



# 2020 State Affiliate of the Year

## Board of Directors Meeting Minutes

February 8, 2020

10:00 AM Room 106 Meredith College

### Summary of motions made during this meeting

1. To raise the registration for Piano Performance Festival fee from \$20 to \$25 for solo only. (Duet stays at \$30 for District and State) **PASSED**
2. To reduce the Performance Festival judge fees from \$55 back to \$50. **NOT PASSED**
3. To increase minimum Board meeting mileage reimbursement to 100 miles round trip effective next year. **PASSED**
4. To not have a conference commissioned composer this year only and reassess for next year. **PASSED**
5. To reduce the per member donation from the scholarship fund from \$5 to \$3 for this year and reassess the next year. **PASSED**
6. Motion that the fall workshop clinician honorarium be increased to \$350 per clinician. **PASSED**

I. Call to Order and Roll Call (10:10 am)

Members present: Jeanine Skinner, Allison Gagnon, Barbara Furr, Tonya Kirk, Kent Lyman, Victoria Fischer Faw, Denise Pugliese, Diane Higgins, Sheila Dacus, Dottie Buster, Nicolas Lira, Annette Stowe, Jennifer Paschal, Eden Esters Brown, and via Skype: Diane Blanchard, Laura Stokes.

II. Approval of the Agenda -Motion /Seconded: Vicky Fischer, Denise Pugliese

III. Approval of the Minutes from the October 31, 2019 NCMTA Board Meeting

Motion/Seconded: Kent Lyman, Barbara Furr

IV. Executive Officer Reports

- A. President (Jeanine Skinner) Some aspirations for the future that came out of the 2019 NCMTA Summit are: to add an elementary level at the district

level, add a collegiate /adult level at state level, and to include more instrumentalists.

- i. Jeanine attended the MTNA Leadership Summit in Cincinnati and it was wonderful. There was a tour of the MTNA offices, artwork from each state, meetings by size of the state, meetings by division, state advisory board, preview of conference, fireside chat panel with leadership, as well as a program on personality types.
- ii. A letter of congratulations was sent from national to NCMTA for being the **co-winner of the 2020 State Affiliate of the Year**. Vicky, the sitting president at that time, will receive a full ride scholarship to the national conference as a result of this honor.
- iii. On Dec. 20, 2019 there was a breach on our website. A member's information was compromised. It is cleaned up now thanks to a professional webmaster.
- iv. Welcome to Nicolas Lira, our new WW/Perc/Brass/Chamber Chair, Eden Esters Brown, our new piano section Chair, Allison Gagnon our new VP of Membership, Tonya Kirk, our new VP Foundation Chair, Kent Lyman our Pres-elect, and Vicky Fischer, the Immediate Past President.
- v. Jeanine will renew her NCTM this year.
- vi. Local associations are our grass roots leaders and we want to help them be informed about how NCMTA can be a support system to them. In her report she lists some ideas as examples:
  - Offer to do a program for a group, or just visit one of their meetings to create a bridge to the various communities
  - Initiate an “exchange program” for lack of a better term, where presenters in one association would exchange with a presenter from another association.
  - Looking into the future, I would like to plant seeds to possibly grow another local association that would affiliate with NCMTA/MTNA
- Vii. She wants to keep cost in line and help stabilize the budget.
- Viii. Jeanine passed around a list to sign if you want to be a part of the Gala table at the National Conference in March and the Southern Division Dinner.

B. President-Elect (Kent Lyman) Conference date is coming soon. Kerry Carlin is in touch with ECU and will give the date soon (first choice is Oct. 15.) Kent is considering the Pedagogy artist for the conference next fall. The theme could be something regarding 2020. Vicky suggested Karen Thickston, Martha Hilley, or Lisa Bastien, or possible composers such as Jeremy Siskind (with Hal Leonard). Kent congratulates NC on the number of winners going to National (names of the winners are in his report).

C. VP/ Membership (Allison Gagnon) Allison is trying to keep things up to date on the directory. Her report is a job description basically. Many college faculty do not have their NCTM. She wants to connect with section chairs to find out what information would be helpful to them. There are some email addresses that are no longer valid and some members who don't have email at all. Could we put something in the publication to ask if members are receiving the emails, and if not, to contact Allison? How does membership get the password to the directory on the website? Also, can we put the years' worth of e-blast emails that are sent out for the new members to access on the website? Vicky says we are underutilizing the local presidents/leadership for their help with things like this. They know the members who need extra help. Request from National in the membership list which local association they belong. What goes online for the directory? Should we add what their area of expertise is for members? We may need to add a category that is not instrument specific like for music education members. Vicky added if you contact and don't hear from the local president, it would be good to add a second leader of local association like pres-elect just to have a second person to contact. Allison reminds us that new members can join for a reduced rate at this time of year. Annette suggests sending this to NATS and other groups associated with MTNA and to place the reduced rate on website too. Laura suggests to find and educate college students as to what is the draw for them to join NCMTA?

