

Alabama Association of Historians  
Mid-Year Meeting  
University of Montevallo  
Friday, June 22, 2012

Attendees: Bob England, Kari Frederickson, Rob Risner, Sam Covington, John Jackson, Jim Day, Kevin Hall & Tiffany Boyd

- Bob England called the meeting to order at 10:30a.m. A meeting agenda was distributed. Bob announced that Tiffany Boyd would take minutes in the absence of Jeff Gentsch, Secretary/Treasurer.
- The 2013 conference in Muscle Shoals was discussed. Dates are Friday & Saturday, February 22<sup>nd</sup> and 23<sup>rd</sup>. Bob passed out a tentative schedule, including a proposed council meeting on the afternoon/early evening of Thursday, February 21<sup>st</sup>, tours of Belle Mont and Frank Lloyd Wright's Rosenbaum House, and session times. All sessions will be on the campus of Northwest-Shoals Community College. The Friday night reception and banquet will be at the Alabama Music Hall of Fame with Ethel Morgan Smith, professor at the University of West Virginia as the speaker. To date, Bob has raised \$1,200 for conference expenses. The proposed plenary session for Saturday morning may be reconsidered if a sufficient number of papers are submitted, and a boat ride along Pickwick Lake may occur on a first-come, first-served basis, weather permitting.
- The Treasurer's Report and minutes from the February meeting in Montevallo were distributed and reviewed. Kari Frederickson made a motion to accept the report and minutes. John Jackson seconded the motion.
- Kari Frederickson asked if the responsible individuals knew that the 2015 & 2016 meetings were planned for Jacksonville and Montgomery. Bob replied that George Lauderbaugh would be responsible for the meeting in Jacksonville, and that Steve Murray, from the Alabama Department of Archives and History, would host the meeting in Montgomery with the assistance of Auburn University at Montgomery.
- Bob England mentioned that the Bowen and Flynt Awards were not awarded at the 2012 conference in Montevallo. Rob Risner said the history department at the University of West Alabama was unable to get the papers to review to select a recipient. Kevin Hall expressed frustration over getting papers submitted in a timely manner. It was agreed that the Call for Papers should go out as soon as possible and include a deadline of October 1<sup>st</sup> for complete paper submissions, not one-page abstracts as in previous years. Rob stressed the importance of sending the Call for Papers to graduate schools, and if possible to the head of graduate programs. Rob & Kari suggested e-mailing the Call for Papers to the heads of graduate schools and departments so they can distribute it directly to their students, and to post the Call for Papers on H-Net, an online Humanities and Social Science network. The Call for Papers should also be sent to select out-of-state institutions, particularly ones with faculty members having ties to Alabama. The Call for Papers distributed at the Southern Historical Association's annual meeting should be for a year in advance.

- A question was then raised about the newsletter. The organization has an editor for the newsletter, but it has not been published in years. Bob suggested separating the role of Secretary/Treasurer into two positions, allowing the Secretary to focus on a supervisory role over the newsletter. Kari recommended having an electric version of the newsletter—one that can be e-mailed to members and be archived on the AAH’s website. Two editions per year would be sufficient; one newsletter in the early fall, announcing the next conference, call for papers and call for nominations, and one newsletter in the spring, providing a summary of the conference, attendance and awards. The decision to separate the Secretary/Treasurer position was postponed. Bob suggested discussing the idea with Amanda Fox, Assistant Secretary, who previously composed the newsletter and mass e-mails to members.
- To promote the Mae Ellis Moore Flynt award and to create interest among k-12 educators, the Association will run an article in the AEA journal including a call for workshops and presentations on history. The call should also be e-mailed to the deans of colleges of education.
- Bob England suggested presenting a memorial to the family of David Vess, who died earlier in June. David was a student of Ramsay and had taught at Samford University. Leah Atkins, Marlene Rikard, and Wayne Flynt will advise on a suitable memorial. Rob suggested seeing if Samford had a brick memorial sidewalk, as many universities do.
- Bob England proposed presenting Ed Bridges with a framed certificate to honor his retirement from the Alabama Department of Archives. Bob will talk to Steve Murray about Ed’s resume. John Jackson will be involved in the presentation.
- Bob England asked if any other news needed to be discussed. None existed, and at 10:54 a.m., Kari Frederickson made a motion to adjourn, and Sam Covington seconded.