

Minutes for APS/APRL Board of Directors Telephonic Meeting  
Tuesday, November 14, 2017

The meeting was called to order by APS Vice President Patricia Kaufmann at 1:05 p.m. EST.

**APS Board Members Present:** Patricia Kaufmann, Jeffrey Shapiro and Robert Zeigler (Board of Vice Presidents), Stephen D. Schumann (Secretary), Bruce Marsden (Treasurer), Richard Drews, Michael Bloom, Peter P. McCann and Mark Schwartz (Directors) and Stephen Reinhard (Immediate Past President).

**APRL Trustees Present:** Steve Zwillinger (President), Patricia Stilwell Walker (Vice-President, Charles Wooster (Secretary, Ken Nilsestuen (Treasurer) Ken Grant, Don Heller, Hugh Lawrence. Kristin Patterson and Roger Brody (Trustees)

**Staff Present:** Scott English (APS Executive Director), Ken Martin (APS Chief Operating Officer), Kathleen Yurchak (APS Attorney), Rick Banks (Controller) and Tara Murray (APRL Librarian).

**Others Present:** Eric Jackson (ASDA Representative to the APS Board) and Ken Lawrence

**I. Reports**

- a. Kathleen Yurchak, Society Attorney reported that Regency Stamp Company is closed with a number of APS members being owed for consignments submitted. Unfortunately, it appears that the company is underwater with many liabilities and virtually no assets.
- b. Ken Martin, Chief Operating Officer noted that the UN show in Bellefonte was very successful. For the Winter show in Birmingham there are not as many dealers as expected (short about 15) but hopefully the shortage will decrease in the next few weeks. He noted that the Winter Meeting has not seen a profit in several years and some have suggested it was time to stop rotating the venue around the country and perhaps have a fixed site alternating between West and East each year. Riverside, California was mentioned as a good venue, but price no longer made the site viable.
- c. ED English noted that the current income is 56K better than budgeted and hopes the coming year will be as positive.

**II. APS/APRL Budget**

Bruce Marsden (APS Treasurer) and Ken Nilsestuen (APRL Treasurer) noted that the next year's budget will not require a dues increase and any surplus will accrue to the APS. Marsden noted there was an unexpected cost of the fire suppression system in the library construction which is covered by a five-year term loan taken in 2016. Projected loss of 3.1% in membership in the coming year. Staff will receive a 2 % salary increase for 2018 and health plan costs will remain with staff paying \$105.00 per month. Mark Schwartz mentions that the APEX service has been very positive and the reference holding is one of the finest in philately. Bruce and Ken closed by mentioning that paying down the mortgage debt is priority of the APS/APRL and that the 2018 budget is very good. For the APS Board Bob Zeigler moved and Steve Schumann seconded the motion that the 2018 budget be approved. Passed unanimously.

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For the APRL Board Pat Walker moved and Ken Grant seconded the motion that the 2018 budget be approved. Passed unanimously.

**III. Expression of Thanks**

- a. Mercer Bristow- Director of Expertising. For the APS Board, it was moved by Michael Bloom and seconded by Rich Drews that a resolution be published commending him for his 36 years of service to the APS and its membership.

For the APRL Board it was moved by Ken Grant and seconded by Charles Wooster that such a resolution is published. Passed unanimously. (See addendum #1)

- b. Tara Murray- Director of Information Services/Librarian. Tara mention that she has enjoyed her years at the APRL, with the great staff and volunteers and how impressed other librarians were with the APRL. She reminded everyone that she will still be in the local area after she assumes her new position at Penn State.

For the APS Board, it was moved by Jeff Shapiro and seconded by Mark Schwartz to publish a resolution commending her for her outstanding efforts during a very dynamic time for the APRL. Passed unanimously.

For the APRL Board it was moved by Ken Nilsestuen and seconded by Roger Brody that such a resolution be published. Passed unanimously (See addendum #2)

**IV. Proposed 2018 Meeting Schedule**

ED English submitted a proposed 2018 meeting schedule (see addendum #3)

**V. Adjournment**

For the APS Board, it was moved by Rich Drews and seconded by Jeff Shapiro that the meeting be adjourned. Passed unanimously.

For the APRL Board the same motion was moved by Ken Grant and seconded by Kristin Patterson. Passed unanimously.

The meeting was adjourned by Vice-President Kaufmann and President Zwillinger at 2:15PM EST.

**Respectfully submitted,**  
Stephen D. Schumann  
Secretary



# AMERICAN PHILATELIC SOCIETY

100 Match Factory Place • Bellefonte, PA 16823-1367  
Phone: 814-933-3803 • Fax: 814-933-6128 • [www.stamps.org](http://www.stamps.org)

## **Board Item – Mercer Bristow, Director of Expertizing**

**Background:** On the occasion of Mercer Bristow’s retirement as Director of Expertizing after 36 years of service to the APS and its membership.

