The meeting was called to order by Marla Wigton, President, at 9:24 am.

Marla opened the meeting by asking each person in attendance to share a new favorite book we have read or shared recently. Titles were shared on the KASL blog.

Roll call was taken by sign-in sheet. Members attending were:

Marla Wigton, President, Historian
Martha House, President-Elect, Webmaster
Nancy McFarlin, Past-President, Governmental Affairs Committee Chair
Barb Bahm, Executive Secretary, Conference Futures, District I Director
Brenda Lemon, Treasurer
Julie Doyen, Assistant Treasurer
Rachel Yoder, Secretary
Ruth McCauley, Promotions Committee Chair
Debra Kauer, Technology Committee Chair
Mary Hobson, Professional Excellence Committee Chair
Beverley Buller, William Allen White Committee Liaison
Carmaine Ternes, L4L State Coordinator
Andrew Smith, SLIM Liaison
Peg Golden, District Directors Chair
Lucas Loughmiller, District IV Director
Sarah Schaeffer, District V Assistant Director
Marlene Meckenstock, District III Director
Brenda Henry, District VI Director
Linda Glaze, District VI Assistant Director
Rita Baxa, District V Director
Diane Mahaffey, District II Director
Carol Higley, District IV Assistant Director

Three guests were in attendance: Stephanie Zeckser from Auburn Washburn High School in Topeka, KS., Christie Snyder from Central Kansas Library System, and Dee Ann Merhoff, retired from Sedgwick, KS.

Brenda Lemon moved to accept the minutes from the August 2016 meeting. Lucas Loughmiller seconded. Motion passed.
Reports:

**Treasurer** (Brenda Lemon):
- Brenda passed out an updated budget report as of Friday, January 22nd. Brenda reported that Marla Wigton and Martha House both submitted their receipts from their travel to the ALA Midwinter Conference. The bylaws state no more than $40 per day may be reimbursed, but some expenses were more than that. Their total expenses were under the maximum amount, but they went over the $40 per day limit. Brenda proposed council approve reimbursement. Lucas made a motion to accept the reimbursement as presented. Ruth McCauley seconded. Motion passed.
- Lucas made a motion to amend guidelines in the bylaws to remove the $40 per day criteria but keep the $1500 total expenses criteria. Debra Kauer seconded. Motion passed.
- Nancy McFarlin moved to accept the treasurer’s report as presented. Lucas seconded. Motion passed.

**President Elect** (Martha House):
- Reported on ALA Midwinter Conference, including an online slideshow created by Marla. Main goal seemed to be to make connections. There was lots of break-out time and talking. Announcements were also made about new concerns and commendations.
- There will be a conference in Rochester, NY, in the fall on gaming, led by Christopher Harris. This may be replacing the Fall Forum. Discussion was held on the popularity of gaming, the importance of embracing the trend, and the perceived conflict between “Common Core/rigor” and gaming, coding, etc. Martha suggested a couple of people from KASL go with the idea they come back and present, perhaps in a pre-conference format, in the fall. Brenda made a motion to open up the opportunity on the KASL listserv so interested persons can fill out an application, and that KASL send two people, either the past-president and one member or two members. Lucas seconded. Discussion took place on whether this is part of the bylaws or guidelines. Decision was made that it is part of the guidelines and therefore can be voted on by Council. Motion passed.
- Additional information included fundraising by AASL because of the 65th year celebration, resources available from AASL including current standards, best apps and websites, member resources, etc.

