

2018

Mississippi Historical Society Minutes of the Annual Business Meeting, March 3, 2018

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**MISSISSIPPI HISTORICAL SOCIETY
MINUTES OF THE ANNUAL
BUSINESS MEETING
MARCH 3, 2018**

The annual business meeting of the Mississippi Historical Society was held at 9:00 a.m. on Saturday, March 3, 2018, at the Two Mississippi Museums, Jackson, Mississippi. Susannah J. Ural, president, Mississippi Historical Society, called the meeting to order and presided.

Elbert R. Hilliard, secretary-treasurer, acted as secretary for the meeting. Timothy Davis, administrative technician, Mississippi Department of Archives and History (MDAH), recorded the minutes.

The following business was transacted:

I. The secretary-treasurer moved that the minutes of the March 4, 2017, annual business meeting of the Mississippi Historical Society be approved as distributed. The motion was seconded by Fred Miller and unanimously approved.

II. The secretary-treasurer presented for the information of the members the following financial report for the year ending December 31, 2017:

BANK BALANCES
As of December 31, 2017

Regions Bank

Heritage of Mississippi Series	31,386.36
Daily Interest Operating Account	

Trustmark National Bank

Certificate of Deposit	11,894.67
Due March 9, 2018 (0.45%)	
Certificate of Deposit	5,300.00
Due April 19, 2018 (0.45%)	

Certificate of Deposit	45,970.77
Life Membership Account	
Due March 26, 2018 (0.45%)	
Glover Moore Prize Fund	10,999.56
Certificate of Deposit	
Due March 8, 2018 (0.45%)	
Mississippi Historical Society	44,983.17
Daily Interest Operating Account	
Mississippi History NOW	15,001.48
Adine Lampton Wallace Endowment	
Certificate of Deposit	
Due March 24, 2018 (0.45%)	
Frank E. Everett, Jr., Award	3,729.47
Certificate of Deposit	
Due March 26, 2018 (0.45%)	
<u>BanCorpSouth Bank</u>	
Mississippi History NOW	3,090.49
Money Market Account	
<u>Origin Bank</u>	
Heritage of Mississippi Series	22,125.50
Money Market Account	
<u>Fidelity Investments</u>	
Elbert R. Hilliard Oral History Award	4,397.89
Halsell Prize Endowment	8,694.66
John K. Bettersworth Award Fund	4,556.35
William E. Atkinson Mississippi	
Civil War History Award Endowment	11,599.39
Heritage of Mississippi Series	2,526.17
MHS Operating Account	7,751.57
Fidelity Investment Total	39,526.04

TOTAL	234,007.51
Restricted	118,107.33
Unrestricted	115,900.18
Total	234,007.51

Operating Account
 Summary Report
 1/1/2017 through 12/31/2017

INCOME

Annual meeting - 2017	14,080.00
Annual meeting - 2018	
Contributions –	
2018 Annual meeting	2,000.00
Contributions – Teachers Workshop	
2018 Meeting	1,300.00
Registration fees -	165.00
Total annual meeting - 2018	3,465.00
Total annual meeting	17,545.00

Donations

Paypal Refund	0.67
Atkinson MS Civil War History Award	400.00
Bettsworth Award	560.12
Halsell Prize Endowment	200.00
Miscellaneous Contributions	355.00
Mississippi History Now	2,130.00
Total Donations	3,645.79
Interest earned	123.35
Membership	
College	105.00
Contributing	3,400.00
Corporate	2,100.00
Federation	500.00

Joint	2,135.00
Life - new life members	1,000.00
Patron	1,200.00
Single	10,020.00
Student	55.00
Supporting	1,350.00
Total membership	21,865.00
Transfers	
Bettsworth money market –	
To be transferred to fidelity	4,419.08
Atkinson money market –	
To be transferred to fidelity	11,249.94
Total transfers	15,669.02
TOTAL INCOME	58,848.16
EXPENSES	
Accounting Fees	1,500.00
Advertising	640.00
Annual Meeting Expenses	19,447.81
Atkinson Award Expense	400.00
Atkinson Award	
Transfer To Fidelity Account	11,249.94
Bank Charges	
Bank Box Rent	80.00
Bank Service Charge	38.40
Total Bank Charges	118.40
Bettsworth Award	616.29
Bettsworth Award CD Transfer	100.00
Bettsworth Award	
Transfer To Fidelity Account	4,419.08
ERH Oral History Award	
Transfer To Fidelity Account	4,252.78
Everett Award	300.00
Grant Awards	
Junior Historical Society	1,000.00
Total Grant Awards	1,000.00
Halsell Prize	200.00
Honoraria / History Is Lunch	350.00
Journal Of Mississippi History	3,891.86

