

PMTA  
General Board meeting  
November 4, 2017  
Benjamin's Restaurant, Indiana, Pennsylvania

Meeting was called to order at 7:35 PM.

**Present:** Ed Kuhn, Teri Smith, Nanette Solomon, Steven Smith, Henry Wong Doe, Jackie Herbein, Mary Lynne Bennett, Deborah Rodgers, Amanda Gunderson and Dee Ann Symington from the Greater Pittsburgh chapter as the local association representative.

**Absent:** Patricia Powell, Paul Fierro, Lois Svard, Gilya Hodos, Chris Guzman, Elaine Friedlander, Sue Kuntz, Donna Beech, and Wendy Bachman.

**Correction to the minutes:** Nanette was present at June meeting.

Clarification needed that 2018 Eastern Division regional competitions will be at West Virginia University, the 2018 National conference will be in Buena Vista, Florida.

**Motion to approve as amended:** Steven Smith moved for the June 2017 minutes to be approved, Jackie Herbein 2<sup>nd</sup>. The motion passed unanimously.

**Motion to adopt agenda:** Nanette moves to adopt the agenda for tonight's meeting, Steven 2<sup>nd</sup>.

**President's Report:** Mary Lynne Bennett

Sponsorship Committee: Mary Lynne agreed to chair the sponsorship committee at the June 2017 board meeting. The committee met over the summer to revise guidelines, changes were approved by the executive board. They were implemented and put in force in Sept. 2017. These new guidelines are available on the PMTA website. Elaine Friedlander is the new Sponsorship Chairperson. She has contacted all of PMTA returning sponsors to explain our new process. The new calendar is on website It lists the sponsorship event and the PMTA state events. . LA events are not on calendar because there is already a local association page on the PMTA site. LA's have the option to pay to be a sponsor if they would like to.

There will be a per event fee. 1 event \$50.00, each additional event will be \$25.00.

The initial \$50.00 will give a logo and presence on the website and one calendar event. The listing will be for events only. Advertising of products will not be included.

Audit will be done in 2018. The audit committee will be formed by the treasurer.

Mary Lynne brought up liability insurance as an agenda item at the MTNA SPAC meeting during the Sept. 2017 Leadership Summit. PMTA has to pay double for liability insurance due to the sexual misconduct rider. Gary Ingle said that he is in constant dialogue with insurance but cannot do anything else at this time. Another president requested that MTNA send a letter to all local associations explaining and outlining the reason why this is not possible. Diana Viltrakis, MTNA administrative assistant requested PA and other states to compile the number of students from all of our local and state events and send it to her. This way she will know how many students in PA will need to be covered by the sexual

misconduct insurance. Teri Smith and Mary Lynne along with our LA presidents have been working on compiling this list.

Mary Lynne is working with Jackie to revise all of the job descriptions for all PMTA officers, board positions and event chairs. The revisions will be emailed once they are complete.

Steven Smith is now the Concerto Festival chair. Nanette Solomon is the Collaborative music chair. Mary Lynne is seeking a new Foundation Chair to take over for Ed Kuhn and a new DSPF registration system person to take over Mille Eben's duty. Michele Millington is working with Warren Magid so that she can take over the Keystone Composition Contest next year.

Duquesne has a new collegiate chapter consisting of 5 students (non-pianists) performance majors. Mary Lynne is the advisor. MTNA wants to improve collegiate membership because it is down.

PMTA is now a bronze level corporate sponsor of PMEA. A description of PMTA will be featured in their winter journal. We will place ads for our conference in their spring and summer journals. We plan to continue to place our conference registration postcards on PMEA's registration area tables.

We renewed our contract with Meghan Tinkham as our online communications editor. We extended her contract to one year.

Mary Lynne requested that board keeps an eye on the website to see if anything needs to be updated.

Mary Lynne was asked about placing a link for Nancy Galbraith's 2017 commissioned piece on the website. Mary Lynne said that Lois Svard is working on that.

#### **Treasurer's report:** Jackie Herbein

Financially PMTA is in very good shape. Our investments have done very well. 2015 initial investment – 110,000 now it is \$136,578.00.

The board needs to explore ideas for how we will use and distribute this money? Jackie charged the board to send recommendation for things that could be increased above and beyond our balanced budget. She requests recommendations before the end of the year. She mentioned that the only problem is that we cannot be sure that our investments will make this profit every year.

One suggestion that Jackie made is to raise the stipend that PMTA pays the winners of our competitions. This would be especially helpful to the winners to our Keystone chamber music competition where the prize money is often divided between 4 or 5 players.

Send ideas to Jackie, she will organize a report and relay this to the June 2018 board meeting.

2017 conference income was \$9,225.00. Total expense was \$7,312.00. This is due to unbilled expenses.

2017 -18 budget

PMEA advertising is new. Commissioned composer – we will pay \$250 per performer.