**Past President** (Nancy McFarlin):
- Nancy and Rachel Yoder attended the AASL National Conference in the fall and felt it was a great conference. Nancy is working on candidates for president elect, treasurer, and secretary. She is looking at changes to the guidelines and bylaws. She is suggesting a change in bylaws for positions of secretary and treasurer to two year terms instead of one and elected in alternate years. Three consecutive two year terms is maximum. According to Robert’s Rules of Order, two readings are required and then a vote. Nancy moved to approve changes to KASL Constitution per language in her report. Discussion was held on wording of motion. Barb Bahm moved to change wording of motion to “recommend” changes rather than “approve.” Mary Hobson seconded. Motion passed.
KLFA Government Affairs/Advocacy (Nancy McFarlin):
- Focus is on professional learning, but hard to do that with funding concerns. Lots of work with politics right now. They heard from Brad Neuwenschwander. The new ESSA language includes school librarians, but it will be 2017 before we see any changes to language in KS.
- The KLA Government Affairs Liaison put together a goodie bag for each legislator with information about libraries. One of the talking points was that school libraries improve reading scores. Discussion took place on whether that should change or not. It was decided no changes would happen this year, but to be prepared for changes next year. AASL sent, free of charge, 165 policymaker brochures to be included in goodie bags. Nancy sent them to the district libraries. She emphasized it is good to be partnered with KLA for all the things they advocate for, and that KASL could perhaps do more.
- Nancy shared information about the National Legislative Day in Washington DC, usually the first part of May. She has attended in the past and thought it was a good learning experience. Christy Snyder shared her experience at the State Legislative Day. Talked points included preserving local control—keeping school boards and local public library boards in place and maximizing sharing.

State Library of KS (Amy Gilliland): not in attendance (Report sent to Google Drive)

William Allen White Committee (Beverley Buller):
- The committee is in the first round, currently working through 60 books. They will present the new master list in October at the fall conference. Julie Detter, Debra Vance, and Benjamin Matthews are the three KASL reps on the committee. The committee also includes three public librarians. Voting is now open for this year’s list and will close on April 15. Questions about the process should go to Yolanda Robinson, executive secretary at SLIM. John Sheridan and Bev divide up presentations at district workshops. 2016 awards will be announced by May, the ceremony will be Saturday October 1, and the authors on the porch event will be the night before. Presenters for ceremony will be students from District 5.
- John Sheridan has announced his retirement effective June 30.
- Bev is on a committee planning a 50 minute documentary of William Allen White to be distributed in 2018, his sesquicentennial. Donations are being accepted through the William Allen White Foundation at KU.

Learning4Life (Carmaine Ternes):
- L4L is no longer funded but not obsolete. Trying to expand to PreK-college rather than K-12. Lesson plans are on the website.
- Carmaine paid for a survey to KLA and KASL a year ago in efforts to be published. Printed documents were available at the meeting.
- Carmaine has a book coming out with Dr. Grover this summer through ALA.
SLIM (Andrew Smith):

- They were granted accreditation for another seven years. Dean Alexander announced retirement at the end of this school year, and the search is underway for a new dean. They have four new faculty from around the country. ESU has a new president, effective January 4. Several good discussions have happened with her already, extremely supportive of library education. The teacher college is currently in the middle of their accreditation cycle. He is working with the chair of School Administration to SLIM back into the cycle.

- Andrew and Mirah Dow were part of committee who developed new standards adopted in September. Standards use “school librarian and information teacher”—the name on the license is separate from the name used in the standards. Discussion may need to start to change the name on the license.

- Quite a few new students started at ESU in the fall but only two started in Overland Park in January. There isn’t a good way to get a license if a person isn’t already a certified teacher or licensed librarian, and many of those types of people are being hired.

Professional Excellence (Mary Hobson):

- Tonya Foster received the Fall Founders Scholarship. She is currently working as librarian at Meadows Elementary in Topeka and is working on her degree at FHSU. Katie Lidgett received the Spring Founders Scholarship. She is currently working as librarian at Sunset Elementary in Salina and is working on her degree at ESU. Information was sent about the Distinguished Service Award and the Distinguished Library Media Specialist Award. Applications for both awards are due March 15. The Vision Award is nominated by council, and applications should be sent to Marla by March 15. The Ruth Garver Gaglirado Summer Scholarship was just posted to the listserv and applications are due April 1. The scholarships also include the $40 per day diem, so that will need to change as well.

District Director Reports:

- Rita Baxa, District V: Sunnyside Elementary in Dodge City, “Rumble in the Jungle,” Saturday April 9th
- Lucas Loughmiller, District IV: Manhattan Public Library, “Partners in Literacy,” Saturday January 30th
- Marlene Meckenstock, District III: Maize Middle School, “MakerSpaces,” Saturday April 2nd
- Barb Bahm, District I: Tonganoxie Elementary, “The Little Things that Make a Big Difference,” Saturday April 16th
- Diane Mahaffey, District II: Lincoln-Central Elementary in Cherryvale, “Unlocking the keys...to adventure...to technology,” Saturday April 2nd
- Brenda Henry, District VI: Atwood Rawlins County Elementary, “Books, Technology, and Help...It’s All @ Your Library,” Saturday March 5th

- Marla reported that officers discussed changing the way they represent KASL at district workshops this year because of geography. She proposed that she attend Districts I and II
workshops, Martha attend Districts III and IV, and Nancy attend Districts V and VI. Those decisions don’t need to be voted on because they are included in officer expenses.

