



**SELA Board Meeting
December 7, 2020
Via Zoom
1:00 p.m. CST**

MINUTES

Tim Dodge called the meeting to order at 1:02 p.m. CST. In attendance were: Tim Dodge, Melissa Dennis, Crystal Gates, Bev James, Linda Harris, Gordon Baker, Emily Rozario, Vicki Gregory, Ben Carter, Cindy Cline, Ashley Dees, Gerald Holmes, Greg Grunow, Nacole Adams, Bill McRee, Laura Slavin, Kristin Rogers, Muriel Nero, Sharon Holderman, Kate Engelbrecht, Beth Anderson, Courtney Hicks, Becky Bickford, Bonnie Thornton, Wanda Brown, Natalie Logue, Bernadette Johnson, John Siegel, Rebecca Rose, Preston Salisbury, Perry Bratcher

Motion Bill McRee, second Vicki Gregory to approve the Minutes of October 5, 2020. Motion carried unanimously.

Tim Dodge gave the President's report. Tim participated in SELA Night (October 7) introducing keynote speaker, Wanda Brown, American Library Association President, and served as one of four presenters for "A Look Back at the Presidents of SELA: Leaders from Georgia and Other Southeastern States" on October 9. (Other speakers were Linda Harris, Gordon Baker, and Camille McCutcheon). Tim also presented two SELA Awards: Hal Mendelsohn Award to Melissa Dennis and Past-President's Award to Linda Harris recognizing the six years' total service the office includes. Administrative Services Coordinator Gordon Baker was kind enough to produce 73 certificates of appreciation and coordinate the awards. Because of time constraints at SELA Night, the actual presentation of these certificates were sent by email.

Tim participated in the Signal Mountain SELA Centennial event scheduled for November 12 at the Alexian Village at the very spot where what became SELA was established. Tim continues to serve as an active member of this *ad hoc* committee chaired by Camille McCutcheon working on various projects including plans for interviewing Long Term and Honorary SELA members, Directors/Coordinators of SELA Administrative Services, and others and more.

SELA Administrative Services Coordinator provided Tim with a list of donors to the SELA Centennial Club. Tim provided acknowledgments via e-mail to 39 donors (note: a few were donors who made more than one donation).

Tim has been working on leadership positions since the Summer. The most recent confirmations are as follows:

- a) **African American Issues Round Table:** Wanda Kay Brown will serve as Chair 2021-2022.
- b) **Resources and Technical Services Section:** Bonnie Thornton (current Chair) will serve again as Chair 2021-2022.
- c) **Trustees and Friends of Libraries Section:** Gordon Baker (who took over from Rita Spisak after her retirement) will serve again as Chair 2021-2022.
- d) **School and Children's Librarian Section:** Shannan Hicks will serve as Chair 2021-2022.
- e) **Circulation and Reserves Round Table:** Natalie Logue will continue until round table elects a new Chair.

Due to an unexpected vacancy, there was a need for a new Virginia Representative. Gregg Grunow was elected on November 18 to serve as the new Virginia State Representative. Cindy Cline's term is expiring, so after securing two nominees, Nancy Richey was elected on December 3 to serve as the new Kentucky State Representative. Vicki Gregory's term is expiring, and she will soon be assuming new responsibilities as SELA Treasurer. Mohamed Berray was elected on December 2 to serve as the new Florida State Representative. The terms for the two Louisiana representatives, Sarah Simms and Hayley Johnson, are ending. Ms. Simms advised that the Louisiana Library Association is likely to fill the vacancy early in 2021.

Tim approved various check requests.

Melissa Dennis gave the President-Elect's report. She gave a big shout out THANK YOU to everyone who participated in the SELA/GLC 2020 virtual conference. Everyone still has access to sessions until the end of the year if you haven't had time to watch all the videos, please do so as it was a lot of fun. Thanks to the Centennial Committee for planning a Centennial Event at Signal Mountain and to Gordon for setting us up to watch virtually on Zoom. The video is on our Youtube page but has not yet been captioned (still working on that!). Because of the pandemic not leaving us anytime soon, the NCLA Conference Committee is planning on hosting a virtual joint conference for next October. Their team has been considering many variables and I applaud their effort to plan early and meet often. We will be discussing this more at our first SELA board meeting in 2021. Also, the North Carolina Leadership Institute was postponed because of COVID, and instead of having a virtual retreat sometime next year, they have decided to wait until 2022 to host an in-person retreat. I also want to thank the new Committee Chairs for SELA Leadership 2021:

