proposal for a cataloging joint committee was accepted.

B. IFLA (International Federation of Library Associations).
IFLA has imposed higher dues for United States association members, and MLA has supported the ALA protest of instant dues increases. Watanabe
has signed a form nominating Maria Calderisi to the Bibliography Section, and Calderisi has been notified that she has been elected to membership. Clara Steuermann will continue to represent MLA at IFLA.


On May 11, Melva Peterson convened a meeting of the committee in New York. Other MLA representatives were Ruth Watanabe, Walter Gerboth, and Neil Ratliff; MPA representatives were Carolyn Hunter, BernardKalban, and Frank Moore. Ratliff and Kalban will serve as a subcommittee on music publishers catalog. The US agency list has been expanded to 193 publishers and will be mailed by MPA to MLA members, together with a copyright booklet. A version of the agency list is due to appear in the June issue of Notes. Carolyn Hunter will be convener of the next meeting.

IV. Proposals for board action.

A. Notes/ISI.

It was moved, seconded, and unanimously passed, that the shift in Notes honoraria proposed in the report from William McClellan of May 17, 1979, be approved. [The honoraria thus approved are as follows: Editor, $1200; Advertising Editor, $1200; Assistant Editor, $600; Editorial Assistant, $600.] No action was taken on a letter received from the Institute for Scientific Information proposing an Original Article Tear Sheet Service (OATS) as part of its Current Contents/Arts & Humanities "current awareness tool."

B. SLA (Special Libraries Association).

A letter dated March 5, 1979, was received from SLA informing us of its position with regard to the establishment of a national library agency. The letter urges proceeding with caution.

C. RILM.

A letter from Barry S. Brook dated March 26 and appealing for funds was circulated to the board. After considerable discussion, the consensus was that the President should call Brook and request considerably more detailed financial information so that the board can make a rational decision.

D. Newsletter.

A proposal from Suzanne Perlongo, editor, dated April 15, 1979, that the Association provide partial funding of attendance at a workshop for library newsletter editors was received. The favorable action is reported in II.A.6 of these minutes.

E. OCLC Music Users Group.

A letter from OCLC Ruth of April 30 was circulated to the board, and some discussion was held of the preliminary suggestions advanced. It was felt that more information was needed before proposals could be entertained, and that it would be worth determining what the Law OCLC and Medical OCLC groups were like. Perhaps a relationship on the level of joint committees or representatives exchanging information could be pursued in the future.

V. Other old business.

Ann Fasert distributed a sheet asking "Does the MLA need an interest group or subcommittee on public services and reference?" for comments and reactions. After some favorable discussion, it was moved, seconded, and unanimously passed, that Fasert be authorized to constitute an interest group in public services and reference and report to the board at its next meeting.
VI. New business.

A. Anniversary celebration.

The committee had circulated documents dated May 7 from Jean Geil and April 3 from Kathie Logan to the board, and Don Leavitt further explained the thinking of the committee and made a number of suggestions for possible board action. The actions were taken on Saturday; in order to clarify the minutes, the discussion and actions have been organized topically.

1. In arranging for a new musical work, the committee recommended that a work be commissioned rather than seeking to organize a contest. It was recommended that a comparatively modest commission be offered to a composer considered likely to deliver the work on time. It was moved, seconded, and unanimously passed, that a commission be offered to Miriam Gideon to write a chamber work of approximately 10-15 minutes' duration, for a fee of $2500 plus expenses of up to $500 for the preparation of the score and parts for performance. Arthur Weiherberg and a group of students at Yale would probably perform the work, and it is hoped that the good offices of MLA might be of assistance in procuring a recording (possibly on CRI). If such a possibility were to materialize, it might be feasible to obtain a grant to assist in the expenses of performance and recording, which might come to $6000-$7000, from the National Endowment for the Arts. Leavitt was authorized to contact Miriam Gideon to offer the commission.

2. The committee recommended that as many activities as possible at the 1981 New Haven meetings be tied to the year 1931.

3. The committee has expended $300, and an artist has produced 3 designs for a new MLA logo. It was moved, seconded, and passed (5 in favor, 2 against, 1 abstention) to adopt design numbered 1 for the discussion. It was moved, seconded, and passed (7 in favor, 1 abstention) to expend $200 to adapt the logo to stationery, envelopes, etc.

4. The artist who designed the logo also does hand-made mugs, and would be willing to produce any number of these in calendar year 1979 with the MLA logo at $4.50 each. It was moved, seconded, and passed, that the board decline to further entertain this possibility. The possibility of a wall plaque made of pottery was also met with a show of indifference.

B. Reactivating Committee on American Music.

Karen McNerney Famera on April 9 wrote Watenabe suggesting that the Committee on American Music be reconstituted. It was the consensus of the board that she should be encouraged to provide information about the state of American music and libraries and propose specific projects for board consideration.

C. Other.

1. Martin Silver submitted an item from ARL Newsletter 96 (April 1979) dealing with proposed tax law revision concerning manuscript donations to libraries. The board suggested that the President write to Silver suggesting that the matter be submitted to the Newsletter for possible publication there.

2. It was moved, seconded, and passed (5 in favor, 3 against) that an appropriation of up to $150 each for travel expenses be allowed to Frederick D. Geissler and Frederic Goosens, 2 of the participants in the MLA/MPA joint session in New Orleans.

3. It was moved, seconded, and unanimously passed, that the business office be authorized to produce an alphabetical membership list to be mailed to the membership by September, and that Brent Farber be requested to make recommendations for future lists at the next board meeting.
4. Epstein will write to chapters inquiring when and if they want mailing labels.

5. The Treasurer requested that the following paragraph from a document dated October 2, 1976, be inserted in these minutes as official board policy:

"The prize for the best book-length bibliography or other research tool in music will be a check for $75.00 and a letter of commendation from the President of MLA. The prize for the best article-length bibliography or article about music librarianship will be a check for $50.00 and a letter of commendation from the President of MLA. The prize for the best review of a book or score appearing in Notes will be $25.00 and a letter of commendation from the President of MLA."

It was moved, seconded, and unanimously passed, that this be done.

VII. Announcements.

A. Mary Ashe, also a member of the board of the Theatre Library Association, announced that they are thinking of changing their name to Performing Arts Library Association or Theatre Arts Library Association. Board comment indicated that the second of the names would be preferable, thus avoiding a possible ambiguity with MLA in terms of scope.

B. A vote of thanks was tendered to Brent Farber and his staff for their fine hospitality.

VIII. Date and place of the next meeting.

It was agreed that the Finance Committee would meet September 28-29, and the board September 30-October 1, near the airport in Chicago. It was understood that it would be possible to conclude business by 5 PM on October 1.

The meeting was adjourned.

Respectfully submitted,

George R. Hill
Recording Secretary