**Historian (Marla Wigton):**

- She is still working on last year’s scrapbook. She will do an online picture album like what she created for ALA Midwinter. That will be able to be shown at workshops to share highlights, and provide an overview of KASL.

**Fall Conference Report (Barb Bahm):**

- Conference committee tried to be frugal this year. $532 was raised through baskets that will be used as seed money for conferences to bring authors to the event. Around 130 attended. Smaller attendance this year but not much smaller than year before. Contract required payment of $11,000 but hotel did not require full amount because we didn’t earn that much. Lots of comments on good facility. Marla is concerned about finding presenters for the fall because people can’t leave school.
- Martha reported on survey results. 47 people responded. Session topics suggestions were given. Surprises included a desire for emphasis on literacy. She will include some ideas when session proposal forms go out. Good author suggestions were included as well. 50% said the conference was excellent. Responses to how to do conference differently included 53% who said no to one day event, 34% said yes to one day. 25% said they would attend on Saturday, everyone else said no. 30.8% said holding the conference in another space was a good idea, 38% said no, 30.5% said other and had comments. Three names were given to contact about becoming involved in KASL.
- Marla talked to someone in Colorado about how they organize their conferences.

**Council/Organization Discussion:**

- Nancy McFarlin discussed continuing problem of finding people to run for an officer position. Lots of members are either close to retirement or have small children at home.
- Marla proposed the idea to take the conference and futures off of responsibilities of executive secretary. Barb would just take care of membership and a conference committee would be formed. Tasks would be divided among committee. The next conference will be with KLA again which helps. George and Sheila Blume will be responsible for vendors. Martha will be involved and Barb will be involved until June. Tasks include remote meetings with KLA, local arrangements, decorations, registrations, programming. Conference Planning can be added as a committee under Promotions.
- Andrew suggested putting out a call to the general membership with very specific tasks to increase the pool of those who are doing work. Especially important to involve new librarians. The more small jobs that can be identified the better it is. Someone would need to be a member of KASL or KLA to do committee work. In order to promote interest among students, send list of jobs to education entities.
Martha presented on the beginning stages of discussions about KASL joining KLA as a section. Because of declining numbers, may be more effective to join. Martha has met with KLA's executive committee once, they are writing a draft of a proposal. Would have to be approved by council and total organization. Martha wants council to think about repercussions/pros and cons of decision. KASL could still have meetings and price would remain about the same. We would not have burden of planning our own conference every three years. We would function basically the same, would not be giving KLA our money. Would not affect AASL affiliation. Would be streamlining and making the group as efficient as possible. Discussion included several organizations in other states who have either recently joined or joined several years ago, and that many children’s and youth service librarians love to conference with KASL because of idea sharing.

Continued discussion about officers took place. Marla, Martha, and Nancy are willing to serve in their positions one more year (freezing officers for a year) to give more time because of difficulty of finding people to run. Discussion included putting it out on the listserv so people could comment or step up to volunteer. Marla made it clear the suggestion is for this year only because of the circumstances. Suggestion was made to vote online at the end of March with one written proposal including the secretary and treasurer positions. Nancy will work on wording to send out to listserv. Marla and Martha emphasized even though previous background knowledge is important, it is a learning experience and there is room to grow.

Reminders to District Directors: Seed money and any profit should all go back to Brenda. Not planning to offer membership renewal at district workshops this year; Barb will start working on the Google Form for membership renewal in July. Receipts should be kept for auditing purposes.

Lucas made a motion to send Nancy to the Legislative Day in Washington DC with a cap of $1500 for expenses. Mary seconded. Discussion was held concerning the funding cap. Motion passed with one voting no. Money will come out of contingency.

Marla presented gift to Nancy as Past President.

Peg Golden moved to adjourn. Lucas seconded. Adjourned at 2:05 pm.