Awards Chair Gordon Baker

Awards - Charles Beard Chair Lorene Flanders

Awards- Honorary Membership Chair Camille McCutcheon

Awards - Outstanding Author Chair Nacole Adams

Awards - Outstanding Library Program Chair Linda Harris

Awards - Resolutions Chair Bill McRee

Awards - Rothrock Chair Kate Engelbretch

Awards - Southern Books Competition Chair Peggy Kain

Budget Chair Vicki Gregory

Conference Chair Crystal Gates

Constitution & Handbook Chair Camille McCutcheon

Continuing Education & Staff Development Chair Muriel Nero

Intellectual Freedom Chair Lynne Lambdin

Legislative Chair Wil'Lani Turner

Listserv Chair Kelly Young

Membership Chair Kate Engelbretch and Rachelle Moore

Mentoring Chair Sarah Mangrum

Nominating Chair Tim Dodge

Planning Chair Tim Dodge

Public Relations & Marketing Chair Hali Black

The Southeastern Librarian Editor Ashley Dees

Website Chair Michael Hooper and Gina Garber

I am looking forward to serving SELA with you next year!

Gordon Baker gave the Administrative Services report. He performed routine database maintenance, continued working on honorary members, and scheduled to remove deceased honorary members from the active member list prior to 2021. He has sent renewal notices for November and December, processed memberships, and compiled the report for the Board. He has responded to emails received or forwarded to appropriate members of the Board. He has continued to update the SELA Leadership Directory. Gordon attended the GLC/SELA Planning Meeting on October 7, 2020, and the Wrap-Up Meeting on October 14, 2020.

At the end of December, the transfer of Southern Books Competition Books from the University of Kentucky to Valdosta State University will be completed. A total of 28 boxes have been shipped. The sale of Centennial T-Shirts is complete, with 124 shirts sold, and \$834.87 raised. The misprinted shirts were replaced free of charge by the company.

Gordon coordinated the Centennial Celebration in Signal Mountain, TN, November 12, 2020. Attending: Vicki Gregory and her husband, Gordon Baker and Tom Lewis, Stephanie Adams, Tim Dodge, Camille McCutcheon, Jim Ward, Karin Glendenning (local librarian), and Mayor Dan Landrum. Special thanks to Dawn Saylor at the Alexian Village for allowing the Celebration to take place on the original site. Special thanks also to Sarah Salley at Pruetts' Signal Mountain Market for creating the Centennial Stack of Cookies for the refreshments.

Gordon managed the zoom account for many meetings throughout October and November, with more scheduled in the coming months.

Bev James submitted the Treasurer's report, a copy of which was provided to attendees.

Ashley Dees submitted the Editor's report. The winter issue is in-progress. The deadline for news contributions is February 1, 2021. The fall 2020 68(3) issue has been published and contained two research articles and 12 book reviews. Thank you to all of the board members who sent mask photos for the cover of the fall issue. Kennesaw repository downloads of SELn articles: October 2020- 1021; November 2020- 1229; and December 2020- 413.

State Representative Reports are as follows:

Alabama – Chris Shaffer, Alabama is planning for a virtual 2021 conference in late April. An in-person conference is scheduled for April, 2022.

Arkansas - Emily Rozario, no report.

Florida – Vicki Gregory, no report.

Georgia – Ben Carter, no report.

Kentucky – Cindy Cline, no report.

Louisiana – Sarah and Hayley, no report.

Mississippi – Ashley Dees, no report.

North Carolina – Gerald Holmes, no report.

South Carolina – Doris Felder, They had a successful virtual conference.

Tennessee – Stephanie Adams, The TLA Advisory Council and Executive Board met virtually on September 19, 2020. I attended the Advisory Council meeting. The Council discussed and decided to continue financial support for the Freedom to Read Foundation upon approval by the Executive Board. The Diversity & Inclusion Committee is working on an Equity, Diversity, and Inclusion LibGuide that will be hosted by the Chattanooga State Community College library. The LibGuide will be accessible to the TLA membership and will offer resources for librarians and library staff. The TLA 2021 Conference theme is "Tell Your Story: Shifting Perspectives." The conference is scheduled for April 6-8 at the Memphis Hilton. The hope is to hold the conference in-person, but TLA is planning virtual options if they turn out to be necessary. The deadline for program proposal submissions closed on November 22. The traveling exhibit entitled To Make Our Voice Heard: Tennessee Women's Fight for

the Vote was created by a partnership between the Tennessee State Museum and the Tennessee State Library and Archives. It is currently on display at the South Cheatham County Public Library in Kingston Springs through the end of the month. Tennessee's vote to ratify the 19th Amendment in 1920 is especially significant as it made Tennessee the 36th state to do so, which clinched the amendment's passage. The next TLA Advisory Council and Executive Board meetings are scheduled for December 18, 2020 and will be held virtually.

Virginia – Greg Grunow, no report.

West Virginia – David Owens, no report.

Committee Chair Reports are as follows:

Awards – Vicki Gregory, Thanks everyone for participating in the Award presentation and also thanked all of those who served on the committee.

