



2020 State Affiliate of the Year

Board of Directors Videoconference

Meeting MINUTES

May 16, 2020 10:00 AM – 2:00 PM

Summary of Motions made during this meeting:

1. A motion was made to add \$150 as a line item to each of the non-piano categories of voice, strings, and woodwinds/percussion/brass, to be used to at the chair's discretion. PASSED

2. 2020-21 Budget was approved. PASSED

3. A motion was made to eliminate the following three BOD positions: Young Artist Competition Coordinator, Senior Competition Coordinator, and Junior Competition Coordinator. PASSED

I. Call to Order and roll call- 10:00 am

Members present are: Jeanine Skinner, Allison Gagnon, Kent Lyman, Ravonda Mormann, Denise Pugliese, Victoria Fischer Faw, Diane Blanchard, Diane Higgins, Mark Tollefsen, Annie Jeng, Barbara Furr, Kerry Carlin, Travis Alford, Eden Esters, Brown, Annette Stowe, Nicolas Lira, Frank Pittman, Laura Stokes, Dottie Buster, Margaret Louse Norwood, Sheila Dacus, Aviva Enoch.

II. Approval of the Agenda- Motion/Seconded Barbara Furr/Kent Lyman

III. Approval of the Minutes from the 2.8.20 NCMTA Board Meeting.

Motion/Seconded Victoria Fischer Faw/Kent Lyman. Diane Blanchard asked to clarify her statement about North Carolina's State Affiliate award in the new business section.

IV. Executive Officer Reports

A. President (Jeanine Skinner)

Jeanine shared with us the online presentation to NCMTA State Affiliate of the Year award by Martha Hilley, president of MTNA.

Jeanine is still looking for a Technology Chair (possibly need to eliminate this position) and String Chair. Jennifer Paschal is our interim Editor for one year.

The portal for MTNA is updated now.

- B. VP/ MTNA Foundation (Tonya Kirk) Reported by Jeanine- Christopher Goldston's father wrote both Jeanine and Vicky in appreciation for his wife's Foundation Fellow nomination.
- C. VP/ Membership (Allison Gagnon) Managing the email blasts has become cumbersome. Diane Blanchard asks if the secretary should be responsible for communicating the blasts. Vicky, when president, kept the communication with Akiko, the membership chair at the time. Allison is working on the membership concept so that it serves the members well. Jeanine added that it logical for Allison to continue the communication blasts since she has all of the membership files available to her. She is working on getting the information to Jeanine first before responding to emails.

In addition to this issue, Allison added there are music schools in her area that she would like to connect with for membership. Laura Stokes reminds us that MTNA is not just for piano teachers. Annie Jeng says that most music students do not have the bridge to learn about NCMTA. She desires to help do this as Student Activities Chair.

D. Treasurer (Denise Pugliese)

The checking account balance is \$10,392.43 and the Morgan Stanley account balance is \$7,151.86

We still have some bills to pay but Denise anticipates ending the year \$1000-\$2000 in the black. Some of this overage is due to the online State Piano Performance Festival this year. The budget is looking good. The 2020-21 budget shows approximately +\$4000. Annette Stowe asks about the budget for Vocal Section and Strings. Denise can add funds for a possible masterclass during the year or another event to help these sections grow. Frank added this should be for both voice and instrumental combined. There was discussion about the budget and what was designated for Performance Festival as "other expense". The conference accompanist line item is for both vocalists and instrumentalists. Can this money be moved around if not used in one area, can it be used for another area? Nicolas wants the funds for brass/percussion/woodwinds for advertising. Annette would

like to have the \$100-\$150 for the voice section so that it doesn't need to be discussed each year for a possible masterclass.

