

PMTA Board Meeting

June 16, 2024

Kutztown, PA

Meeting called to order at 12:13 p.m.

Approval of the Minutes from November 4, 2023

Motion to approve by Susan Kuntz, Seconded by Maria. Motion passes.

Board Members present – Wendy Bachman, Amanda Gunderson, Mary Lynne Bennett, Melody Quah, Eun-Joo Kwak, Dee Ann Symington, Nanette Soloman, Jonathan Flowers, Miriam Shingle, Edward Kuhn, Justin Badgerow, Maria Asteriadou, Millie Eben – former PMTA President and Reading MTA president, Susan Kuntz, (student of Melody and president of Penn State student MTA – Rui Zhang)

Officer Reports

A. President's Report

Introduced Mille Eben, former PMTA President and Reading MTA President. Thank you to Maria and Melody, and Ian Duh with registration. Our PMTA Facebook Page has been updated (thank you Mary Lynne, Amanda, and Eun-Joo. Conference in Atlanta – attended State Presidents Advisory Council meeting. Suggestion from Peter Mack – board members create timelines of their job descriptions. Gary Ingle retired. Attended Eastern Division Meeting – new director is Allison Barr, who was the MTNA Teacher of the Year. Thanks Melody for attending Leadership Summit in September. We really need help with DSPF and State Competitions. No Competitions chair right now. Could we consider at Statewide leadership conference?

B. Treasurer Report

We did not need to draw from our investment. Overall income proposed to be around \$9k more for fiscal year 24-25. Overall expenses proposed to be around \$9k more for fiscal year 24-25.

Raise for Joy Carroll – propose to raise to \$60/hr. Motion by Wendy, seconded by Ed. Motion passes.

Motion to donate \$1100 to MTNA Foundation. Motion by Susan, Maria seconded.

MTNA Composition and Performance – propped increase of winners checks.

Elementary composition - \$200, Junior - \$250, Senior - \$300, YA - \$350. Amanda motion.

Seconded by Susan.

Membership Incentives – significant increase to proposed expense.

Motion to approve budget by Wendy. Seconded by Maria.

One suggestion to the treasurer: A “Chairman’s Fund” where there could be extra funds set aside for special projects.

C. Local Associations

Dee Ann – Westmoreland update. Patti Casella, new member, president.

Pianolessonsbypatticasella@gmail.com

Millie Eben – new Reading MTA president.

Erie – no website.

Willow Grove needs to be added to our website (renamed from Northern Delaware). President: Alex Ramirez.

York – goes to Facebook page rather than website

8 chapters represented at the meeting here. Different approaches to activities and meetings were discussed. Need to continue to foster a connection to colleges/college students – these younger musicians need to connect to the Local Associations and see the value of the organization.

Westmoreland – Sonatina competition model is well done

D. Membership

Miriam Shingle: we are now 14th largest in the country at 467 members (slight increase over last year). MTNA total membership down a bit.

Mentorship Program proposal- inspired by a Washington DC teacher mentorship program.

Title is “PMTA Early-Career Fellowship” – a \$500 stipend, dues reimbursement for one year, and State Conference reimbursement. Mentor of the applicant will receive full Conference reimbursement for each year of service. Discussion on several suggestions to the proposal were noted by Miriam. Changes will be noted in Miriam’s final version report. We did decide that \$1000 for five candidates would be the final recommendation, acknowledging the budget is for \$2000 at this time. Motion to approve the edited proposal – Maria, and seconded by Ed. Motion passes.

E. Conference Chair

Maria: A positive experience with the University. Smooth process. We would like more proposals to choose from. Good feedback on the concerts. Would like to see more attendees from outside the organization. Suggestion – more visibility about session topics could be listed online earlier or email blast or postcards. Sessions may need to be selected earlier.

F. Dorothy Sutton Performance Festival

Next is at LVC on Nov. 9. Jonathan was not here, and needs more assistance. A new online registration platform will be introduced.

G. Concerto Festival

Dr. Smith not here. No report at this time.

G. Collaborative Music and Certification

Nanette: Try to reinvigorate this area. Propose two divisions: Pre-college and Young Artist. Two prizes in each category, Pre-College \$200 and \$300 and Young Artist \$300 and \$400 per ensemble. Host institution could be Lycoming College during the Spring (first weekend of March). Motion to approve proposal with new prize money amounts: Mary Lynne, seconded by Ed. Motion passes. Website needs update.

- H. Foundation Fund – N/A
- I. Keystone Composition Competition
Discussed importance of significant feedback, ideally another judge or two, or more substantial comments are needed.
- J. Keystone Chamber Music Competition – N/A
- K. Sponsorship
Eun Joo- 14 member sponsors. New membership fee will be \$50. Each event is still \$25.

- L. Collegiate Chapters
Ed – 6 student chapters. One grant was approved for student travel to MTNA national.

- M. College Faculty
Melody - Masterclass performers call sent. Advertise the new mentorship program.

- N. Commissioned Composer
Henry: our selected composer is Ka-Chia Chen from Curtis Institute. Has agreed to the terms. Need to know the date for premiere – likely at Lycoming College. The composer has requested travel and lodging covered for the premiere – we will approve this request at the November meeting.

- O. Arts Advocacy
Susan – no interest yet about the \$50 credit for LA's to connect to their local arts council. Still working for Private Music Lessons to be added to high school transcripts.

- P. Independent Music Teachers Forum

Old Business

N/A

New Business

Ed Kuhn has offered to be appointed as a Chair for Diversity and Inclusion for PMTA. The National organization has started a website and established initiatives in this regard. Would like to create a link on PMTA website. Wendy appoints Ed as this new Chair.

Wendy will continue as president, but will move to another state at the end of November.

Amanda moved to adjourn, seconded by Miriam.

Meeting adjourned at 2:56 p.m.