Mclemore Prize	700.00
Membership Refund	25.00
Miscellaneous Expenses	72.74
Office Expenses	365.94
Paypal Fees	44.01
Postage	830.58
Transfer Mississippi History Now Donations	2,130.00
Website Expense	1,184.34
Willie D. Halsell Prize Endowment Transfer To Fidelity Account	8,407.78
TOTAL EXPENSES	62,246.55
2017 Net Income (Loss)	3,398.39
December 31, 2016 Account Balance Forward	48,381.56
December 31, 2017 Account Balance	44,983.17

Mississippi History NOW
Summary Report
1/1/2017 through 12/31/17

INCOME

Donations Transferred From MHS Operating Account	2,130.00
Donations Total Donations	2,905.00 5,035.00
Interest Earned	2.08
Mississippi Humanities Council Grant	3,000.00
MDAH Grant	10,000.00

TOTAL INCOME **18,037.08**

EXPENSES

Annual Meeting - MHN Award	44.42
Authors' Fees	1,250.00
Bank Service Charge	60.00
Lesson Plans	750.00
Professional Fees	13,750.00
Use Fees	100.00

TOTAL EXPENSES	15,954.42
2017 Net Income (Loss)	2,082.66
December 31, 2016 Account Balance Forward	1,007.83
December 31, 2017 Account Balance	3,090.49

The secretary-treasurer thanked Page Ogden, Fred Miller, Ann Simmons, Dale Shearer, William “Brother” Rogers, Robert Benson, and Marshall Bennett for their help with the Society’s investments and finances. Page Ogden gave a brief update on the implementation of the Society’s investment plan.

The secretary-treasurer thanked the employees of the Mississippi Department of Archives and History for all of the work that they do for the Society.

III. The president expressed her appreciation to the members of the Program Committee: Kevin Greene, chair; James F. Barnett, Jr., Toby Bates, Peggy W. Jeanes, Mary Carol Miller, Christian Pinnen, Ken P’Pool, Alysia Burton Steele, and Andrew Wiest for their outstanding work in planning and coordinating arrangements for the annual meeting program.

The president also expressed her appreciation to the members of the Local Arrangements Committee: Elizabeth Coleman, co-chair; Diane Mattox, co-chair; Marshall Bennett, Elbert Hilliard, Rita Johnson, Lolly Rash, William “Brother” Rogers, and Erica Speed for their outstanding work in planning and coordinating the annual meeting.

The president thanked the annual meeting sponsors: Marshall Bennett, Steven and Elizabeth Coleman, Elbert and Claire Hilliard, Natchez Historical Society, Fred Miller, Page Ogden, William “Brother” Rogers, Susannah Ural, the Dale Center for the Study of War and Society, the Center for the Study of the Gulf South, and the Center for Oral History and Cultural Heritage at the University of Southern Mississippi.

The president recognized and expressed appreciation for the following individuals who were completing their terms of service on the board of directors of the Society: Walt Grayson, Max Grivno, Andy Harper, Peggy Jeanes, Fred Miller, and Michael Vinson-Williams.

IV. Brother Rogers reported on the progress that is being made in addressing the backlog in the publication of the *Journal of Mississippi History*. He stated that there is an issue currently with the printer that should be mailed to the Society members by the end of March.

V. John Marszalek gave a brief update on the progress of the *Heritage of Mississippi Series*. Dr. Marszalek stated that Lori Fulton's book *Literature in Mississippi* was recently published. Dr. Marszalek stated that Connie Lester, Bo Morgan, Jere Nash, Clay Williams and Mike Bunn, Max Grivno, Charles Weeks, and Christian Pinnen are continuing to work on their respective volumes in the series. He informed the members that there are still three volumes that need an author: *Mississippi 1841 to 1861*, *Mississippi in the Jim Crow Era*, and *Mississippi in the Civil Rights Era*.

VI. Missy Jones, editor, *Mississippi History NOW*, reported on the status of *Mississippi History Now (MHN)*. Ms. Jones stated that she is working to secure the completion of the last two articles for the current publication season and that these articles will be published in March and April. Ms. Jones stated that this publishing season will be her last as editor of *MHN* and thanked the Society for having been granted the opportunity to serve in this capacity.