Mary Lynne asked for clarification of Newsletter item listed on the budget. Jackie said that it is the conference post card. The fee reflects the layout, postage and printing. Mary Lynne asked if in the future the design will be done in house or if we will pay to have someone design the card.

Henry Wong Doe said that he will try to design post card for next year.

Jackie will send a revised copy of the 2017 – 18 budget. The projected budget is accurate. The year to date is not accurate.

Mary Lynne asked for a motion to approve the projected 2017/2018 budget. Steven Smith moved to accept the 2017 -2018 budget. Ed Kuhn seconded. The motion was approved unanimously.

**Competitions:** Amanda Gunderson

There are 66 performers in addition to the composition competitors. Next year's competition will be held at Temple University on November 4, 2018. Amanda asked everyone to save the date and to recruit volunteers to help with the competitions. Amanda thanked everyone who was judging and monitoring. She expressed a special thank you to Henry Wong Doe (site supervisor) and Jackie Herbein (co-coordinator) for their amazing work. She asked that the board thank any IUP students for their help as monitors.

**DSPF:** Teri Smith

There are 4 years of data listed on the form. Attendance numbers are lower this year. 757 students and 130 teachers involved. 90 total students participated at the state level showcase recitals – 87 solo piano, 2 ensembles, and 1 composer winner.

Total income was from DSPF - \$3,145.00. Total expenses was 2,620.00. We made a small profit.

Mary Lynne suggested that the chapters with the most students at DSPF would be recognized at the conference.

**Collaborative Music** – Nanette Solomon.

No report

**Concerto Festival:** Steven Smith

0 entrants for this year's event.

**Arts and Advocacy:** Lois Svard (sent report)

Newsletter articles for advocacy chair are less effective. E blasts with current action items are better.

**Commissioned Composer:** Lois Svard (sent report)

There is a new format for submissions. No more CD – MP3 is the new requirement. Daniel Temkin will be the 2018 commissioned composer. He composed a piece for piano which Henry Wong Doe is planning to premier at the 2018 conference.

**Sponsorship:** Elaine Friedlander (did not submit a report)

Jackie reported that sponsors have paid for this year.

**LA Grants:** Gilya Hodos (sent report)

Grants were awarded in July and they were announced in the September newsletter. Three local chapters applied for grants and they all received matching funds.

Northern Delaware Valley Chapter had a Lecture/Demo with Tim Schafer.

NE PMTA - \$500 had Spencer Myer and Philadelphia Music Teachers had Brian Ganz.

**Local Association:** Sue Kuntz (did not submit a report)

Sue told Mary Lynne that she plans to have local association liaisons.

**College/University Faculty:** Chris Guzman did not submit a report.

**College Student Chapters:** Patricia Powell did not send a report.

**Conference:** Henry Wong Doe

Next year's conference will be at IUP. Last week Henry received the unfortunate news that Nelita True cancelled as our 2018 conference headliner. This is due to health issues. We were able to engage Ingrid Clarfield who agreed to present two workshops and a master class.

Jacob Ertl will play a recital for 1,000. Call for clinicians went out. Deadline is January. Henry received 1 or 2 inquiries.

IUP is planning to present the faculty recital. IUP will sponsor the reception.

2019 conference— Bloomsburg will be the host. Dates June 14- 16, 2019 – These dates are better for Bloomsburg. Henry suggested Music around the world – a celebration of music and musicians as a possible theme.

Jackie Herbein wanted to know if we should change our theme “Musical True-isms” since Nelita will not be our presenter. Henry said that the call for clinicians already went out so it will be difficult to change the theme.

Steven brought up the possibility of conference 2020 at Penn State - Mary Lynne said that the conference committee and the executive board have discussed the changing the timing and place of the June conference for 2020. The June conference seems to be problematic. The numbers are low due to weddings, graduations, traveling abroad etc. Board members also have difficulty with this date. We are looking at other options like a one day Friday conference at a hotel instead of a college campus. The cost would balance out between the cost of the venue and the fact that we are scaling back to just one day.

Nanette Solomon mentioned that this was already looked at in 2007.

Henry Wong said he would support this.

Steven said that to change the principal of having it in June should be a full board decision. .

Mary Lynne proposed that instead of a Sunday morning meeting in June at the conference, the board have a mini-retreat after the master class. We can have time to brainstorm and think about the conference date change and changes to the DSPF. We can come together we can hash it out. Nanette Solomon thought this was a good idea and mentioned that we still had the 2019 conference set up which gives more time to plan out any future changes to the conference. She suggested that we survey our membership.

Dee Ann Symington suggested that each LA president do a survey of their group and then respond. They can bring that info to the LA forum at the conference.

Nanette suggested that we could try to get this in motion by February or March so that we would have the data by June. Mary Lynne suggested that it might be best to gather the info at the LA forum held during the June conference.

Henry suggested changing the week in June. Mary Lynne said that it already fluctuates in June between the 1<sup>st</sup> 3 weeks.

Upcoming MTNA competition/ DSPF showcase recital weeks.

