

# WMTA EXECUTIVE BOARD MEETING MINUTES

Blue Harbor Resort and Spa, Sheboygan, WI

October 22, 2015 – 8:00pm to 10:00pm

**In attendance:** Catherine Walby, Gail Heywood, Arlyss Troge, Kayme Henkel, Rachel Fritz, Nancy Burman, Lisa Zwiefelhofer, Rita Schuman, Drew Donica, Becky Johnson, Bethany Hartlaub, Drea Wagner, Jess Johnson, Nick Phillips, and Katie Butler.

**Regrets:** Sandra Ryan

**I. Called to Order** - President, Catherine Walby at 8:09pm.

**II. Adoption of the Agenda** - Motion to adopt by Nancy Burman, seconded by Rachel Fritz.

**III. Approval of Minutes** - Approved by consensus.

## **IV. Officer Reports**

- a) **President - Catherine Walby, NCTM** – Laura Swenson is stepping down as MTNA Foundation Chair. Drew Johnson is taking over the position for Arts Awareness and Advocacy. Abigail Mace is taking over for Sr. Composition and Jessica Johnson is the new College Faculty Forum Chair. Work has primarily been done via email to revise the WMTA constitution and bylaws. The finance committee met in July to go over many procedures. We gave Katie Butler a raise. Catherine met with Rita Schuman and Krista Miller to determine the status of Ovation, future needs and costs for future updates. This year, Local Association grants were given to: CVMTA, FVMTA, MMTA, LAMTA, MMTA, OAMTA, RRMTA, SAMTA, SCVMTA, SPAMTA. ECD will be held January 15 and 16, 2016 at Goshen College. Rachel Fritz will be attending.
- b) **Immediate Past President - Gail Heywood, NCTM** - No report.
- c) **President Elect - Nick Phillips, NCTM** – Nick attended the leadership summit, which took place in Cincinnati in September.
- d) **1st VP-Conference - Gail Heywood, NCTM** - This year's conference has had higher registration than the past few years. Next year's Conference will be in La Crosse at the Raddison hotel. Gail recommends that the association provide a way to pay and register online. Further research will go into the cost of creating online registration payments. The board also discussed the option for creating a digital program for members with cell phones and tablets at conference. The board is in favor of providing both and this too will be researched further before any decisions are made. The board also discussed the possibility of including an option on registration to purchase extra tickets for the concert. For next year, these will be \$10 per person with a \$5 student rate. The site for the 2016 WMTA Conference will be the Radisson Hotel, La Crosse, Wisconsin. It's a lovely venue situated close to the Mississippi River. The dates will be October 20-22, 2016. Group room rate is: \$135.00 per night (plus tax) for double queen, river view (we have a block of 37 rooms). Our conference guest artist will be Nicholas Roth; he's a wonderful musician and I am sure all attendees will enjoy not only his Friday evening recital but also the Saturday master class. For more on Nicholas Roth, I suggest you visit his website: <http://www.nicholasrothmusic.com>. WMTA is now accepting session proposals for the 2016 conference. The submission deadline is December 31, 2015. Special thanks to the 2015 conference committee: Opala Bilhorn, Katie Butler, Elisabeth Daniels and Sandy Ryan
- a) **2nd VP-Membership - Arlyss Troge** - MTNA membership stands at 18,995. WMTA membership stands at 456. 34 members did not renew from last year, but we had 20 new student members in the month of September. The issue of non-renewing members is something we need to continue to address as an

association. Special thanks to Catherine Walby, the LA Presidents, and the District Chairs for help in contacting nonrenewals.

- b) **Treasurer - Rachel Fritz** - The current checking balance is \$2,462.01. The money Market account is \$20,584.29. The CD is \$133,129.08. The current year balance from income and expenses is -\$7,528.10, however not all items are in for the year. The 990 has been filed the past fiscal year. The finance committee has met to discuss audition fees, reimbursements and audition software costs. Anybody with questions regarding association finances may contact Rachel.