The secretary-treasurer thanked Missy Jones for her dedicated work during the period of her service as *Mississippi History NOW* editor.

VII. Deanne Stephens gave a brief report on the *Junior Historical Society and National History Day*. Dr. Stephens stated that twelve public schools and two private schools with a total of 314 students had participated in the *National History Day* program.

VIII. Ann Simmons reported on the progress that has been made in reactivating the *Federation of Mississippi Historical Societies*.

IX. The secretary-treasurer on behalf of Brian Pugh, chair, *Meeting Sites Committee*, presented the report of the *Meeting Sites Committee*. He stated that the *Mississippi Historical Society* annual meeting will be held in Natchez in 2019 and in Cleveland in 2020. He further reported that the Society's board of directors had approved the *Meeting Sites Committee's* recommendation that the 2021 annual meeting be held in Jackson.

X. Anne Webster, chair, Resolutions Committee, presented the following resolutions:

RESOLUTION OF CONDOLENCE

WHEREAS, Eva Ann Dickins Boschert departed this life on June 8, 2017; and

WHEREAS, a native of Clarksdale, Mississippi, Boschert attended Stephens College in Columbia, Missouri, where she was a member of Eta Epsilon Gamma Sorority; and

WHEREAS, Boschert was a talented musician and served as the organist for Duncan Baptist Church for forty years; and

WHEREAS, Boschert was deeply committed to the healthcare field as witnessed by her faithful service as a nursing home administrator for many years; and

WHEREAS, Boschert, along with her husband of sixty-five years, Thomas N. Boschert, had a lifelong interest in the study of history, serving as a faithful member of the Bolivar County Historical Society and the Mississippi Historical Society and dedicated supporter of the Mississippi Department of Archives and History; and

WHEREAS, Boschert, who served as the Society's "First Lady" during her husband's presidency in 1984-1985, will long be remembered for her pleasant nature and ever-present smile that lifted the spirits of those with whom she came in contact at the Society's annual meetings;

NOW, THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED that the Mississippi Historical Society, assembled on March 3, 2018, in Jackson, Mississippi, mourns the death of Eva Ann Dickins Boschert and expresses its sympathy to her family.

RESOLUTION OF CONDOLENCE

WHEREAS, Annette Cook Redden departed this life on January 15, 2018; and

WHEREAS, a native of Turrell, Arkansas, Redden, who was reared in Blue Mountain, Mississippi, was a graduate of Blue Mountain College; and

WHEREAS, Redden, who had a deep and abiding appreciation of the importance of education, taught high school English for thirty years; and

WHEREAS, Redden, along with her husband of fifty-eight years, Walter Redden, Jr., had a lifelong interest in the study of history, serving as a faithful member of the Mississippi Historical Society and ardent supporter of the Mississippi Department of Archives and History; and

WHEREAS, Redden served as a sterling ambassador for the state of Mississippi through her thirty years of dedicated volunteer docent service at the Mississippi Governor's Mansion; and

WHEREAS, Redden will long be remembered for her pleasant nature, gracious manner, and ever-present smile that lifted the spirits of those with whom she came in contact at the Governor's Mansion, the Society's annual meetings, and the MDAH History Is Lunch programs that she regularly attended along with her husband, Walter;

NOW, THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED that the Mississippi Historical Society assembled on March 3, 2018, in Jackson, Mississippi, mourns the death of Annette Cook Redden and expresses its sympathy to her family.

RESOLUTION OF COMMENDATION

WHEREAS, William F. Winter recently celebrated his ninety-fifth birthday on February 21, 2018; and

WHEREAS, an extraordinary public servant, Winter served in the Mississippi House of Representatives from 1948 to 1956, as state tax collector from 1956 to 1964, as state treasurer from 1964 to 1968, as lieutenant governor from 1972 to 1976, and as governor from 1980 to 1984; and

WHEREAS, Winter served on the Board of Trustees of the Mississippi Department of Archives and History (MDAH) for fifty years, presiding with wisdom, humor, and patience; and

WHEREAS, Winter is a longtime member of the Mississippi Historical Society who was instrumental in the Society's reorganization in 1953, has served as president and in countless other leadership roles, including the drafting of the Society's constitution and initial bylaws, and has faithfully attended the annual meetings over the years; and

WHEREAS, in 1996, Winter was the recipient of the Society's Dunbar Rowland Award, given in recognition of lifelong contributions to the study, preservation, and interpretation of Mississippi history; and

WHEREAS, Winter's contributions to the Mississippi Historical Society, MDAH, and the state of Mississippi are unmatched;
NOW, THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED that the members of the Mississippi Historical Society, assembled on March 3, 2018, in Jackson, Mississippi, congratulate William F. Winter on the occasion of his birthday and commend his outstanding public service.

