Meeting brought to order at 3:15 p.m., with an introduction by Therese Horvat of the Sisters of Charity of Leavenworth.

Adam Paxson, senior co-chair, announced the Steering Committee had appointed a new webmaster, Ryan Leimkuehler, records manager at Kansas State University. Ryan has recently updated the website with some meeting minutes and other information.

Adam addressed the Steering Committee’s plans to move from the current University of Missouri-Kansas City-hosted listerv to creating a free mailchimp account to communicate with the membership. This will mean that members will have to contact a Steering Committee member in order to share news, events, and ask questions, but Adam has received several messages from individuals having trouble signing up for the current listerv or not receiving messages. Additionally, nobody in the KCAA leadership is currently at UMKC, and as the leadership is supposed to cycle fairly frequently, this means there might not be anybody from UMKC actively involved in KCAA for a while, so moving to a separate service may help with transition and turnover. Samantha Bradbeer, junior co-chair also mentioned the LinkedIn group, which currently is closed so that one must be linked to Sam in order to join the group. KCAA also manages a Facebook page to share information with the membership and provide a discussion space.

Samantha provided a brief overview of the last social mixer KCAA held, at the Hallmark Archives in January. Around 15 people came, despite the weather, enjoying snacks and taking a tour of both the archives and the exhibit then on display in the visitors’ center. Sam asked for ideas about other host institutions for mixers and/or larger KCAA events; some suggestions included the World War I Museum, the National Archives-Kansas City branch; the Harry Truman Presidential Library; the Jazz Museum; Kansas City Museum’s temporary exhibit space adjacent to the Garment District Museum; and the archives at Union Station. The Kenneth Spencer Research Library at the University of Kansas will be celebrating its 50th anniversary this fall into next spring and could also be an ideal venue for a mixer, perhaps in the winter.

The Steering Committee is looking for new members; many current members have been in their positions for a long time, and it is time for new blood. The Education Committee chair position is currently vacant and most urgently needed; the Secretary and Membership Committee positions are both available; and Samantha will be taking over as Senior Co-Chair next spring so a new Junior co-chair is needed. The Membership, Scholarship, and Minority Internship committees all also need need members; all these positions, including the chair and Steering Committee positions, are low time commitments and opportunities to get involved in local archives leadership.

Adam informed the membership that he’s planning to have the Steering Committee meet over the summer, most particularly the treasurer and Scholarship and Minority Internship chairs, in order to straighten out financial matters for KCAA and once again advertise that scholarships are available to KCAA members and begin again the summer internship program. He also stated he hopes to get the
individuals who were interested in reviewing and updating the bylaws going on that project this summer.

Lindsey Warner, Treasurer, provided a brief financial update. The organization currently has $1,567.45 in checking, $8.50 in a savings account for membership, and $11,128.97 in a money market account.

Adam has had a preliminary discussion with the Midwest Genealogy Center, part of the Mid-Continent Public Library, to make use of their computer lab for the fall educational symposium, thinking that the topic could be various collections management tools available to archival institutions. If any member has a different idea for the fall symposium, they should get in touch with Adam or Samantha by the summer in order to begin planning. He’ll reach out to ask individuals who could speak to various collections management systems and tools otherwise.

Adonna Thompson, Membership Committee chair, provided a report. Currently there are 47 members in good standing: 39 regular individual memberships, 4 students, and 4 institutional. The Membership Committee re-formed last fall and so far has met once to plan the winter mixer at the Hallmark Archives. They are planning to put together another mixer for this summer, in between KCAA’s spring business meeting and fall educational symposium.

The business meeting portion of the program adjourned at 3:45, and Tonya Crawford, archivist at the Sisters of Charity of Leavenworth, led those present on a tour of the archives and Mother House.