## V. Program Chair Reports

- a) **Arts Awareness Advocacy - Drew Donica** - After looking at the 2015 MTNA National Conference, Drew want us to work better within our organization and with groups throughout the state. We should be brainstorming together for solutions to current issues the association faces. We need to decide how music fit within our community and define what arts awareness and advocacy means to our organization. Drew will be exploring further resources for grants and funding including funds given by MTNA. Drew is happy to hear all thoughts and ideas on what the members would like to see happen with Arts Awareness and Advocacy.
- b) **Badger Collegiate Competition - Drew Wagner, NCTM** - Badger Collegiate will be held on March 12 at Lakeland College in Sheboygan. The registration postmark deadline will be February 12th. This event could be very appropriate for online registration and payments. The board agreed this would be a great opportunity to set up the online registration system. The registration is currently \$25. Discussion was made to determine if this was still applicable. The board will discuss this issue further at the next meeting once further research has been done.
- c) **Badger Keyboard Competition, Kayme Henkel, NCTM** - All three sites are set. Northeast will be Saturday, May 21 at UW-Stevens Point. South will be Saturday, May 21st at UW-Whitewater. Northwest will be Saturday, May 21st at UW-River Falls. Freeze date for audition entries for Badger Keyboard will be April 15, 2016. Please note, this is a one week turn around for Eau Claire and Kenosha. All entries must be in the database and all checks must be postmarked by midnight on April 15th. As a reminder to teachers, please encourage your students to take advantage of the opportunity to listen to their peers. Also, consider entering your students into the Badger organ division. Watch for further information as the sites are arranged, but start preparing your students now.
- d) **Badger Vocal/Instrumental Competition, NCTM** - The Badger Vocal/Instrumental Competition is held at the same time and location as the piano sites. This has been done because numbers are down. The situation is working very well. Combining dates also meant only one weekend of work for teachers, which was much appreciated. There were a total of 39 student entries with 13 teachers participating. Badger/Instrumental for next year will be held at Stevens Point on May 21, 2016.
- e) **College Faculty Forum, Jessica Johnson, NCTM** - College Faculty Forum, Jessica Johnson, NCTM - The college students will have a pizza party dinner instead of joining the banquet on Friday night. We are looking to make this an annual thing. Three groups will be presenting poster session during Conference. The extra effort to help students attend Conference this year were well received and appreciated by students.
- f) **District Auditions - Rita Schuman, NCTM** - A lot of time was taken to organize the new website to help make everything easier to find. This includes the new online "handbook". Additional funding will be needed to incorporate a download for the district chairs to have the ability to download just their

individual areas information into a spreadsheet. The board discussed the financial cost because it was over the original budget. Kayme Henkel motions to approve it. Rita Schuman seconded. The board discussed the issue. It was decided that this would be a valuable and time saving step for the chairs. The motion passed unanimously. We will be adding a new site this year in Manitouc.

- g) **High School Virtuoso Competition - Bethany Hartlaub** - The 2015 High School Virtuoso Completion was held on October 9th at the University of Wisconsin-Eau Claire. The pianists participated. It was proposed that this may be a good event to do in conjunction with the state Conference so the teachers could help and listen. It was also proposed to raise the entry fee to help cover the costs. The board discussed both issues and the roll of this competition within the association. It was decided that space and schedule logistics make it difficult to combine with conference. Bethany Hartlaub motioned to raise the fee to \$30. Arlyss Troge seconded. The motion was passed unanimously.
- h) **Independent Music Teachers Forum - Sandra Ryan** – Not Present. Not Present.
- i) **Local Associations Forum - Lisa Zwiefelhofer, NCTM** - The biggest concern for Local Association chairs is gaining and keeping new members. To raise awareness of our state's local associations and encourage more involvement, each local association president submitted information about when and where their groups meet. All the groups now have updated their information on the website to make it easy for people to find. The presidents' reports were also used to prepare a letter inviting new WMTA members to join at the local level. This document is now being included in the member welcome packets. Nine local associations will be honoring their Member of the Year at the Conference banquet on Friday.