RESOLUTION OF COMMENDATION

WHEREAS, Samuel B. Olden will celebrate his ninety-ninth birthday on March 27, 2018; and

WHEREAS, a native of Yazoo City, Olden, as a child and teenager, was a frequent visitor to the B. S. Ricks Memorial Library, the oldest privately funded library in Mississippi; and

WHEREAS, at an early age, Olden, influenced by his grandmothers and his reading at the Ricks Memorial Library, developed an avid interest in foreign travel and history that led to his enrollment in 1935 at age sixteen in the University of Mississippi, where he earned his B.A. with a double major in history and English and his M.A. degree in Southern history; and

WHEREAS, Olden secured a position in the American Foreign Service of the U. S. State Department in 1941 prior to the United States' entry into World War II, rising to the rank of vice consul in the U. S. Embassy in Quito, Ecuador; and

WHEREAS, Olden served with distinction in the United States Navy from July 1943 to July 1946, serving at the end of the war in Europe in the office of the naval attaché in the U. S. Embassy in Paris; and

WHEREAS, in 1947 Olden was recruited to join the newly-formed Central Intelligence Group, the predecessor of the CIA; and

WHEREAS, having secured the approval of Richard Helms, the CIA's director of European Operations and future CIA director, Olden was transferred to Vienna, Austria, where he served for two years prior to his employment by the Mobil Oil Corporation; and

WHEREAS, Olden's employment by Mobil Oil led to his working in the West African colonies of Great Britain and France, i.e., East and West Nigeria, the British Cameroons, French Cameroon, French Congo, Chad, and Gabon from 1952-1957; and

WHEREAS, in 1957 Olden joined Mobil's Government Relations

Department in New York, where he served as Mobil's observer at the United Nations, coming in contact with

Adlai Stevenson, Eleanor Roosevelt, and other luminaries; and

WHEREAS, Olden returned to North Africa in 1961 to serve as general manager of Mobil's affiliate in Tunisia, and then in 1963 as general manager in Algeria, followed by similar stints with Mobil affiliates in Lima, Peru, and Madrid, Spain; and

WHEREAS, following his retirement in 1974, Olden returned to his beloved family home in Yazoo City, where he became actively involved in cultural and historical matters; and

WHEREAS, Olden, through his generous personal contributions, helped fund and spearhead the establishment of the Yazoo Historical Society's museum that now bears his name; and

WHEREAS, Olden has been a faithful and dedicated member of the Mississippi Historical Society, serving on the Society's board of directors and numerous committees, and as the Society's president in 1996-1997; and

WHEREAS, Olden in his nineties, established and helped fund the Yazoo Memorial Library Walkway, which stretches between the Samuel B. Olden Museum (originally the elementary school that Olden attended) and the B. S. Ricks Library and honors and memorializes more than one hundred citizens of Yazoo County whose literary works have been published; and

WHEREAS, Olden, a world traveler who has visited more than 150 foreign nations and is fluent in six languages, is one of Mississippi's most outstanding citizens and a true "Renaissance" man, who has brought great credit to the Mississippi Historical Society and to our state and nation;

NOW, THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED, that the Mississippi Historical Society, assembled on March 3, 2018, at the Two Mississippi Museums in Jackson, Mississippi, congratulates Samuel B. Olden on the occasion of his approaching ninety-ninth birthday and commends his dedicated and outstanding public service.

RESOLUTION OF COMMENDATION

WHEREAS, the Oxford Conference for the Book will celebrate its twenty-fifth year in 2018; and

WHEREAS, the conference is presented by the Center for the Study of Southern Culture at the University of Mississippi and Square Books; and

WHEREAS, the conference has become a renowned literary event, attracting authors of local, regional, and national stature, as well as editors, publishers, journalists, and book lovers; and

WHEREAS, the addition of playwrights, filmmakers, and others have enhanced the conference's reputation as a forum for culture; and

WHEREAS, the Children's Book Festival is held each year in conjunction with the conference, with more than 1,200 first and fifth graders receiving a book and attending a presentation by the author; and

WHEREAS, the conference strengthens Mississippi's longtime reputation for excellence in literature;

NOW, THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED that the Mississippi Historical Society, assembled on March 3, 2018, in Jackson, Mississippi, congratulates and commends the organizers of the Oxford Conference for the Book on the occasion of its twenty-fifth anniversary.

