MAA-MD-DC-VA Section
Minutes of the Executive Committee
Virginia State University, Petersburg, VA
April 16, 2010

Those attending the meeting were Dipa Choudhury, Jon Scott, David Shoenthal, John Hamman, Bud Brown, Dan Symancyk, Jan Minton, Dawit Haile, Cindia Stewart, Jennifer Bergner, Ann Stewart, Robert Sachs, Don Spickler.

1. Dipa Choudhury called the meeting to order.

2. The minutes of November 13, 2009 Executive Committee were approved with the following change: In 3.c., “We” was replaced by “The national MAA office”.

3. Jan Minton presented the Treasurer’s report. Dipa asked if we make the $2500 donation to Project NExT every year. The committee agreed to a suggestion by Bud Brown that the committee would make a decision on the donation each year.

4. Dipa reported that the Nominating Committee (Eve Torrance, Jon Scott, and Lee May) had completed its work. The committee has nominated Daniel Joseph to be Chair Elect, Don Spickler to be Webmaster, Robert Sachs to fill one at large position, and Ann Stewart to fill the at large position for Section Next.

5. It was decided that the section would give up to three books (in addition to the three taken care of by the national organization) to student helpers at section meetings at the discretion of the host institution.

6. It was decided that we would name the motion, directing the secretary to send a letter of thanks to the host institution, the Howard Penn motion as a tribute to the late Howard Penn whose meritorious service to the organization included his concern, expressed at every meeting that he attended, that the section send a letter of thanks to the host school. The committee asked the secretary to prepare a certificate to be called the Howard Penn Certificate of Appreciation that would be sent with the letter after each meeting.

7. The committee agreed that members celebrating 50 years in the MAA would be invited to attend all activities (registration, workshop, banquet, and lunch) related to the fall 2010 section meeting for free. The committee also decided that those celebrating 25 years in the MAA would be offered free registration for the fall 2010 section meeting. The money for the waivers will come from the Section Next account. During the summer the secretary will write to members achieving 50 and 25 years of membership as determined by the national office, invite them to the fall 2010 meeting, and inform them of the waiver of appropriate fees for that meeting. Dan will keep Jan informed so that only those who are eligible can use the waiver.

8. Relating to STEM workforce, Robert Sachs reported that the University System of Maryland (USM) has recently approved a 4th year of high school mathematics as an
entrance requirement. Rob will draft a proposal for sessions at the fall meeting bringing K-12, 2-year colleges, 4-year college, and universities together for discussions about adequate math preparation for college success.

9. Jon Scott reported that his work on the review of the by laws with Betty Mayfield was nearing completion. In response to a question he raised, there was consensus that a position of past program chair was not needed. He pointed out that the teaching award committee which in the past has been an ad hoc committee is now listed in the document as one of the section’s committees. He asked us to review his latest draft and get back to him within a month as the revision needs to be reviewed in the national office prior to coming to the section members for a vote in the fall.

10. As an ad hoc history committee, Jon Scott, Bud Brown, and Betty Mayfield will start to go through some old section documents this summer.

11. The fall 2010 meeting will be at George Mason University on November 5th and 6th. David Shoenthal spoke to the importance of the program chair having the dates of both the fall and spring meetings firmed up prior to the end of the academic year in order to line up featured speakers for the following year.

12. MAA will now host the section’s website. The new URL will be http://sections.maa.org/mdcva. The switch from our current URL will occur after this meeting. There will be a redirect from our current site and publicity will appear in the newsletter. We will not pay to keep our domain name after our rental of it expires in 2011.

13. The email sent by Michael Pearson just before the meeting about grants to increase participation of relatively new two year college faculty in section activities was discussed. Dipa and John Hamman will work on a proposal.

14. Dipa reviewed the agenda for the general membership meeting on April 17.

15. Dipa thanked David Shoenthal for his excellent work as program chair over the past two years. The committee added its applause.

16. The meeting was adjourned.