MOTION to add \$150 to the budget for each of voice, strings, ww/percussion/brass. Motion/seconded by Nicolas Lira/Annette Stowe. PASSED

The 2020-21 Budget was voted on and approved. PASSED

E. Secretary (Ravonda Mormann)

F. President-Elect (Kent Lyman)

Kent reports that we will need to do a virtual conference for fall 2020. Elements that we can replicate are conference recitals, sessions of interest with some interaction with members, and a business meeting which would require much interaction. We have a verbal confirmation with a concert artist for next year's conference. The MTNA Winners Recital will probably need to be online also. The states are allowed to choose how they will proceed with their conferences, according to MTNA. Sessions of interest could be similar to the webinars we have already been exposed to. The business meeting would need to be held as a video conference. How do we make the conference appealing enough to encourage people to participate? It will be free which is a plus. We could model other states like Alabama, who is doing a virtual state conference in June. We need a date to plan for. Most would rather not have Halloween weekend.

G. Past President (Vicky Fischer Faw)

Policies and Procedures Handbook is in the planning stages still. Other committee members are Cathy Kreplin and Barbara Furr. If there are important changes or job descriptions to add, please send them to Vicky.

Vicky is also chair of the nominating committee for even numbered years for the 2021-2022 Biennium Executive Officers.

V. Ex-Officio Report-MTNA Southern Division Director-Elect (Thomas Swensen)
Jeanine welcomes Thomas, the new Southern Division Director-Elect.

VI. Board of Director reports

A. MTNA Certification (Diane Blanchard)

There are 6-7 people who will become NCTM soon. One of Eden's students at Elon is one of them.

B. NCMTA Foundation Chair (Diane Higgins)

C. MTNA Competition Chair (Mark Tollefsen)

Jeanine welcomes Mark Tollefsen to the Competition chair. He has been a competition chair in Wisconsin in the past so he has experience with this type of job. It will probably be an online competition this year or it could happen in person and then have the recital virtually.

D. Student Activities Chair (Annie Jeng)

Jeanine welcomes Annie Jeng. She recently joined the faculty at UNC-G. Annie values bringing the new generation into the musical world and desires to be that bridge to help them. She would love to hear ideas to encourage young professionals as they enter into the musical world. Frank encourages that it isn't just piano students we want to introduce to NCMTA, but also other young instrumentalists/vocalists. There was some discussion about creating a collegiate division for instrumentalists and maybe follow with a vocalist division in the future.

E. Historian (Carol Ann Barry)

Jeanine announced that Carol Ann lost her mother to the corona virus recently. She is in our thoughts and prayers.

F. Constitution/Handbook Chair (Barbara Furr)

We have a couple of possible changes in the constitution, but Barbara is unsure how to vote on these changes at the conference. Therefore, the Constitution will need to be amended as follows:

1. Under Article IV, Section 1: Eliminate the position "Constitution/Handbook Chair" and to add the position "Constitution Chair" since the handbook is now the responsibility of the Immediate Past President.

2. The change of eliminating the MTNA performance coordinators from Article IV section 1. Kent clarifies that the competition chair is a part of the board and the competition coordinator's jobs are not being eliminated. The positions are still there and they will function as a committee.

MOTION to eliminate the following three BOD positions: Young Artist Competition Coordinator, Senior Competition Coordinator, and Junior Competition Coordinator. These coordinators will continue to report to the MTNA Competition Chair. Kent/Vicky— PASSED

Jeanine-Suggests we have a Local Association President's Representative on the board to stay in touch with the local presidents. This could mean that the local

presidents would not be voting ex-officio members. Vicky-The presidents are always welcome to come to the meetings, yet we need a representative on the board. This is a more active relationship. Frank feels this is not a good idea since all areas of the state need to be represented by their president. Diane Blanchard agrees with Frank but also thinks a representative would be a good idea to have one person that is a leader of that group. "Ex-officio" means whatever our members decide it is. For example, Thomas is an ex-officio member, but a full voting member. Kent said our local associations are all different from each other so it would be difficult to have one person speak for all of them. Vicky reminded us the thought behind this is not to stifle communication with local association presidents but to enhance it. It's too much for the state President to do this. There needs to be one person who is their leader. Someone to tell them about the meetings, let them know we value their input. Allison-Can the representative be just an extra layer of communication but still not eliminate them from the board? Thomas- There are several times a year, these presidents meet to discuss what is happening in their association. It is important for the local president to be on the board. Their role is to share with their membership what is happening at NCMTA. Vicky- Some of the presidents don't even know they are on the board. We need a coordinator who has some responsibility to check in with the local presidents and tell them relevant information. The point is to strengthen. Jeanine likes the word, "liaison". Annette- Can the president just ask one of the local presidents to be this person to communicate with them? Vicky suggests that the president just appoint one of the presidents to be the liaison and it would not be a formal title. If it works well then maybe we add it to the constitution later. Topic will be tabled and Jeanine will handle it as president.

