The minutes from the general meeting, April 14, 2018, were approved by voice.

Report of the Treasurer – Phillip Poplin

General receipts and funds were shown to the assembly. We confirmed that the IBL (Inquiry Based Learning) consortium fund has not been dispersed yet. Combined balances about $7150 for fall 2018 but that doesn’t include a $2000 Subvention Check we anticipate which should bring it up to about $9100.

Preregistered attendance was announced: 80 faculty members, 15 Project NeXT members, 19 undergraduate students, grand total of 125.

We saw graphs of total attendance for students and non-students: we’re up a little bit in non-students.

Question: are the number of contributed paper talks a little low? Program chair: there were 24 contributed paper talks, it’s usually higher in the spring.

Report of the Awards Committee – Ethan Duckworth

Ethan Duckworth read out the citation for Dan Kalman who won the Helen Christensen Service Award.

25 year and 50 year membership – Ethan Duckworth

Ethan Duckworth read out the certificates recognizing members who have been in the MAA for 25 and 15 years.

Report of the Representative to the MAA Congress – Jennifer Bergner

Jennifer plugged the next upcoming meeting (spring, at Hood College in Frederick Maryland).

She gave a recap of Mathfest 2018 in Denver. She gave a shoutout to Laura Taalman from our local section. There are videos that are available online of some of these talks. You have to login at the MAA (have to be a member), and look for “member video library.” (Tangentially related: as MAA members you can pay $5.99 a month and get access to the “Great Courses” online course videos).

Our USA team won first place at the International Math Olympiad.

Big announcement: Recent changes to the MAA bylaws have made the congress into more of a sounding board than the main decision makers. But, congress was not consulted about other recent changes to the “Joint Meetings,” namely that the MAA will no longer co-host them starting in 2022, they will be AMS only.

Q&A followed with questions about discounts at AMS meetings, reason for the change, etc. Responses ranged from looking into discounts, the MAA’s intention to focus on local sections, the continuing strength of the publishing arm.

Action Item: The secretary shall draft a letter to the MAA expressing our strong concern that the decision about the joint meetings was made without consulting congress and that in the future congress should be consulted about such decisions.

Reminder that the 2019 Joint Meetings are in Baltimore.
Report of the New Faculty Coordinator – Alex Meadows  Alex announced 7 new NeXT members for the class of 2020

Kristen Boyle  Longwood University
David Duncan  James Madison University
Carl Giuffre  St. Mary’s College of Maryland
Jeff Ledford  Longwood University
Sarah Loeb  Hampden-Sydney College
Emily Meehan  Gallaudet University
Samantha Stanton  Longwood University

Potential Reports from Other Executive Committee Members  No additional reports were presented except by Director of Communication, Tom Wears: if your department does not have a liaison, put your name down! Contact Tom or David Taylor.

Report of the Section Chair – David Taylor  David Taylor made a plug for the local liaison list; plugged the need to nominate people for the awards, and to be members of the awards committee.

Reminder that we have an upcoming election of new section representative (the new version of Governor). Contact Jennifer Bergner, John Hamman, or Leigh Lunsford to nominate yourself or someone else.

For other positions, the current Nominating Committee is Jennifer Bergner, Leigh Lunsford, Minah Oh. This general committee to fill/nominate the following positions (which will be coming up in the spring): Program Chair, Newsletter Editor, Webmaster, At-large Executive Committee.

Main Discussion: How to increase diversity and inclusion in our Section. Ideas are welcome, contact David or any other executive committee. We would love to have more: high school teachers, more teachers from 2 year colleges and universities, more professionals from business, industry, government, more from underrepresented groups.

Spring 2019: our section will be part of a pilot in having interpreters at our meeting to support hard of hearing and deaf students. Please welcome and thank the students and faculty from Gallaudet University, especially Emily Meehan and Jim Nickerson. Thanks to the MAA for supporting this, especially Deanna Haunsperger.

Open Discussion and New Business  John Hamman: moved to have the Secretary draft the Howard Penn letter, and certificate, in appreciation to the University of Mary Washington for hosting the meeting. The motion passed by voice.

Adjournment  Motion to adjourn, approved by voice at 1:50.

Submitted by:
W. Ethan Duckworth, Secretary, MD-DC-VA Section