

Association of Librarians & Archivists at Baptist Institutions  
Business Meeting Minutes  
May 24, 2013  
International Mission Board – Richmond Virginia

The meeting was brought to order by ALABI President, Taffey Hall. Jennifer Taylor presented the 2012 minutes on behalf of Natalie E. Bishop. Naomi Coppinger moved to approve the minutes as printed and Elizabeth Wells seconded the motion. The minutes were unanimously approved.

## Reports

### Audit Committee – Jan Ballard and Bob Phillips

- Bob Phillips moved to approve the financial report from the treasurer submitted at the meeting.
- Alan Lefever seconded the motion; the report was unanimously approved.

### Southern Baptist Periodical Index –submitted by Eldonna DeWeese

- The 2012 materials have been completed as well as the 2013 materials received by the date of the meeting.
- Three additional titles were added this past year to the index including the *Journal of Discipleship and Family Ministry* from Southern, *Southeastern Theological Review* from Southeastern, and *More Living* from LifeWay.
- Jason Fowler seconded the motion; the report was unanimously approved.

### Executive Secretary/ Treasurer – presented by Bill Sumners

- As of May 13<sup>th</sup> ALABI had approximately \$11,000 in the budget.
- Proposed expenses for the coming year included supporting the ALABI website, BaptistHeritage.com setup, Baptist Materials Digital Grant, and the 2014 Annual Meeting.
- The Treasure's report and the proposed budget were voted on together.
- Second from Naomi Coppinger; the report was unanimously approved.

### President's Report – presented by Taffey Hall

- Betty Hurt Service Award – Revived this year. This year the award was given to Eldonna DeWeese, Edie Jeter, and Ronald Deering. In the future, the award will likely be given to one person a year.
- Woolley Award –This year ALABI partnered with the Baptist History & Heritage Society for the first time on the Woolley award. The cost of the \$500 award and plaque was split by the two groups. ALABI also assisted in gathering and reviewing reports from historical societies and archives. The goal of this partnership was to broaden the scope of the reports collected and add diversity. This year's winner was the North Carolina Baptist Historical Collection at Wake Forest University.
- Membership Campaign, - new recruits and lapsed members were contacted this past year. Positive feedback was received.
- Georgia Baptist Historical Society and Arkansas Baptist Historical Society both closed this past year. Financial assists from the societies were transferred to their state's Baptist archives.

- Motion by Laura Botts to approve the president's report and it was seconded by Elizabeth Wells. The report was unanimously approved.

Baptist Digital Library Task Force Report – presented by Bill Sumners

- See the attached document with ALABI recommendation.
- It was suggested that recommendation #1 be changed to say “That ALABI take ownership of and initiate a new website under the URL BaptistHeritage.com”
- Two guests were present for the report; Robert Cochran and Jerry Allen from the District of Columbia Baptist Convention. Robert Cochran made the following statement concerning the BaptistHeritage.com website,  
 “The DC Baptist Convention is thankful that ALABI is willing to take on the responsibility of BaptistHeritage.com. We look forward to the furtherance and the development of BaptistHeritage.com. We want to encourage ALABI to embrace the desire of bringing diverse Baptists across North America to preserve the records and the history of the Baptist movement, finding ways to explore the full beauty God has given us.”
- Alan Lefever made a motion to accept the recommendation with the change and Naomi Coppinger seconded it. The motion passed unanimously.

**Miscellaneous Business**

- A recommendation was made by the ALABI officers to meet jointly with the Baptist History and Heritage next year in South Dakota on June 4 – 6. The theme will be “Exploring the Other Baptists”. Advantages include; a combined meeting would be more cost effective, requires less time away from work, and would provide an opportunity to see the North American Baptist Heritage Commission.
- A motion to combine the meetings was made by Alan Lefever and seconded by Elizabeth Wells. The motion passed unanimously.

**New Business**

- Motion made by Naomi Coppinger; to create a committee from ALABI to visit with Baptist History and Heritage Society members to consider a platform from which papers from our group can be considered for publication in their journal. Alan Lefever seconded the motion.
- Discussion followed
- Jason made a motion to amend the original motion in order to appoint an ALABI editorial committee to meet back next year with a report that has explored publishing options for ALABI. The motion to amend was seconded from Bob Phillips
- Bill Sumners called for question.
- The Motion as amended was passed.

**Adjournment**

With no other business the meeting was adjourned.

Respectfully submitted,  
 Jennifer Taylor, ALABI Secretary

## **ALABI Recommendation**

Our ALABI committee has been involved in discussion concerning the establishment and management of a Baptist Digital Library (BDL) website. I am making this recommendation based on our discussions and my own perspective on the matter. Please know that I invite your critical review of the recommendations and appreciate your comments, suggestions, and alternative ideas.

### **Recommendations:**

1. That ALABI initiate a new webpage under the url [baptistheritage.com](http://baptistheritage.com).
2. That ALABI take some elements from [baptistheritage.com](http://baptistheritage.com), most notably Starr's A Baptist Bibliography, and initiate a website that would connect, primarily by links, to Baptist digital resources. The aim of the website would be to provide a single web spot to direct researchers to digitized Baptist resources.
3. That the site would host and provide links to a wide range of Baptist material that represent the entire Baptist family, as much as possible.
4. That the Southern Baptist Historical Library and Archives and its webmaster manage the Baptist Digital Library website for ALABI.
5. That ALABI provide up to \$750 for the cost of setting up the BDL website. The SBHLA would manage the continuation of the website after the initial startup.
6. That ALABI establish and maintain an ongoing Baptist Digital Library Advisory Committee to work with the SBHLA staff on format, additions, presentations, and other matters related to the BDL. This committee should include a diverse representation of the Baptist family.
7. That ALABI incorporate into its budget \$500 per year, for the next five years, to assist in the funding of Baptist digital projects. The Advisory Committee would have the responsibility for establishing guidelines and procedures for the grants, as well responsibility for soliciting, reviewing, and recommending funding for the digital projects.