Barbara – We need a quorum to vote. Does it have to be a live meeting or will voting on Zoom or video conferencing be acceptable? We need to know if that is an issue. Diane B- we must have 2/3 of membership vote to pass items. Frank-In article 7, there is no mention of the meeting having to be live. Perhaps we need to update to include online meetings.

G. Planning Senate Chair (Kerry Carlin)

H. Composition/Theory Chair (Travis Alford)

Jeanine- Welcome to Travis Alford, a faculty member at ECU who has taught composition and theory there for 4-5 years. He has spoken with Zach Zubow and is understanding how to make the transition to this position.

- I. Organ/Harpsichord Teachers Chair (Mary Lou Peeples)
- J. Piano Teachers Chair (Eden Esters Brown)

A special thank you to the repertoire committee who met and the new list has been submitted to the journal.

Dr. Mark Tollefsen and Diane Higgins will be doing the workshop this fall on Saturday, Sept. 19th at Ruggero. Registration fee will be \$30 for teachers and \$5 for students. Yong Im Lee Federle will be organizing this event.

Repertoire list- Eden is getting feedback from teachers. Many want the list earlier in the year (earlier than March). Also, many are saying the list is too limiting. There needs to be more choices in each category. Eden proposes to have a list every 3-5 years and have it more exhaustive. It would allow us to not have to renew the list every year. She would like to revamp the database, so it is more useful and expand the selection committee. Denise mentioned that in Chicago, it was helpful to have a large list and add/remove some pieces each year. Thomas has experienced 10 levels in the past that was a permanent list. This would alter the fall workshop significantly. Eden suggested it may be that we can have multiple people working on the list and maybe have an online format. Annie had a part in choosing repertoire this year and it already is a lot of repertoire on the list and a lot of pressure on those who choose the list. She would like to see more communication about the repertoire and not just one person but a committee perhaps. Vicky thought there could be a "Favorite Pieces" place on the website for teachers to have input into the rep list. Thomas questioned do we need more information with all of the information already online? Thomas- We could have 2 categories that students choose from that is set. Then a 3rd category that changes each year to choose from. Margaret- In recent years the workshop has been dwindling. As a teacher, she likes to be able to choose the student's music according to what they are working on and is in favor of abolishing the list entirely or keeping a list for several years. Eden- Many teachers like to still have the workshop. Annie- Having lists open up a plethora of repertoire that teachers don't know so it can be positive to have a list. Travis would be in favor of including local and state composer's music in one category. Thomas-The selection committee could decide what the category would be such as state composers one year, women composers another year, etc. Eden will put together a proposal for the next piano section meeting.

Elementary level- Eden suggests a timeline of the 2021 Repertoire and proposal at the next piano section meeting. Committee will be chosen from all areas of the state in addition to piano section board members.

Eden- now that we will have a virtual conference this fall, I suggest we do a “teaser” from the conference artist at our virtual conference.

K. Voice Teachers Chair (Annette Stowe)

Voice Performance Festival- had 16 people/ 15 submitted videos. Annette so much appreciates Frank’s help with the Performance Festival.

L. WW/Perc/Brass and NC Chamber Music Teachers Chair (Nicolas Lira)

Nicolas is further investigating how we can attract new instrumental members.

