

WMTA EXECUTIVE BOARD MEETING MINUTES

Teleconference Meeting

February 21, 2020 10:00am – 12:00pm

On the Call: Rachel Fritz, Nicholas Phillips, Sydney Alexander, Mickey Lytle, Mary Ann Olvera, Opala Bilhorn, Sandra Statz, Mickey Lytle, Justin Krueger, and Katie Butler

I. Call to Order/Welcome: 10:07 am

II. Adoption of Agenda Opala Bilhorn motioned. Sandra Statz seconded. Approval by Consensus.

III. Approval of Minutes Opala Bilhorn motioned. Sandra Statz seconded. Approval by Consensus.

IV. Reports of Officers

- a. **President, Rachel Fritz** – See attached report. The MNTA Competition Chair is currently open. If anybody is interested, or knows somebody else who might be interested, please contact Rachel Fritz. We are working on the WMTA weekly emails. Board members should consider what they need to communicate to the members using this schedule. MTNA offices are moving to a smaller location in Cincinnati. Membership continues to be a challenge throughout MTNA at a national level but, they are always discussing this and ways to improve membership.
- b. **Immediate Past President, Nicholas Phillips, NCTM** – No report.
- c. **1st VP-Conference, Kayme Henkel, NCTM** – Not present. See attached report. This year's Conference will be held on October 23-24 at the Ingleside Hotel in Pewaukee. Mara Gibson has agreed to attend as our Guest Artist.
- d. **2nd VP-Membership, Justin Krueger** – See attached report. The updated membership database by district is up-to-date and has been distributed to local chairs for auditions.
- e. **Treasurer, Sydney Alexander** – See attached report.

V. Reports of Program Chairs

- a. **Arts Awareness and Advocacy, Teresa Drews** – Not present. See attached report. As Conference this year is taking place in Milwaukee, we are working to get political leader letters for our booklet. This is also done by MTNA and helps to make elected leaders know who we are and what we are doing. Teresa Drew will also be attending the MTNA Arts Awareness and Advocacy meeting.
- b. **Badger Keyboard Competition, Mary Anne Olvera, NCTM** – See attached report. Olvera is currently working on a site chair for Badger South. Olvera is also working on quotes, online options, or shipping options for all the Badger printing costs as she doesn't have an Office Depot or Office Max nearby to receive the MTNA discounts.
- c. **Badger Vocal/Instrumental Competition – Opala Bilhorn, NCTM** – See attached report. All the judges are secured. Dates and information are all set and in the attached report.
- d. **College Faculty Representative, Jessica Johnson, NCTM** – Not present. No report.
- e. **District Auditions, Sandra Statz, NCTM** – See attached report. Everything is moving forward and on track.
- f. **Independent Music Teachers Forum, Mickey Lytle, NCTM** – See attached report. Lytle is seeking information about interest from members in doing a music exchange at Conference. The board members expressed their thoughts, opinions, and experiences from similar activities. The Conference committee will determine if the logistics of this idea will work in our upcoming Conference.
- g. **Local Associations, Mary Anne Olvera, NCTM** – See attached report. MTNA leadership bites were well received and Olvera thinks this is a great way to keep the members engaged and Wisconsin should be involved.

VI. Standing/Special Committees

- a. **Finance Committee, Sydney Alexander** – The board discussed the implementation of a new WMTA \$1000.00 grant for Local Associations to bring in additional speakers or educational events to benefit their members. Whichever Local Association is applying for it will need to assemble a detailed request. The application form has already been created and further information about how to send the request is included on that form. Information will be sent out to members on March 1st. These will then be due by May 1st. The finance committee will review the applications and submit recommendations to the executive board who will vote on the recipient for this award during the summer meeting. One other note, the committee is looking for one additional member to join the committee if they are interested please contact Rachel Fritz.

- b. **Nominating Committee, Nicholas Phillips, NCTM** –Phillips is leading the nominating committee. Mickey Lytle has agreed to be on the slate for president elect.

VII. Old Business

- a. **State Piano Competition, Rachel Fritz** – This idea is still in the planning stage and more information will be coming in the future.

VIII. New Business

- a. **Position Descriptions, Rachel Fritz** – As an individual leaves a position, a description of duties can be used to give a potential new member a clear idea of what to expect if they are considering the position. It can also become a guide to their responsibilities when they take it over. All the board members will work on creating these descriptions during the coming year.
- b. **2021 Foundation Fellow, Rachel Fritz** – We are pleased that last year’s fellow, Deanna Roen, was fully funded through our regular donation programs. The board discussed potential names for the next foundation fellow to be voted on at the June meeting.
- c. **Conference Flyers, Kayme Henkel, NCTM** – The board discussed the cost and benefits to printing and mailing the tri-fold brochure and registration form, as was done in the past, compared to other options such as the postcard done last year. It was decided that, in addition to the membership emails, the postcard is the best way to move forward. It is the most cost-effective method for mailing a reminder to members as the difference saves the association several hundred dollars.
- d. **Conference Invitation to MMTA and MAPTA, Rachel Fritz** – Milwaukee has three other music associations other than WMTA. Milwaukee area Piano Teachers Association has more overlap in membership than the other. When we held Conference in Madison many members attended at the \$55 first time attendee rate. The board discussed if we wanted to offer the same option to music teachers in these Milwaukee associations. The board fully supported the idea.
- e. **WMTA Mission Review, Rachel Fritz** – Our mission is to advance the value of music study and music making to society and to support the professionalism of music teachers. Rachel Fritz asked that the board members take a moment to consider their own position and how it related to the WMTA mission statement. Board members then shared the thoughts they had about their individual positions. An additional question was to consider what this mission means to them and then they shared their thoughts. Fritz shared her thoughts on the importance for the board members to remember to stay focused on our mission in tasks and priorities as the board members guide the association forward. This will be a discussion point for the June meeting