RESOLUTION OF COMMENDATION

WHEREAS, the Mississippi Historical Society is comprised of individuals who are committed to the preservation and interpretation of Mississippi history; and

WHEREAS, the Society benefits immensely from the volunteer work of its members, both academicians and interested laypersons; and

WHEREAS, the Journal of Mississippi History is published by the Mississippi Department of Archives and History (MDAH) in cooperation with the Society; and

WHEREAS, the Journal is provided to Society members as a benefit of membership; and

WHEREAS, the publication of the Journal has been delayed for a period of time due to MDAH staff changes and significantly expanded workloads associated with the planning and opening of the Two Mississippi Museums (Museum of Mississippi History and the Mississippi Civil Rights Museum); and

WHEREAS, Dominique Pugh of Brandon has rendered an invaluable service to MDAH and the Society through the generous in-kind

contribution of her time and services in laying out and designing two issues of the Journal;

NOW, THEREFORE BE IT RESOLVED that the Mississippi Historical Society, assembled on March 3, 2018, in Jackson, Mississippi, commends Dominique Pugh for her generous contribution to MDAH and the Society's members.

RESOLUTION OF COMMENDATION

WHEREAS, the Mississippi Historical Society is aware that the Local Arrangements Committee, co-chaired by Diane Mattox and Elizabeth Coleman, and the Program Committee, chaired by Kevin Greene, invested a considerable amount of time, thought, and effort in planning the 2018 meeting of the Society in Jackson; and

WHEREAS, the Local Arrangements Committee succeeded in hosting an enlightening, entertaining, and memorable annual meeting; and

WHEREAS, the Program Committee succeeded in planning informative and scholarly meeting sessions;

NOW, THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED by the Mississippi Historical Society, assembled on March 3, 2018, in Jackson, Mississippi, that the Local Arrangements Committee and Program Committee be officially recognized and commended for their splendid efforts.

The president moved that the resolutions be approved. The motion was seconded by Ann Simmons and unanimously approved.

XI. Aubrey Lucas, chair, Nominations Committee, reported that the committee recommended the following slate of officers and board members:

Officers for the term 2018-2019

President – Page Ogden, former president & CEO, Britton & Koontz Bank, Natchez

Vice President (president-elect) – Charles Westmoreland, professor of history, Delta State University

Secretary-Treasurer – Brother Rogers, director, Programs and Communication Division, MDAH

Susannah Ural will serve as immediate past president.

The following six individuals are nominated to serve **three-year terms** on the Society's Board of Directors (2018-2021).

Shennette Garrett-Scott, assistant professor of History & African American Studies, University of Mississippi

LaToya Norman, general manager, African American Military History Museum, Hattiesburg

Dierdre Payne, retired Exxon Mobile marketing specialist, Ridgeland

Christian Pinnen, assistant professor of History and Political Science, Mississippi College

James Robertson, former Mississippi Supreme Court Justice, Jackson

Stephanie Rolph, associate professor of History, Millsaps College

The following individuals are nominated to serve unexpired **two-year terms** (2018-2020).

Rebecca Tuuri, assistant professor of History, University of Southern Mississippi

Marks Sokolosky-Wixon, executive director, LaPointe Krebs Foundation

Board of Publications

Jim Barnett and **John Langston** are nominated to serve another three-year term (2018-2021) on the Board of Publications.

The president moved that the aforementioned slate of nominees be accepted by acclamation. The motion was seconded by Anne Webster and unanimously approved.

XII. Katie Blount, director, Mississippi Department of Archives and History (MDAH), briefly reported on various MDAH activities and highlighted accomplishments from the past year such as; the Two Mississippi Museums had a very successful opening on December 9, 2017, and the museums' visitation is exceeding projections, new programming, marketing, and exhibits for the Department's historic sites, new plans

for various Department properties, including Windsor Ruins, Winterville Mounds, and the Manship House.

There being no further business, the meeting was adjourned by the president.

Susannah S. Ural, President
Elbert R. Hilliard, Secretary-Treasurer

