**Southeastern Registrars Association (SERA)**

**Annual Business Meeting & Luncheon**

**Tuesday, October 22nd, 2019 12:00 PM-1:30 PM**

**Charleston, South Carolina**

**Minutes**

**Welcome and Introductions/Report from the Chair: Corinne Midgett for Kyle Bryner**

Call to order at 12:06 pm. Corinne Midgett reported for Kyle in her absence. She noted that Kyle Bryner could not join us this year as she has moved out of region and accepted a new position. However, she thanked her for her years of service to SERA and informed the meeting that a gift basket of Charleston goodies had been sent to her in thanks.

Per Kyle’s report, “First, I want to thank everyone who works so hard to make SERA the great organization it is! This past year, we continued to post jobs to our Facebook page. Again, in accordance with a larger movement in the field, we have stopped posting jobs that do not contain salary. Open and fair hiring practices support the disclosure of salary for any job posting. Providing a salary allows job seekers to assess if a job is appropriate for them and most importantly, if they can afford to take said job. The SERA board agreed this is the proper step to encourage employers to be transparent in their search and hiring processes. We, as an organization, support the effort of the National EMP Network and CS-AAM to have AAM change their posting criteria as well. Any job shared by SERA on any platform will have a salary associated with the posting. We will continue to encourage employers to provide a salary if one is not listed so we can share the posting. I want to thank everyone who submitted conference proposals this year. SERA has strong representation in the conference sessions. I encourage everyone to submit proposals for SEMC 2020. A huge thank you to all our amazing sponsors who support SERA awards and events. Without their support we would not be able to have the respite or provide scholarships. I enjoyed my time with SERA and wish the organization the best of luck and continued growth!”

**Report from the Vice-Chair: Corinne Midgett**

This year, I focused on supporting Kyle as chair and assisting with planning for SEMC. I worked with the Nominations Committee to find candidates for vice chair. I also started planning for the upcoming year, assuming I’m lucky enough to be elected chair! The rest of the board has worked really hard in the last year and they have some great ideas for improving SERA. I’m really excited about the momentum we have and about the events we have planned for SEMC 2019.

Corinne also reported that Collections related sessions were down this year at SEMC and encouraged all members to submit a session proposal for next year. She proceeded to ask people to suggest session proposals for a prize she was handing out. This encouraged members to chime in on potential session topics and these are some of the suggestions:

* Hindsight is 2020 (what would you do differently re: past projects)
* Making do with what you’ve got
* Working within a municipal government (rotating tabletop discussions/scenarios and/or panel discussion w/questions)
* Current temp/RH recommendations
* Institutional archives
* Archives management
* Archival arrangement & description/Archives 101
* Reconciling Found-In-Collection items
* Disposing of deaccessions
* Storage/mounting techniques – box building, soft mounts, flat mounts
* Dataloggers/environmental data tracking
* Digital deeds & forms
* Salary disparity & rise of museum unions
* Facility Reports
* Collections & Social Media
* Volunteers & Interns in collections
* Leasing facilities
* Born digital collections
* Deaccessioning
* How to organize collections when you cannot deaccession
* Logistics for collections/Travelling your collections
* Collections Committees
* Dealing with Legacy Paperwork

She thanked our SERA sponsors and acknowledged them at the meeting, Willis Towers Watson, TCI, and Gaylord. We are expecting great things from SERA at SEMC 2020 in Louisville!

**Approval of 2018 Meeting Minutes : Amy Beisel**

Kali Mason moved to accept minutes as presented. Christa McCay seconded. Motion carried

**Report from the Treasurer/Membership Chair: Corinne Midgett for Austin Bell**

Corinne Midgett reported for Austin Bell as he was absent in anticipation of the arrival of his first child.

Greetings, SERA Members!

I hope everyone is feeling refreshed and rejuvenated as the cooler weather sets in, particularly those of you who were able to attend this year’s SEMC Conference in Charleston. I wish I could have been there to greet you in person, but my wife Erin and I are expecting our first child (a baby girl!), which will likely have arrived by the time you read this.

I hope everyone had a wonderful time at our annual luncheon and business meeting, the Registrar’s Respite at Stars, and behind-the-scenes collection tour of the Gibbes Museum of Art. Thank you to SEMC President (and SERA member) Zinnia Willits for leading the tour! Thanks also to everyone who joined or renewed their memberships in advance of SEMC so that they could attend our members-only events. We hope to see you all again at next year’s SEMC in Louisville, Kentucky!

My thanks to several members have pointed out an issue with online renewals. **Please note: you do not need to have a PayPal account to renew your membership online.** If you click on the "check out with PayPal" button in the online store, it will take you to another page, where it will prompt you to login **OR** "pay with debit or credit card," a grey button underneath the blue PayPal login button. This should allow you to pay without creating an account. We will also work on making this feature more intuitive.

As of October 25, 2019, SERA has 112 active members, down from 116 (-3.4%) this time last year.

As of October 25, 2019, the current balance in the Chase checking account is $6,563.71. The current balance in the PayPal account is $2,408.10. The combined **total on-hand is $8,971.81** down $376.34 (-4%) from the $9,348.15 on-hand reported in the Summer 2019 newsletter.

SERA’s fiscal activity for July 1, 2019 to October 25, 2019 is outlined below. Please feel free to contact me for any additional information.

