

**MAA MD-VA-DC General Membership Meeting**  
**Salisbury University**  
**Perdue Hall, Room 156**  
**November 6, 2021**

Meeting called to order at 11:05AM.

**I. APPROVAL OF MINUTES FROM APRIL 20, 2021**

Minutes approved at 11:07AM.

**II. REPORT OF THE TREASURER: PHILLIP POPLIN (IN ABSENTIA)**

Treasurer Phillip Poplin reported that the general fund balance as of October 5, 2021 was \$5774.51 and that the Project NExT Fund had a balance of zero (\$2500 sent to MAA). It was noted receipts from spring conference were down in comparison to prior spring meetings. (Receipts of \$740 from registration fees for Spring 2021 Meeting.) This was largely attributed to continued disruptions and uncertainty related to the Corona virus and the ongoing COVID-19 pandemic.

**III. REPORT OF THE REPRESENTATIVE TO THE MAA CONGRESS: BONITA SAUNDERS**

The section's Representative to the MAA Congress, Bonita Saunders, opened her slide show with some brief commentary on this being her last year as the representative and how she has missed out on the full experience on account of COVID-19. Her report consisted largely of MAA awareness items, including the promotion/advertisement of MAA Connect, the MAA's special speaker programs (MAA Section Visitor, Polya Lecturer, and MAA/AWM/NAM Section Lecture Series to begin in 2022), and MAA journals and magazines. Bonita outlined the future rotation of the lecture series/speaker programs and encouraged section members to "look into it," highlighting that it is "a great program."

Bonita also highlighted the MAA's mission statement (it has undergone changes of late) and its vision. Additionally, Bonita reported on a new Code of Conduct that was discussed at the Congress. The Code of Conduct is intended to support a new and welcoming inclusive community and applies to members, staff, leaders, awardees, and participants in meetings.

Bonita then briefly discussed the AIMS (Advancing Inclusion in the Mathematical Sciences) Task Force and other efforts to make the field of mathematics fully inclusive, as well as efforts related to widening MAA membership and making the MAA more appealing to BIG (Business, Industry, and Government), community colleges, and departments that are in research universities.

A brief discussion—where Bonita and others talked about little things that we can all do at meetings to help foster a more fully inclusive environment and profesion—between the general membership and Bonita followed

**IV. REPORT FROM THE AWARDS COMMITTEE: TOM WEARS**

Tom Wears reported that the Awards Committee did not receive any nominations for the Sister Helen Christensen Service Award and encouraged people to nominate deserving members.

A member inquired as to whether there was a backlog of nominations from which a recipient could be selected (there is not). The member found it difficult to believe that in such a remarkable section we are short on nominations and encouraged the general membership to create such a backlog by nominating deserving members.

#### V. REPORT OF THE SECTION CHAIR: KATHRYN LINEHAN

Chair Kathryn Linehan outlined coming elections for the spring of 2022 and highlighted that a new Director of Member Communications would be elected “off cycle” in the spring in order to complete Emily Meehan’s term.<sup>1</sup> Chair Linehan also briefly discussed the COVID-19 release forms from the MAA that members were asked to sign.

#### VI. NEW BUSINESS

Chair Linehan informed the general membership of the executive committee’s plans to make the registration deadline for future meetings two weeks in advance of the meeting. (Justifications for the decision were provided.)

The newsletter was then briefly discussed.

Chair Linehan and the general membership all expressed their gratitude to Salisbury University for hosting the meeting and to Ryan Shifler for working through trying times as both local site coordinator and program coordinator. The general membership greatly appreciated Ryan’s efforts and commended him on a job well-done in ensuring that the meeting ran in person.

#### VII. WORDS OF REMEMBRANCE FOR GENEVIEVE KNIGHT: BONITA SAUNDERS

Bonita Saunders eloquently spoke on the memory and influence of Dr. Genevieve Knight, a long time member of the section who had a profound influence on many members of the section. Of particular note were comments about Genevieve’s efforts to make people feel welcome and her efforts to promote inclusivity.

#### VIII. Meeting adjourned at 11:59AM.

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<sup>1</sup>Current Director of Member Communications Emily Meehan will be leaving the section in the spring of 2022.