M. Piano Performance Festival Chair (Frank Pittman)

Frank had a net surplus of \$2200. This is unusual but the mileage was greatly reduced because of the virtual festival. He notified the online judges and got positive feedback from them. 97% of students who register for the in-person festival participated in the online festival. This is good participation and I think we can safely say, students will sign up for another online festival.

N. Voice Performance Festival Chair (Margot Hafner)

O. Arts Awareness & Advocacy Chair (Dylan Savage)

P. College Faculty Chair (Laura Chu Stokes)

Q. Independent Music Teachers Forum Chair (Dottie Buster)

R. Local Conference Chair (Kerry Carlin)

Current report is no longer valid since we just learned that the conference will be virtual.

S. Editor (Jennifer Paschal)

Jeanine- Jennifer has graciously stepped into the editor position and is looking at software to handle the online journal.

T. Development Chair (Jennifer Paschal)

U. Webmaster (Cathy Pesceovich Kreplin)

Jeanine-We are happy to have secured Cathy as our webmaster. She would like to be a person to support NCMTA in the background but not be an attendee to the meetings. This would be following a similar path from our last two webmasters.

V. Local Association Presidents' Reports

Cape Fear MTA (Flo Aquilina)
Chapel Hill MTA (Aviva Enoch)
Charlotte MTA (Margaret Louise Norwood)
Durham MTA (open position)
Greensboro MTA (Denise Pugliese)
Raleigh PTA (Sheila Dacus)

VII. OLD BUSINESS

- Interest in Zoom Summit in August?
 - What topic should we cover?
 - Who would lead?

If we need a Summit, it could be about the upcoming fall conference or about the coming elementary level in the Performance Festival. We could use Zoom.

- MTNA Grant for next year?

The deadline for this year is past, but we can think about something for the next year.

VIII. NEW BUSINESS

- Discussion of Virtual Conference- Kent

Thanks to Kerry Carlin for everything that he has done already at ECU to facilitate the fall conference.

Date- We are no longer limited to 2 days or the original dates we had for the conference. Vicky- Maybe have a 1 day live event combined with online options too. The original date is not our first choice. So Kent would advocate moving the date back to Oct. 23-24. Frank- let's decide the framework of the conference first then decide the date. Kent asks Frank if we have videos from the performance festival students. Yes we do but we would need parental permission to utilize them. Thomas- We may run into copyright issues with recorded music.

Vicky-Whatever we do for the conference needs to be easy for members to access.

Kent- We could make this available to all people not just members. Nicolas asks if we could use a summit for the board only, earlier in the summer and use it to discuss the conference? Jeanine- Cathy is exploring a blog for the website for members to contribute ideas about conference or other things.

Cost-Nothing has been said to conference artists yet about money.

Presentations/sessions- Should we use our own members or get outside people?

Eden- This is a good time for our organization to get back on track financially. We have many people in our state who are talented and can provide sessions free hopefully.

Denise- Registration fees pays for the conference so there will not be many funds available.

Kent- There could possibly be some technology fees. Jeanine-

We do have some funds available- she didn't use funds to travel to the National Conference.

State Competitions-Mark- We will probably need to go online with the state competition since the colleges are not scheduling events and to err on the side of safety.

Spring Journal- Should we delay the journal since we don't have any details about the conference. Do we need the publication right now, since we already have sent out the repertoire lists?

Kent- I have a sub-committee for input about the conference- Mark, Eden, and Jeanine. [After the meeting, Jeanine assigned an ad hoc committee to assist Kent in developing the virtual conference. The committee members are: Kent, Mark Tollefsen, Eden Esters Brown, Frank Pittman and Cathy Kreplin.]

IX. Announcements

Date for next Zoom meeting about Conference- June 8 at 10:00 am –2:00 pm

X. Adjournment 2:15 pm

Important Dates:

NCMTA Fall Piano Workshop Saturday, September 19, 2020

Next NCMTA Board Meeting October 29 or 30, 2020 or prior to the virtual conference.

Respectfully Submitted by Ravonda Mormann