

# Minutes of the September 11, 2013 SPAMTA Executive Board Meeting

At Mitchell Piano Works, Stevens Point

**Members Present:** Gail Heywood, Jenny Burton, Judy Meyer, Heather Wagner, Joyce Gilligan, Eddie Brown, Mary Hofer, Nadine Lehr, Mary Stevens, Cindy Penker, Julia Weiser, Mary Thomas, Annette Rasmussen, Mary Ellen Mitchell and guest speaker Steven Bjella.

## Minutes of Business Meeting

- I. **Call to Order/Welcome** 10:33 AM by President Gail Heywood
- II. **Adoption of Agenda** Annette Rasmussen moved and Jenny Burton seconded that agenda be adopted. The agenda was approved by majority.
- III. **Approval of June 28, 2013 Minutes.** The Minutes were approved by email consensus.
- IV. **Officer & Chair Reports**

### A. **Presidents Report Gail Heywood, NCTM**

**MTNA** On May 1, 2013 MTNA, along with some other national music teachers associations, was informed by the Federal Trade Commission of an investigation into alleged anti-competitive agreements among our members and affiliates. The focus of the FTC's investigation is on a particular provision within the Code of Ethics related to student recruitment--

*"The teacher shall respect the integrity of other teachers' studios and shall not actively recruit students from another studio."*

MTNA also held a free conference call on June 9<sup>th</sup> to discuss issues faced by rural and isolated teachers. It was very well attended and open to members & non-members. It was facilitated by MTNA Board of Directors Scott Beard and Martha Thomas.

MTNA 2014 Conference will take place in Chicago, March 22-26 at the Marriott Chicago Downtown, featuring guest pianists, Bryon Janis & Spencer Meyer, as well as an opening recital with Jon Nakamatsu (piano) and Jon Manasse (clarinet).

### **WMTA**

- Our state membership currently stands at 481 members; Wisconsin is the 22<sup>nd</sup> largest state chapter. Our membership year ends on June 30<sup>th</sup>—members are reminded to renew.

- The state conference will be held on Nov. 8-9 in Appleton, workshops will be held on ‘Collaborative Performance’, ‘Mapping Music for Memorization’, ‘Yoga For Musicians’ and ‘Collaborate or Compete: Sports & Music for the Young Artist’. Barry Green is the featured clinician and the district chairs will have a Thursday evening training session on the WMTA Auditions online system beginning at 5 p.m. (it will be a 3 hour session—chairs are strongly encouraged to attend this training session).
- District Auditions changes: Page turners are allowed for D3, D2NM or accompanists. Legally downloaded, documented music is acceptable. There is no additional cost for postage to out of district teachers for their student’s comment sheets. D2NM and D3 must have two original pieces of music for their performance. Future judges training workshop will be scheduled sometime this year.
- WMTA’s treasury stands at \$192,263.91 and was recently audited by Wegner & Associates.
- Badger Collegiate Competition took place on May 18<sup>th</sup> @ UW-Stevens Point: winner was Julian Delfino, student of Anthony Padilla at Lawrence.
- Badger Non-keyboard took place on May 11 @ UW-Stevens Point—48 students participated.
- Badger Keyboard was held at UW-Oshkosh with 203 participants. The 2014 Badger Keyboard competition will take place in Stevens Point on May 17<sup>th</sup>. There is a possibility that for future Badger Competitions, schedules and information will be posted online (eliminating the need for emails). It was also discussed that for future Badger Competitions, after judges are secured for your area district auditions, please make a note that the names of the judges should be sent to Kayme Henkel, Badger chair. This would eliminate the chance of students who participate in the Badger Competition having the same judge as they did for district. There was also discussion with regard to the possibility of the Badger winners performing in a recital at the state conference (just in the preliminary stages at this point). There was also positive input in regard to students that “win” two years in a row at Badger, need to move up a grade level the following year (assuming they are indeed at Badger again that year) to participate with an older group of kids - to somewhat level the playing field so to speak.
- Local Association news—major issue amongst all the locals in the state pertains to membership recruitment and retention.
- WMTA has hired a new person to handle the central office duties: Katie Butler. In an effort to obtain better retention of employees, the WMTA Administrative Specialist is now shared with the Wisconsin Choral Directors Association. Ms. Butler will work part-time at both positions in the center.

