TMLA Business Meeting
Dallas, TX
Saturday, October 1, 2011, 10:00AM
Fairmont Hotel

Present: Cari Alexander, Donna Arnold, John Brower, Mary Brower, Katie Buehner, John Elfers, Bruce Evans, Maristella Feustle, Michelle Hahn, Bruce Hall, Jean Harden, Ralph Hartsock, Jon Haupt, Andrew Justice, Mark McKnight, Tina Murdock, Janelle West

1. Call to order: Tina Murdock called the meeting to order at 10:05 a.m.

2. The meeting was opened with introductions of each member present, followed by a question and answer session with MLA convention managers, Bonna Boettcher and Laura Gayle Green, who were on site for MLA convention business. The question of hotel parking was raised, and Bonna stated that the current contract with the Fairmont does not include parking, but she will follow up to see if it can be added. Tina suggested that parking might be included for local arrangements instead of a local arrangements room, so Bonna will also look into that possibility. It was mentioned that the LAZ lots can be confusing, and it would be a good idea to investigate the hours and rates of those lots. Bonna then addressed the topic of providing grab n' go meals, and the ensuing discussion led to the conclusion that it would be a good idea to have the Fairmont provide grab n' go breakfasts, but that there are enough viable lunch options near the hotel to forego grab n' go lunches. Finally, it was suggested that local arrangements investigate local liquor store options.

3. Committee reports: There were no committee reports.

4. Minutes approval: Minutes from the February meeting were approved.

5. Treasurers report (see Handout 1): Read and approved, with emphasis given to the chapter's recent donation of $1500 towards the LAC reception and/or banquet.

6. Excursions: Michelle Hahn gathered the notes taken by the excursion groups and will add them to the existing information on the convention website. After the excursion reports, Andrew Justice suggested that chapter members be identifiable at the national convention by wearing stickers, nametags or pins, and Tina suggested that we have t-shirts made to wear on at least the first day of the convention; the purpose being to let other conference attendees know that they can approach us for help and information. It was determined that the Dallas area chapter members will meet at least one more time before the national conference for more recon and to possibly work on video tours.

7. Summer survey results (see Handout 2): A top priority on the MLA national level is to increase membership. The results of the summer survey show that the Texas chapter members share that goal. In order to focus on this mission, chapter level recommendations include letting the databases project lie dormant for now, synthesizing the oral histories project into ongoing chapter operating processes rather than having an oral histories committee, offering free registration to first time chapter meeting attendees, and adding

workshops to chapter meetings. Tina pointed out that, especially in the public library realm, librarians have to work very hard to justify funding for and attendance to conferences, so the chapter needs to offer more substantive, justifiable sessions with practical, take-home benefits. Other recommendations include mentoring within the chapter, more variety of meeting locations, and more joint conferences with bordering chapters.

8. Outreach: Andrew spoke about MLA's concerns regarding outreach. MLA membership, and particularly institutional membership, has declined, and the board is interested in what changes need to be made. Consequently, they are urging local chapters to come up with ideas for increased membership, both nationally and locally. Andrew will mobilize our chapter's effort to identify and contact possible members; specific targets include library school students, music school students, and music professors. The national meeting in Dallas provides a unique opportunity for Texas chapter outreach, and Andrew suggested that we urge music faculty to attend at least one day of MLA. Other suggestions included offering travel grants, obtaining brochures and other publications from MLA to hand out, and producing giveaway items, such as post-it notes, bookmarks and pencils. Mark McKnight mentioned that in the future, offering sessions on how to structure a music research class might attract professors.

9. Institutional donations: So far, there has been little response to the institutional letters that were sent out, so Tina would like chapter members to approach their administrators about making institutional and/or personal donations.

10. Other national convention business: It has been suggested that instead of having a guest speaker we make a video welcome, which might include several local dignitaries. Tina informed us that admission to the LAC concert and reception in the Meyerson will be $20, and there will be a section reserved for us in the choral terrace. Tina also announce that there will be 3 tours available at MLA: 1) backstage tours of Winspear, Meyerson, and the Wylie Theater Center, 2) Dallas Public Library and 508 Park tour, and 3) the Organ Crawl, which will include organs at the Meyerson, Cathedral Guadalupe, and 1st Presbyterian.

11. 2012 fall meeting location: Tina called for a volunteer to explore non-traditional meeting locations—namely San Antonio—and Mary Brower responded to the call.

12. Elections: Nominees for Vice Chair/Chair Elect were Cari Alexander and John Brower. Ballots were distributed, and votes were counted by Bruce Evans, resulting in John Brower's election as Vice Chair/Chair Elect. Then Tina received a round of applause for her service as she turned the office of Chair over to Andrew Justice.

13. A motion to adjourn was made and seconded. The meeting was adjourned at 12:29 p.m.

Respectfully submitted,

Janelle West
Secretary/Treasurer, MLA-Texas Chapter

(HANDOUT 1)

TMLA Financial Report
2010/2011

Chase Account Summary

Beginning balance:	$4545.93
Disbursements:	- $1715.14
Deposits:	+ $596.59
Current balance:	**$3427.38**

Expenditures

$104.41—TLA booth costs
$26.95—New checks
$3.78—Office supplies
$1500—MLA for LAC reception/banquet
[$80.00—Chase service fees]

Income

$516.59--Membership renewals and 2011 meeting registration
[$80.00—Reimbursed Chase service fees]

(HANDOUT 2)

Survey Summary

Projects

1. Create/maintain chapter brochures, potential member databases, or other tools to help publicize TMLA and encourage others to join and participate.
2. Offer continuing education workshops that are a part of the national outreach efforts for non-specialists.
3. Whenever possible, exhibit at TLA or other venues, and/or undertake other events or projects to publicize the existence and benefits of our chapter.

   Discussion: oral histories, databases

Reaching new members

1. Provide free first-time attendees registration/membership.
2. Host pre-conference workshops to provide educational opportunities for non-specialists.
3. Tie:
   a. Have longer fall chapter meetings with more guest speakers or topics of immediacy.
   b. Take responsibility to contact 1-2 specific potential members in your area regularly, inviting them to attend, providing them information, and being an individual "host" to them (perhaps inviting them to carpool with you) at chapter meetings.

Changes to fall meetings

1. Hold chapter meetings in areas outside our "traditional" center of the state, perhaps where we do not have members.
2. Have longer fall chapter meetings with more guest speakers or topics of immediacy.

   Responses: programs of interest, promote carpools

Kinds of sessions

1. "Cutting-edge" sessions regarding new technologies member institutions are using.
2. Interdisciplinary sessions presented with local museums, archives, or music organizations, describing partnerships or music-related materials in non-member institutions.
3. Practical sessions related to the "how-to" of music librarianship, and members' own librarianship-specific research projects.
4. Information on specific collections and projects in members' libraries

Other comments

Outreach to non-music specific colleagues, beefing up programs