- Honorary Memberships, Camille McCutcheon, no report.
- Outstanding Author, Nacole Adams, The Outstanding Southeastern Author Award for Non-fiction was presented via video to Kiese Laymon, author of *Heavy: An American Memoir*. Kiese gave a heartfelt speech, in which he expressed how very thankful and honored he was to receive the award. The Outstanding Southeastern Author Award for Fiction was presented via video to Angie Thomas, author of *The Hate U Give*. The author was unable to attend the conference due to a prior commitment.
- Outstanding Library Program, Bill McRee, Outstanding programs were submitted, and the decision for a winner was difficult.
- Southern Books Competition, Peggy Kain, no report.
- Rothrock Award, Sharon Parente, no report.

Joint Conference - Melissa Dennis, no report.

Continuing Education & Staff Development- Laura Slavin, no report.

Budget – Bev James, no report.

Scholarship – Laura Slavin, Muriel Nero will be co-chairing with her next year, and they are already planning to review the scholarship rules for needed updates.

Constitution and Handbook – Camille McCutcheon, no report.

Public Relations and Marketing – Kristin Rogers, no report.

Resolutions - Bill McRee, Resolutions were presented at the recent conference. He shared thanks for those who worked on the committee.

Legislative – Faith Line, no report.

Section Chair Reports are as follows:

Library Education – Sharon Holderman, The advocacy effort to get SELA listed with all of the library science programs has been completed. Every school was contacted as of December 3rd, and the schools are willing to promote SELA. While most do not have a place to promote SELA online, they are willing to share the information when possible, including the possibility of SELA participating in an open house.

School/Children's Librarians – Wendy Stephens, no report.

Public Library – Kate Engelbrecht, no report. She shared that the NCLA board will vote in January on moving the 2021 Joint Conference to a virtual format.

Resources and Technical Services – Bonnie Thornton, She is looking for a co-chair; she will continue to serve as Chair.

Special Libraries – Nancy Richey, Members were contacted concerning voting for a new chair for this section. Joseph Shankweiler- Assistant Professor, Special Collections Catalog Librarian at WKU was elected as the new chair of the section. Joseph Shankweiler is the Special Collections Catalog Librarian for WKU Libraries. He is responsible for original cataloging, complex copy cataloging, and classification of monographs and continuing resources in a variety of formats in all subjects for the Kentucky Library Research Collections. Joseph earned his Master of Library Science Degree (MLS) from Indiana University, Bloomington, specializing in Rare Book and Manuscript Librarianship (2014). He also holds a Master of Arts in English Literature from James Madison

University (2012). Members will be contacted about upcoming events as needed. We have 14 members as of July 2019.

University & College Libraries – Muriel Nero, A new chair has been selected.

Reference & Public Services – Courtney Hicks, Held a discussion on November 6th for any and all librarians in the Southeast who worked at all in these departments. There were 19 people in attendance. The majority of the discussion surrounded distance learning, providing assistance at a distance, and what libraries can do within their Learning Management Systems. Sixteen attendees responded to a survey afterwards. Everyone wanted to continue these discussions and offered topics for future discussion.

Trustees & Friends – Gordon Baker, He reminded all section chairs and other leaders that the Zoom software is available for them to use to hold meetings, forums, etc.

Round Table Reports are as follows:

African American Issues – Wanda Brown, no report.

Circ/Reserves – Natalie Logue, They met in November, but had attendance due to staff shortages. She will remain as chair for 2021, Kent Snowden will serve as vice-chair for 2021. They are working on updating bylaws and plan to submit those to the board next year.

Electronic Resources – Laura Slavin, They met last Thursday. Kristin Rogers spoke about her latest research article. Five states were represented at the meeting. They plan to hold more events.

Gov Docs – Bernadette Johnson, Trellis Buckels will be taking over as chair.

New Members – Preston Salisbury, They will have a meeting tomorrow to discuss additional events.

Library Instruction - John Siegel, They will have a second coffee hour on December 17th. The first was well attended, and a reminder will be sent out to the listserv to remind everyone of the new date.

Ashley Dees reviewed her recommendation to move the journal to open access. All present discussed the proposal. Motion Laura Slavin, second Kristin Rogers to have *The Southeastern Librarian* become an open access journal. Motion carried unanimously.

Camille deserves much recognition for her work on the centennial celebration and Signal Mountain celebration. Gordon noted that we had great cooperation from the Signal Mountain Public Library Director, Karen _____. The celebration went well, and the Mayor of Signal Mountain gave SELA a proclamation. The Library Director and Mayor invited SELA to have a board meeting there in the future.

Camille wanted everyone to remember to submit annual reports of work done this biennium. She will send out a report form in the next few weeks.

Laura Slavin thanked Tim for his service. Tim thanked everyone for their efforts and assistance during his term.

The meeting was adjourned at 2:29 p.m. CST.