

**MD-DC-VA Section of MAA
Executive Committee Meeting Minutes
Frostburg State University, MD
April 28, 2017**

Attending: Ethan Duckworth, John Hamman, Brian Heinold, Brian Lins, Minah Oh, Edwin O’Shea, Phillip Poplin, David Taylor, Dina Yagodich.

John Hamman called the meeting to order.

A Wrong Turn and Previous Minutes The Secretary offered apologies for being late, owing to a wrong turn in West Virginia and the attendant corollaries of said wrong turn. The minutes from the Fall 2016 executive officers meeting were approved.

Substitute Representative needed for Mathfest 2017 Section Governor, Jennifer Bergner is unable to attend this meeting and Mathfest in Chicago in July. John Hamman will ask one of the former section governors to represent our section at Mathfest in Jennifer’s place.

“Section Historian” Officer Position There was a discussion on creating an officer position of “Section Historian.” It was agreed that while such a position would be appointed by the Section Chair, the Chair would still seek affirmation from the general membership at each appointment. It was agreed, as a general principle but not as a hard rule, that a natural candidate for “Section Historian” would be the previous Section Chair.

Revision of Bylaws and a Potential “Officers Retreat” David Taylor and John brought a first draft for the proposal to change the Bylaws with reference to the merging of the Awards Committees. With these bylaw changes in mind, there was a consensus among the officers that these “local” changes to the bylaws should be examined in the context of a more “global” analysis of the bylaws. For example, David Taylor pointed out that the description of roles and responsibilities of the section officers were written in 1994, the pre-internet era, and could benefit from being revisited.

A motion was made to read the bylaws in full within the next two months and to also examine the stated officer roles and responsibilities. The Secretary agreed to email the committee a reminder to study the bylaws and provide informal comments in the next two months.

The Secretary proposed that the officers meet for one day in summer, a retreat of sorts. This was positively received in principle but there were some practical concerns. Among these, raised by Brian Lins, was that such a meeting retreat would be rudderless without an agenda beyond reconfiguring bylaws. Another concern, raised by Minah Oh, is finding a common time for officers.

Election of New Officers David Taylor provided a printed report from the ad-hoc Nominating Committee that was established in Fall. Four positions are open on the executive: Program Chair Elect, Treasurer, Newsletter Editor, and At-Large Member. There are four members of the general membership who agree to be on the slate, one for each of the four open positions. Of course, that there are four candidates found by the ad-hoc committee does not preclude any member of the section from running themselves, or nominating someone else to run for the open officer positions.

The Election will be held at the general membership meeting.

Section NExT Dina Yagodich is concerned that not all previous “graduating” Section NExT Fellows received a gift from the section and will rectify this oversight.

Treasurer’s Report. The report from the Fall meeting appeared to have lower funds than usual but that was chiefly because the National MAA subvention check was late. Accounts are same level as one year ago, even with the \approx \$1,000 “Math Jeopardy” buzzer expenditure. Good news!

Pre-registration for this meeting are a little lower than last Spring’s Meeting. This might be owing to the confluence of the beautiful but slightly challenging location and, more pertinently, the timing of the meeting being very close to many institutions’ finals week. Of special note from the treasurer: there are more students than faculty registered for this meeting.

Plans for Upcoming Meetings. John Hamman reports that the Fall 2017 meeting will be hosted at Christopher Newport University on November 17-18, 2017. That’s the weekend before Thanksgiving.

Section Chair-Elect, David Taylor reports that Virginia Military Institute is a strong possibility for Spring, possibly co-hosting with Washington and Lee.

Purchasing of a brick at MAA’s Carriage House The officers propose that we ask the general membership to donate to a fund to purchase a brick at MAA’s Carriage House. The inscription would be dedicated to our recently deceased colleague and friend, Caren Diefenderfer. The cost of the brick is \$303. Any surplus monies would be transferred to our section’s Student Achievement Fund.

Program Chair on Meeting Logistics Minah Oh announces that this meeting will have a special AWM session for students, with one of tomorrow’s speakers, Alissa Crans hosting a workshop for students. In addition to the workshops and addresses, there are 36 contributed talks and 17 contributed posters.

John Hamman also added that the Fall meeting will once again have slots for graduate student talks

Meeting is officially adjourned.

Submitted by: Edwin O’Shea, Secretary, MD-DC-VA Section