**Report from the Development Chair: Kali Mason**

I am pleased to report a successful year in fundraising for SERA programs and events. This year SERA received $2,250 in sponsorship from Transportation Consultants, Inc., Willis Towers Watson, and PastPerfect Museum Software. TCI and Willis Towers Watson each donated $1,000 to cover food and drink expenses at the SERA respite networking event. PastPerfect donated $250 to support the Dan Silosky Award for Excellence in Registration and Collections Management. SERA is very grateful to all of its sponsors. Without their help, SERA would be unable to provide these wonderful opportunities to its members.

**Report from the Secretary: Amy Beisel**

This year, SERA’s Annual Business Report was filed with the Commonwealth of Kentucky’s Secretary of State on 8/19/2019. This brings SERA current until June 30, 2020. The election results were announced at the annual business meeting and luncheon during SEMC in Charleston. SC. We would like to welcome our new and returning chairs:

Corinne Midgett: Chair

Meg Cook: Vice Chair

Austin Bell: Treasurer/Membership Chair

SERA did not sponsor sessions at this year’s SEMC. Start thinking about next year and what you would like to submit or see from SERA members at your next SEMC!

SERA sponsored the annual Registrar’s Respite and Business Luncheon, and the SERA Registrar’s Tour, which went behind the scenes of the Gibbes Museum of Art. Thank you to Zinnia Willetts and all of the collections staff at the Gibbes Museum of Art for a wonderful tour of your dazzling new facilities!

Special thanks to all those who were able to attend SEMC this year and we look forward to seeing even more of you in Louisville in 2020.

**Report from the Communications Chair: Erica Hague**

Erica thanked Deanna and the state reps for their work this past year with the newsletter. Erica also spoke about the possibility of creating a new log for SERA. She explained the symbolism behind the current logo. She could not discern exactly when this logo was created but estimated it to have been in the 1990’s. She informed the group that she would be sending around a survey to collect opinions on the direction to take with this project. She mentioned obtaining the help of a professional designer and possibly offering an honorarium for services.

**Report from the Scholarship Committee: Corinne Midgett for Elizabeth Le**

Corinne reported the following scholarship winners and recognized them in the meeting, for Elizabeth Le who was unable to attend SEMC this year. She encouraged members to apply for these scholarships for next yesr.

2019 SEMC Annual Meeting Travel Scholarship - Emerging Professionals Category

(Charleston, SC, October 21-23, 2019)

Heather M. Otis

Collections Manager

Marco Island Historical Society, Marco Island, FL

2019 ARCS Biennial Meeting Travel Scholarship

(Philadelphia, PA, November 7-9, 2019)

Jordan Brothers Cao

Assistant Registrar

Gregg Museum of Art & Design, NC State

**Report from the Nominating Committee: Christy Sinksen**

Christy Sinksen reported for the Nominating Committee which also included Kimberly Terbush and Zinnia Willits.

The SERA Nominations Committee is responsible for developing a slate of nominees for SERA’s officer election that takes place each year. Beginning on June 21 the committee publicized the call for nominations for the available offices via the SERA newsletter, emails to the SERA membership list, and posts to SERA’s Facebook page. As of the close of nominations on September 2, the following four candidates had nominated themselves and submitted bios to the committee:

Chair (one nominee):

Corinne Midgett, Registrar, High Point Museum, North Carolina

Vice Chair (two nominees):

Meg Cook, Director of Archaeology Collections, Mississippi Department of Archives and History, Jackson

Cathy DeSilvey, Director of Museum Operations and Collections, George C. Marshall Museum & Library, Lexington, Virginia

Treasurer/Membership Chair (one nominee):

Austin Bell, Curator of Collections, Marco Island Historical Society, Florida

The above slate of candidates was then presented to Amy Beisel, SERA Secretary, on September 3 to serve as the ballot for this year’s SERA election.

**Other Reports: Corinne Midgett**

 CS-AAM – Has reached out seeking nominations for the Dudley-Wilkinson Award.

 Please check your email for this call for nominations.

 ARCS – Reported that the conference is full with a waiting list and they will be surveying

 members soon to see what they want from future conferences and their

 ARCS membership.

**Respite & Behind-the-Scenes Tour Logistics: Corinne Midgett**

Corinne encouraged everyone to attend the Registrar’s Respite at Stars Rooftop and Grill Room. She thanked our sponsors, Willis Towers Watson & TCI for this event.

**Old Business**

 **SERA Publications Update: Corinne Midgett**

We are looking for people who would like to be involved in or create new publications

 for SERA. If you are interested please let us know.

 **Museum Association of the Caribbeans Update: Corinne Midgett**

Kyle made some great contacts at MAC and we need help maintaining them and keeping

 them engaged. If you are interested please let us know.

**New Business**

 **SEMC 2020**

Thank you for brainstorming session topics now please submit your sessions for

 SEMC 2020 in Louisville. We want to have stronger collections choices next year!

 **Rebranding**

Please take a moment to respond to the survey when you receive it and feel free to

 make suggestions. If anyone knows of a designer who might be willing to help please

 let us know.

**Announcements**

Please submit sessions for SEMC 2020, if you need help please reach out. Be on the lookout for the SERA survey about rebranding.

**Adjourn**

Meeting was adjourned at 1:30 pm.