- Members are reminded that both MTNA & WMTA support the works of the Musiclink Foundation. MusicLink provides financial aid for potentially gifted students who have been identified by their school or music teacher. Students who show an interest in taking music lessons, but cannot afford full fee lessons, are linked with qualified music teachers willing to reduce their fee by at least half to make the lessons more affordable. Because of the partnerships that MusicLink shares with businesses, MusicLink teachers are able to take advantage of discounts on music, materials, teaching aids, electronics, software, etc. for their MusicLink students. The MusicLink Foundation offers MusicLink students \$250 Summer Music Camp Scholarships, reimburses MusicLink teachers up to \$100 per year for out-of-pocket expenses incurred on behalf of their MusicLink students, and assists MusicLink students with getting practice instruments. <http://musiclinkfoundation.org/partcpat.php4#regform>

### **Correspondence**

- June—thank you notes to Aber Suzuki, WMTA and the Vivace Collegiate Chapter for their donations to the Robert Vandall residency.
- June—processed the final report to MTNA Foundation Fund on our Vandall program and included a CD with photos.

### **V. SPAMTA Treasures Report. Judy Meyer**

Checking \$1400.00

CD \$1006.00

### **VI. OLD BUSINESS**

- 1. Robert Vandall program**-Thank you to all who helped make this event a huge success.
- 2. SPAMTA 2013-2014- Calendar**—At last June’s Executive Board meeting, the board created (and approved) the 2013-2014 calendar.
  - a. Fall Festival**—The Executive Board discussed that due to reduced membership (and members retiring), participation in the FF continues to decline.

DESCRIPTION	2002	2012
Students Entered	175	102
Entry Fee	\$12.00	\$12.00

Participating Teachers	15	10
Judges Fee	\$22.00	\$30.00
Mileage	.20/mile	.45/mile
Box Lunch	\$5.75	\$9.50+tip

After some discussion, it was decided to retain the Fall Festival for 2013 and to raise the entry fee to \$20 from (\$12.00—which has been the registration fee since 2004). This will help us defray rising costs--judges' hourly wage was increased to \$30.00/hr., mileage was increased to .45 cents, administrative costs (box lunches, certificates, etc.). We also recommend having a potluck for the workers and the judges.

\*MOTION PRESENTED ON FLOOR TO MODIFY THE FALL FESTIVAL FEE FROM \$12.00 TO \$20.00. Discussion of concerns of the increase in fee made by Mary Thomas & Eddie suggested "tableing" the issue until next meeting. Jenny suggested 1 kid \$20 a piece, 2 at \$15 a piece for families with multiple participants. But Motion was made to increase the fee to \$20.00 by Julia Wieser and seconded by Eddie Brown and approved by all

b. **Winter Recital Discussion:** Because our past two winter recitals were not successful, we decided to replace this event with a spring recital that features WMTA Badger students who were given placements and WSMA I or I\* students.

**THIS SPRING RECITAL WILL TAKE PLACE ON APRIL 6<sup>TH</sup> AT THE CHURCH OF THE INTERCESSION @ 3:00 FOR WMTA & WMSA participants.**

## V. NEW BUSINESS

1. Membership Recruitment Ideas—We have a few posters for SPAMTA that were designed by a high school senior. Also, on the SPAMTA website, you can find on the “Who We Are” tab, a 20 minute video which gives an in-depth look at all the benefits and services afforded to members at the national, state and local level. SPAMTA can use suggestions from our members on how we can attract and retain members in our local chapter.

2. 2013 Stevens Point Member of the Year nominations— a member who has made a significant contribution to the advancement of their association through professional activities within the past three years. Consideration for selection as Member of the Year includes: distinguished service to the profession; active and innovative leadership, and outstanding contributions to their association and their community. The award will be presented at the state conference in November.

3. Service Recognition and Retirement Presentation—Annette Rasmussen, one of the founding members of SPAMTA has served our organization in several positions. We are extremely thankful for Annette’s service, wisdom and support of arts education in Stevens Point.

4. Hal Leonard Teacher Workshop for 2014—One of the topics addressed at the June SPAMTA Executive Board meeting was the possibility for hosting another teacher workshop in Stevens Point. Rationale was that perhaps it would be a way to bridge the gap and make connections with other IMTFs in the community. We have been in contact with personnel at Hal Leonard Publishing Company, (Cindy Ovokaitys Manager of Clinics & Workshops) at Hal Leonard Corporation regarding the feasibility of a teacher workshop with a tentative date of 2014. HL periodically hosts clinicians’ workshops at various locations in Wisconsin, however, the nearest location for us has been in either Appleton or Oshkosh. This event would be jointly coordinated with Mitchell Piano Works and at this point we are looking at one of the two clinicians: a) Phillip Keveren or b)Eric Baumgartner. In the fall of 2013, HL will be working on scheduling workshops for the upcoming year and we will definitely be in the program. HL will provide door prizes and some advertising (posters for MPW). At this point, there will be no cost to SPAMTA.

Motion to adjourn Business meeting was made by Eddie Brown and seconded by Mary Hofer.

Guest Presentation by Steven Bjella “Ways to include improvisation in Lessons” followed the business meeting and a luncheon honoring Annette Rasmussen followed the guest presentation.

Respectfully Submitted  
Heather Wagner