

Association of Librarians and Archivists at Baptist Institutions
Minutes, April 24, 2015
Nashville, Tennessee
SBHLA

President Laura Botts called the 2015 business meeting to order.

The 2014 ALABI minutes were presented.

- Second from Alan Lefever to approve the minutes.
- The minutes were unanimously approved.

Reports

Southern Baptist Periodical Index – submitted by Eldonna DeWeese

- In the previous year, the SBPI office had one volunteer indexing two titles.
- Hope to have two additional titles added in 2015. (Titles not listed in the report.)
- Invitation was extended to anyone wishing to volunteer to index a favorite title not already in the SBPI. Guidelines and a brief manual are available to assist in the project. Contact Eldonna with titles of interest.
- Invitation extended to institutions indexing a title at their campus to include the index in the SBPI for a possible broader audience distribution.
- For the first time, article citations in the online SBPI for 2013 contain Internet addresses for the titles whose publishers make full-text versions available on their websites. The SBPI is still exploring how to collaborate with providers of discovery systems used on our campuses to provide full-text to the article citations in the online SBPI.
- In 2014, 5,244 searches were made using the online index.
- Supplied 9 institutions with missing volumes collected via donations to the SBPI office.
- The report was unanimously approved.

Audit Committee - Kathryn Wright, Tonya Zanish-Belcher

- Tonya reported that she and Kathryn reviewed the Treasurer's Report and confirmed its accuracy.
- Unanimously approved.

Treasurer's Report – Bill Sumners, Kathryn Wright, Tonya Zanish-Belcher

- Two documents were provided to the members present, a financial report and proposed budget. The documents show that ALABI is in good financial shape.
- The expenses noted were the annual meeting, digital grants, ALABI website, Hurtt Award, and the Woolley Award.
- The report was unanimously approved.

BaptistHeritage.com Digital Projects Grant Review Committee – Bill Sumners, Kathy Hillman, Bob Philips and Kent Millwood

- Bill encouraged everyone to let him or Taffey know if you put something up on your website or if you discover something on a website that would be beneficial to the website.
- The Digital Projects Grant Committee received three applications for the \$500 ALABI Digital Grant. The committee agreed on the project submitted by Ouachita Baptist University called The Arkansas Baptist Archive project. This grant will assist the library to

digitize all available annuals and yearbooks from the Arkansas Baptist State Convention from 1848 – 1900. The digital files will be made available through their Scholarly Commons website.

- The report was unanimously approved.

The Book of Reports – Taffey Hall

- Taffey noted what is collected in the Book of Reports from Baptist historical collections.
- Winners for the Woolley Award are selected from the reports by the ALABI Officers and the Baptist History and Heritage Society.
- This year's winner was the Freewill Baptist Historical Collection at Welch College. The award comes with a plaque and a check for \$750. Two hundred and fifty dollars comes from ALABI the rest comes from BH&HS.
- This year, BH&HS passed a resolution honoring the work of archivists and librarians in Baptist Collections.
- Going forward, the reports submitted should be between 500 and 700 words and focus on what you accomplished during the past year.
- The report was approved unanimously.

Membership Update – Laura Botts and Bill Sumners

We are currently at 38 paid members.

The Betty Hurtt Meritorious Award was presented to Martha Powell. The award honors a current or former ALABI member or any individual who has served as a role model and contributed significantly to the preservation and promotion of Baptist records and manuscripts.”

New Business

Discussion for the 2016 ALABI Meeting

- The Vice President/President Elect, Jan Ballard, proposed to meet May 23 -25, 2016, in Waco, Texas, at Baylor University. The proposal included meeting jointly with The Baptist History & Heritage Society and The National Association of Baptist Professors of Religion. The theme would be along the lines of church history, ethics and Biblical topics.
- Alan Lefever made a motion to meet jointly with the other two associations at the suggested time. Second by Bill Sumners.
- Discussion followed –
 - Taffey Hall commented that a meeting similar to Sioux Falls was what the officers had envisioned. Historians would present papers followed by a presentation from an ALABI member related to the research topic. This would allow ALABI members to document what Baptist archives have to offer researchers.
 - Concern about joint meetings becoming the normal expectation was discussed. Funding, catering, scheduling, and meeting spaces were all a part of the discussion. The group felt these concerns could be addressed for the upcoming meeting and would not be a problem. Overall, the group felt a joint meeting offers a good opportunity to work alongside other groups and to share what our collections have to offer. ALABI will continue to meet separately some years. During joint meetings, separate sessions will be set aside for ALABI members.
 - Kathy Hillman and Alan Lefever volunteered to assist with local arrangements for the Waco, TX, meeting in 2016.
- Motion passed unanimously.

Communications Committee – Steve Jones announced work has begun on gathering content for the website and the Facebook group. The committee plans to continue growing these resources.

Executive Secretary/Treasurer

Bill Sumners announced that he will be stepping down as Executive Secretary/Treasurer for the group. Before the meeting, he spoke with the officers and Taffey Hall. Taffey agreed to serve as Executive Secretary/Treasurer for the following year.

Thanks

- Thanks to Bill Sumners for his work as Executive Secretary/Treasurer over the last several years.
- Thanks to Bill Sumners and Taffey Hall for their work on hosting and arranging a great meeting in Nashville, TN.

Adjournment

- Motion to adjourn – Jerry Windsor
- Motion unanimously approved.

Respectfully submitted,
Jennifer Taylor, Recording Secretary