## VI. Standing/Special Committees

- a) **Bylaws Revision - Catherine Walby, NCTM** - Many of the changes were simple edits, verbiage adjustments or moving items to a different location. The chair discussed the proposed changes in the document. Clarification was given to provide board members the ability to make better judgments for the association when a guideline in the bylaws doesn't fit the situation. The board also discussed the proposed changes in board member terms, collegiate involvement and (Catherine and Nick, there was a third major subject we discussed about the Bylaws that I didn't catch and I can't hear it on the recording.)
- b) **Central Office - Katie Butler** - The new website is now fully up and going including a new member database program. Members will be sent an email with a specific link to follow allowing them to create their own profile in this system. This feature allows each member to control the information that is posted. To add their profile, members need to follow the official link that is provided by WMTA. Members can contact the webmaster with help regarding this new option. The board discussed how the list is being sorted and decided to leave the list as it is. Watch for further communication to come soon.
- c) **Finance - Rachel Fritz** - The finance committee is currently Catherine Walby, Rachel Fritz, Rita Schuman, and Nick Phillips.
- d) **Nominating Committee - Rita Schuman, NCTM** - On Saturday, Nick will become the president. Rita will open up the floor for nominations on three of the board member positions and then they will be voted into place.
- e) **Website/Classified ads - Katie Butler** – The central office regularly receives job posting information. A page on the website can be created to temporarily house this information. This is seen as a membership benefit and can increase visibility of the association's new website. Nancy Burman motions to create a

bulletin board for music related job listings and is the responsibility of the webmaster. Seconded by Jessica Johnson. Motion passed unanimously. Watch for this function to become available in 2016.

**VII. Old Business - None**

**VIII. New Business**

- a) **2016 Foundation Fellow - Catherine Walby, NCTM** - The board discussed to two current candidates on the floor and made a decision. Nick moved for Jessica Johnson for this year and the second candidate to be considered for next year and Rachel seconded. Motioned passed unanimously.
- b) **Printing of Newsletters - Zwiefelhofer/Walby/Butler** - Discussion was made regarding the benefits and cost downsides of continuing with a printed newsletter. It was recommended to assemble a committee to determine the content needs and the desires of the general membership. Volunteers were called to serve on the committee.
- c) **Student Events Publication - Butler/Walby** – Tabled for future meeting.
- d) **Performance Grants - Catherine Walby, NCTM** - Reimbursements were given in the past to students who chose to participate. At the divisional and national level we do this depending on how far the student must travel to reach the event. The current policy is to give a max of \$100 to students going to state for a maximum of 10 students. It was proposed that students need to apply for this grant to be able to receive it. Nick moved to have an application process for division and national. Rachel moved to second. The board discussed the need for a recital requirement when writing the application. Motion passed unanimously.

**IX. Announcements**

- a) Members, as individuals, are invited to look into GEEO (Global Exploration for Educators Organization) , a 501c3 organization that sends teachers abroad. For more information: [www.geeo.org](http://www.geeo.org). or toll-free at 1-877-600-0105 between 9 AM-9 PM EST.
- b) A reminder that MusicLink is a good resource for students in financial. For more information: [www.musiclinkfoundation.org](http://www.musiclinkfoundation.org)
- c) We are in need of collecting conference booklets for archives from the following years: 2005, 2006, 2007, 2008, 2009, 2010, 2011 and 2012. Contact Monica Scholz if you have one to spare.
- d) WSMA list: Individual teachers may purchase the entire piano list (or vocal, etc) for \$10 total. This is a change from last year.
- e) The next meeting will be via teleconference on Friday, February 5, 2016 from 10am to noon for the executive board. During the summer, the meetings will be held on Friday, June 3, 2016 from 9:30 to noon for the executive board and 1:30 to 3:30 for both the executive board and the administrative council.

**Adjournment** - Rita motioned to adjourn. Nancy seconded. The meeting was adjourned at 11:07pm.