### **RESOLUTION**

**Whereas,** A. Mercer Bristow started his employment with the American Philatelic Society on December 1, 1981;

**Whereas,** Mercer will be retiring from his position on December 31, 2017;

**Whereas,** Mercer has worked tirelessly on behalf of the membership of the American Philatelic Society around the world;

**Whereas,** Mercer has certified thousands of philatelic items and helped the philatelic community identify fakes, frauds, and forgeries;

**Whereas,** Mercer has led the effort to build a Reference Collection of thousands of donated stamps to protect the philatelic community’s investments for years to come;

**Whereas,** Mercer has instituted improved services to APS members, such as Quick ID and online APEX certificates, connecting technology and stamp collecting in powerful ways;

**Whereas,** Mercer helped lead efforts to bring and institute a CrimeScope to APEX to provide better service and protection to APS members;

**Whereas,** Mercer has assembled hundreds of experts to serve the APS membership and the philatelic community;

**Whereas,** Mercer has been a friend, a mentor and an asset to the APS staff and collectors around the world for 36 years;

**BE IT THEREFORE RESOLVED,** on behalf of the members and staff of the American Philatelic Society and the American Philatelic Research Library, the Board of Directors of the American Philatelic Society and the Board of Trustees of the American Philatelic Research Library express thanks to A. Mercer Bristow for his remarkable service and wish him well in his retirement.



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## **Board Item – Tara Murray, Director of Information Services/Librarian**

**Background:** On the occasion of Tara Murray's departure as Director of Information Services and Librarian after 7 years of service to the APS and APRL and its membership.

### **RESOLUTION**

**Whereas,** Tara E. Murray started her employment with the American Philatelic Society and American Philatelic Research Library on July 19, 2010 as Director of Information Services and Librarian;

**Whereas,** Tara will be departing to rejoin the staff of Penn State University on December 22, 2017;

**Whereas,** Tara has worked tirelessly on behalf of the membership of the American Philatelic Society and American Philatelic Research Library to increase the knowledge of the philatelic community;

**Whereas,** Tara led efforts to expand the philatelic research capabilities to both the philatelic and non-philatelic communities by growing the David Straight Philatelic Union Catalog to 13 philatelic libraries around the world;

**Whereas,** Tara instituted and led the creation of the Librarian's Roundtable, connecting philatelic librarians from around the world electronically and hosting a monthly meeting to share information and best practices for the betterment of the hobby;

**Whereas,** Tara was recognized by the Special Libraries Association as a Fellow in June 2017 for her outstanding contributions to the organization and the profession;

**Whereas,** Tara has increased access to philatelic materials by instituting digitization efforts to bring philatelic journals and other literature online;

**Whereas,** Tara has been a leader in increasing the technological capabilities of both the APS and APRL, to ensure members have access to new technologies both online and at the American Philatelic Center;

**Whereas,** Tara provided incomparable leadership to the APS and APRL while overseeing the construction of the new library, while ensuring member services remained second-to-none;

**Whereas**, Tara has been an ambassador, a mentor, and a friend to the APS and APRL staff, leadership, membership and researchers around the world for 7 years;

**BE IT THEREFORE RESOLVED**, on behalf of the members and staff of the American Philatelic Society and the American Philatelic Research Library, the Board of Directors of the American Philatelic Society and the Board of Trustees of the American Philatelic Research Library express thanks to Tara E. Murray for her remarkable service and wish her well in her future endeavors.

# ADDENDUM #3

## Proposed 2018 Meeting Schedule

APS Board of Directors  
APRL Board of Trustees

**Meeting:** APS Board Meeting  
**Date:** Thursday, February 22, 2018  
**Location:** AmeriStamp Expo, Birmingham, AL  
**Time:** 10 am EST  
**Call In:** 888-537-7715, Code: 13291358#

**Meeting:** General Membership Meeting  
**Date:** Saturday, February 24, 2018  
**Location:** AmeriStamp Expo, Birmingham, AL  
**Time:** 9 am EST

**Meeting:** APS Board Meeting\*  
**Date:** Tuesday, April 17, 2018  
**Location:** Telephonic  
**Time:** 1 pm EDT  
**Call In:** 888-537-7715, Code: 13291358#

**Meeting:** APS Board Meeting\*  
**Date:** Tuesday, June 19, 2018  
**Location:** Telephonic  
**Time:** 1 pm EDT  
**Call In:** 888-537-7715, Code: 13291358#

**Meeting:** Joint APS/APRL Board Meeting  
**Date:** Wednesday, August 8, 2018  
**Location:** StampShow, Columbus, OH  
**Time:** 10 am EDT  
**Call In:** 888-537-7715, Code: 13291358#

**Meeting:** General Membership Meeting  
**Date:** Saturday, August 11, 2018  
**Location:** StampShow, Columbus, OH  
**Time:** 9 am EDT

**Meeting:** Joint APS/APRL Meeting\*\*  
**Date:** Tuesday, October 30, 2018  
**Location:** Telephonic  
**Time:** 1 pm EDT  
**Call In:** 888-537-7715, Code: 13291358#

\* - Subject to change or cancellation

\*\* - Consideration of the 2019 Budget