IX. Announcements

- a. Don’t forget to vote in the upcoming MTNA election.

X. Adjournment 12:00pm. Statz motioned. Krueger seconded.

Reports for WMTA Board meeting February 21, 2020.

Executive Committee

PRESIDENT

Resignations: Hector Landa, MTNA Competitions Chair

Appointments: Dr. Kaju Lee, MTNA Compositions Competition Chair, Kathryn Nelson, Media Chair

Vacancies: MTNA Competitions Chair

Correspondence: Thank you for Joslyn Vandermause for the Jane Scheef grant to attend the 2020 MTNA conference

The East Central Division Presidents have been meeting monthly via ZOOM. Items discussed of note:

- MTNA offices will be moving. It has been determined that they will be staying in the downtown area of Cincinnati but in a smaller footprint of space.
- Membership continues to be a challenge throughout the organization.
- Next meeting of the ECD will be at 5 pm on Sunday, March 22 at the MTNA conference. All WMTA members are encouraged to attend.

A WMTA dinner has been arranged on Sunday March 22 at 7 pm at LuManatis which is about 4 blocks from the conference hotel.

Respectfully submitted,
Rachel Fritz, President

IMMEDIATE PAST-PRESIDENT

No report
Nick Phillips, Immediate Past-President, NCTM

1st VP - CONFERENCES

As you have hopefully all seen, our 2020 conference is set for October 23-24 at the Ingleside Hotel in Pewaukee. If you have any questions about how we ended up with that site, please feel free to ask. In summary, doing the conference in downtown Milwaukee was going to be much more expensive than I think we can ask our teachers to pay and more than we need to cover as an organization. Couple of things which will be different about this conference - we will only have one room of sessions. When I looked at the amount we were paying for the extra piano rental as well as what we were going to need to pay for the second room rental as well as the sound system and AV equipment for the second room, at this point I don't think the amount of money it costs us as an organization is worth having the second room. It also makes it much more difficult to find a hotel which is willing to work with an organization of our size and at the cost which works for our organization.

Our guest artist is Mara Gibson, her topic will still be determined, dependent upon the sessions selected by the committee looking over conference proposals. Her contract has already been signed, the other presenters are still to be determined.

2021 will be in Green Bay, I have already started some discussions with a tourism manager in that area who is excited to have us and willing to help. I just have not had much time yet to follow up with him.

Respectfully submitted,
Kayme Henkel, NCTM

2nd VP – MEMBERSHIP

We have had a few new members join in addition to being slightly above our numbers last year. A few new members took advantage of the 1/2 price membership after January 1.

The updated membership database by district is up-to-date and has been distributed to local chairs for auditions. One of the difficulties seems to be that if members have a change of address, or any other information, especially phone and email, if they don't let us know, there really is no way of us tracking. If local associations could encourage members to check their info periodically, that would go a long way to helping in this regard. Please let me know if there is any way I can make the information more user friendly!

"The Gathering" - group of NEW piano groups that takes place on Friday, Feb, 28. This was postponed from a January date due to lack of RSVPs. Looking at a collaborative venture with WMTA LAs and other groups in NEW. Will have more details after the meeting takes place.

Justin Krueger, NCTM

TREASURER

YTD (July 1, 2019 – February 21, 2020)

\$ 23, 302.74 Income (membership dues, conference, competitions, etc.)

\$ 34, 784.87 Expenses (conference, competitions, administration, grants, etc.)

\$ - 11, 482.13 Balance

Current Account Balances

\$ 9, 108.12 Checking

\$ 10, 240.62 Money Market

\$ 124, 797.46 CD 2597

\$ 19, 132.28 CD 6421

- The Finance Committee and I have finalized the application for the new \$1000 Local Association Special Project Grant. The timeline is March 1 send-out, May 1 submission deadline, Finance Committee review in May, Executive Board vote at June meeting, recipient announced by June 15.

- I am working on the Treasurer Position job description. I would like to work through one more Auditions season first, however, since this is the most active period for the Treasurer and last year was my first time doing everything.

- I have recently been reading/studying a book entitled "Running QuickBooks in Nonprofits," which has been an immensely enlightening resource! I look forward to incorporating some of its tips so I can better serve WMTA as Treasurer.