2018 – Temple

2019 – Penn State

Executive board agreed to the Nov. 24, 2019 weekend at Penn State

**Foundation Fund report:** Ed Kuhn

PA is one of the top 12 states for donations to MTNA. Ed is looking for someone to take over his position.

**Certification:** Paul Fierro (sent report)

Mary Lynne accidentally left certification off of the agenda but has a report that has been passed out.

Dee Ann Symington said that the Greater Pittsburgh chapter decided that in order to participate in their Streater-Smith piano competition the teacher had to be a member of GPC or pay \$40.00.

Jackie Herbein clarified that one does not have to be a member at the local level to enter students in the state level events. Teri Smith clarified that since DSPF is not a competition, PMTA can bar nonmembers from participation.

Dee Ann said that she called MTNA headquarters and they said that requiring local membership was up to each individual state. She said that she thought joining a local association was mandatory when she belonged to Tennessee Music Teachers Association. Mary Lynne said that she would ask Melissa Curtice at MTNA national.

It was suggested that all pianists be required to join a local. Mary Lynne said that this would require a bylaws change. It was mentioned that this would need more discussion as there are pros and cons.

**Membership:** Donna Beech (sent report)

Donna also sent an email clarifying that membership number was 538. Mary Lynne noted that within the past month there were 3 new members.

Mary Lynne noted that are 37 members with no local association affiliation.

### **Old Business**

At the June meeting Sue Kuntz requested that we would have a policy regarding Facebook page posts and non-sponsors. This question was left hanging because it was decided to revise the sponsorship guidelines.

Mary Lynne recommended a pin post on the top of the page clarifying what people can post in the way of self-promotional items. Do we want to allow our sponsors to place their event on the Facebook page in addition to the calendar listing on the PMTA website and do we want to block non-sponsors from advertising?

Nanette wanted to know if we can control that. Mary Lynne clarified that unwanted posts can be deleted by the administrators.

Deborah Rodgers mentioned that she previously set parameters for posting. This can be found on the info tab. It specifically states that only sponsors may post on the PMTA Facebook page.

Mary Lynne said that she will also add the information as a pinned post to the page.

Steven clarified that in the case of an institution, that commercial posting be limited to just one person.

Teri Smith read the notice on the PMTA Facebook page aloud. *<We request that you do not contact our members with unwanted solicitations or offers. Do not post things to sell, links to stores or commercial material unless you are a PMTA sponsor>*

### **New Business**

Mary Lynne proposed an incentive that the executive board agreed upon to have each local association send a representative to the annual state conference.

Mary Lynne stated that is preferable to have a representative from each local at the LA forum, at the conference. They can report on what their association has been doing, learn what is going on with other locals and to communicate with the state board. Some locals stated that they cannot afford to come. So PMTA would like to offer a 50% match. This would cover the conference registration fee. It would not cover travel or hotel expenses. This way they can be at the event and bring what they learn back to their local associations.

It would probably cost \$60.00 X 16 locales. It would be under \$1, 000.

Motion – Deborah Rodgers made a motion that PMTA offer a 50% reimbursement to each local association to send a representative from their local association to the conference. This is to be applied to the early bird conference registration fee– Steven Smith seconded the motion. The motion passed unanimously.

The meeting was adjourned at 9:02 PM

Treasurer's Report 11/4/17 respectfully submitted by Jacqueline Herbein shows total assets to be \$176,073.33.

PMTA Budget 2016-2017 excluding DSPF shows an income of \$38,230 and expenses of \$35,772.

PMTA Budget 2017-2018 excluding DSPF shows a projected income of \$36,075 and a projected expense of \$36,195.

2017 Conference shows an income of \$9225 and a total expense estimated at \$7312 (estimated \$1700 for luncheons never billed).

The DSPF 2017 had a total income of \$3145 and expenses of \$2620.58 so it netted a profit of \$524.42.

Edward M. Kuhn Jr. , Acting Foundation Chair reported that at the end of the third quarter, individual contributions to the MTNA Foundation Fund from PMTA members was \$2,252.00. He would also recommend that PMTA consider naming a Foundation Fellow at least every other year.

The Certification Report was respectfully submitted by Paul Fierro, showing two members have successfully received their certification; Kathryn Wright of Lewisburg and Simmi Tripathi of Pittsburgh.

The Local Association Grants Committee 2017-2018 grant requests totaled \$1075. The following chapters received the funding they requested; NDVC, NEMPTA and PHMTA. This was respectfully submitted by Gilya Hodos.

Amanda Gunderson updated the board on the PMTA Performance Competitions which were held Nov. 4, 2017 at IUP. There were 66 total entrants and many thanks to Henry Wong Doe for being the gracious site host! Eastern Division Competitions will be held Jan. 6-7, 2018 at West Virginia University and National Competitions will be at the MTNA conference, March 17-21, 2018 in Orlando, FL. Next year the performance competitions will be held on Nov. 4 at Temple University.

PMTA has renewed our contract with Meghan Tinkham as online communications editor through November 2018.