Submitted by: Sydney Alexander WMTA Treasurer

ARTS AWARENESS AND ADVOCACY

The Arts Advocacy Chair is currently working with Katie Butler and Katie Nelson to send an informative email in one of our upcoming weekly WMTA emails. Additionally, she is in the process of contacting local elected officials to write letters in support of the arts for the October 2020 conference booklet. Wisconsin's arts advocacy scene is forging ahead with a new initiative: Creative Wisconsin Day. Formerly known as Arts Day, Creative Wisconsin Day is "Wisconsin's day to celebrate and speak up for the arts, culture, community, and creativity, in every corner of the state." I am personally hoping to attend some of the day on behalf of WMTA.

Teresa Drews, Arts Awareness and Advocacy Chair

BADGER KEYBOARD COMPETITION

All information has been updated on the website, with pertinent info being:

- Badger Keyboard NE – UWSP, Saturday May 16
- Badger Keyboard NW –UWEC, Saturday May 16
- Badger Keyboard S – WMC (Wisconsin Conservatory of Music), Sunday May 17
- Entry deadline = April 20

Additionally, we have received confirmation for Badger S 2021 as UW-Parkside, Sunday May 16, 2021.

To date, all judges for all events have been secured and confirmed. Site liaisons have been secured, site managers secured at NW and NE, and I continue to work on filling the site manager position at Badger S. Trophies have been ordered and will be here sometime this week.

As the new chair, really enjoying this work and the contact I make with our members, the greatest frustration for me has been communication, timely or otherwise. While most have been responsive and very helpful, getting response and acknowledgement to emails has been very challenging.

A big thank you to Drew and Kayme, who have patiently answered my countless questions, knowing full well that there will be many more down the road, in an effort to avoid anything remotely resembling an Iowa caucus debacle.....

If there are any questions, please do not hesitate to contact me.

Respectfully submitted by Mary Anne Olvera, NCTM

BADGER VOCAL/INSTRUMENTAL

Badger Vocal/Instrumental State 2020

Dates: UW-Steven's Point, May 16, 2020.

Performances will be in the Noel Fine Art Center (1800 Portage St./Stevens Point, WI)

Deadlines:

April 20 computer system deadline, and April 20 postmark deadline for mailing in checks

Application Process:

1. Have students participate in District Auditions to qualify for the Badger Competition.
2. Complete the registration for Badger in the online system OVATION by April 20th. Please make sure to check you have chosen the correct performance site.
3. Mail your check for entries (\$25 for each student or each duet team) to Opala Bilhorn (508 Campus St./Ste 3/Milton, WI. 53563) Postmark deadline is April 20th. Make sure to include your summary form printed out from Ovation.

Volunteering:

All teachers submitting students are expected to volunteer. Your job assignment will be emailed to you by May 4th.

Any questions please contact Opala Bilhorn at: opalas.music.studio@gmail.com/262-745-1063

Respectfully submitted,
Opala Bilhorn, NCTM

COLLEGE FACULTY REPRESENTATIVE

No report

DISTRICT AUDITIONS

No report

INDEPENDENT MUSIC TEACHERS FORUM

1) I've been working with several connections to find a conference presenter who will speak to the attendees about "Copyright Law and the Music Teacher" and was successful. 2) I am still looking for article contributions for the 2020 newsletters. If interested, please email Mickey Lytle (musicbymickey@gmail.com).

3) I am also interested in getting feedback about holding a sheet music swap at conference. Members would bring new or gently used sheet music they no longer need and swap with other members. Leftover music would be distributed among the LA's at the end of conference for their own library use, give to new teachers, etc.

Mickey Lytle

LOCAL ASSOCIATIONS

It was found that some associations are experiencing increased numbers of attendance, while others remain static. It was also shown that, of the 14 Wisconsin associations, 11 LA's honored Members of the Year for their contributions and willingness to lead. All associations continue to offer great presentations, and some groups are opening up their meetings to neighboring associations, building on collaborative networks and growing positive culture.

Presidents continue to 'fight the good fight' of retaining and growing membership and encouraging volunteerism. Because these are chronic concerns of associations, strategies were discussed. We are seeing the same members stepping forward to take on the jobs/duties/challenges that the association faces, which has only served to burn-out dedicated members.

To that end, MTNA's 'Leadership Bytes' initiative may offer some support. After cross-country survey of teachers, the program head (who has Wisconsin connection) determined that many organizations feel stuck in using the same procedures/programs etc. that they have always used, and, while most are not at all resistant to change, that pathway to change is not clear. 'Leadership Bytes' will pass on small quips monthly, highlighting the techniques that have worked for some associations with an eye to promoting growth and engagement, and to enrich the membership. It is hoped that, in sharing these ideas, creative juices will be expanded. It is also an effort on the part of MTNA to solidly support their associations.

Following contact with the program head, I have reached out to presidents, asking them to send on strategies and ideas that have worked in their associations, which I, in turn, will send on to MTNA.

I have also reached out to LA presidents to encourage others to consider a WMTA board position with the Local Association Chair job. Nobody's hand has gone up yet.....and I am happy to continue to serve in this chair until it is filled.

Respectfully submitted by Mary Anne Olvera, NCTM