D. VP/ MTNA Foundation Report (Tonya Kirk) Tonya congratulated the membership for supporting 2 fellows this year- Kerry Carlin and Margaret Goldston. Looking ahead, she suggests nominating one fellow at a time and focusing efforts to educate about the foundation during the whole year, not just at the state conference. Laura Stokes asked who has received or applied for the national grants in the state? On the website there are suggestions on how a teacher may use a state grant. We should be able to get that list from National.

E. Treasurer (Denise Pugliese) Denise reported the totals in the accounts: checking \$6657.92 MS \$8127.71 We have been losing money a little bit all along. Our income is affected by lower membership. The finance committee met before the board meeting and has the following suggestions to help balance our budget:

1. Finance committee suggests we raise the registration for Piano Performance fee from \$20 to \$25 for solo only. Duet stays at \$30 for District and State. Board did not think this would affect student participation. Fees have not been raised in a long time. It was not increased to cover the Pay Pal charges when we went online. Motion/seconded by Denise Pugliese-Vicky Fischer- PASSED

2. Reduce judging fee from \$55 to \$50. We raised it to \$55 one year ago. We should reevaluate in a year. Reimbursement of judge mileage, is unchanged. This would save us about \$800. Tonya asked, do we need to have all of these changes in one year? Can we raise conference fees instead of judge fees? It sends the wrong message to cut the judge pays. Vicky added we need to anticipate added costs in the future for festivals/conferences. Motion/seconded by Denise Pugliese- NOT PASSED(13-4)
3. Eliminate Board meeting mileage- (\$800/year) Nicholas asked can we just raise the minimum mileage? (30 miles one way currently)

MOTION was made to increase minimum reimbursement mileage to 100 round trip effective next year for Board meetings. Members can always deduct it from their taxes, too. Motion/ seconded by Jeanine Skinner/ Sheila Dacus- PASSED

4. Commissioned composer concert is not well attended at the conference. Should we eliminate this year and decide to do it every 2 years? The cost is currently \$750- National matches with the other \$750. Annette suggests this is the only thing we do to encourage music composition in NC. Why is it not encouraged more? Allison- is there a grant to help fund this? Diane Blanchard- added that some states don't do the commissioned composer every year. Can we encourage composers to write music that is accessible to our students? Vicky tells us there is an open position in the composition chair so who would be responsible to commission for the next conference in 2020? Nicholas suggests offering a session/master class with the composition composer where they talk more about their process of composing. Ask them to compose something more useful to us as teachers. It takes 3-4 months for composer to compose something.

A MOTION was made to not have a conference commissioned composer this year only and reassess for next year. Motion/seconded Vicky Fischer/ Sheila Dacus PASSED (12-5)

5. Scholarship fund- We currently give this fund \$5 per member. This helps student winners with travel money to Southern Division and then to National. Diane Higgins says this cut would really hurt the national winners. We have 4 winners who will perform this year.

A MOTION was put forward to reduce the per member donation from the scholarship fund from \$5 to \$3 for this year and reassess next year. Motion/seconded Vicky Fischer/ Ravonda Mormann - PASSED Diane B. suggests we adjust yearly according to how many students we have going.

F. Secretary (Ravonda Mormann) No Report

G. Past President (Vicky Fischer Faw) Vicky needs to add the formation and upkeep of the policy and procedure handbook to the past president job description. She and Cathy plan to talk to all of the board members re their position to get an accurate job description for the handbook. Job descriptions will be due March 31st. Also, she is going to talk about issues regarding each job and how those issues affect the budget.

H. Ex-Officio Report

MTNA Southern Division Director-Elect (Diane Blanchard) see report

V. Board of Director Reports

A. MTNA Certification (Diane Blanchard) Diane congratulates Laura Stokes as our newest NCTM member. A statewide group is being formed for members who are interested in certification.

B. NCMTA Foundation Chair (Diane Higgins) Her report shows all of the numbers for the scholarship foundation.

C. MTNA Competition Chair (currently vacant)

D. Student Activities Chair (currently vacant)

E. Historian (Carol Ann Barry)

F. Constitution/Handbook Chair (Barbara Furr)

G. Planning Senate Chair (Kerry Carlin) as reported by Jeanine- At the planning Senate Committee meeting, they discussed the NCMTA Performance Festival summit and adding an elementary division. They also agreed that competitions should stay at the conference. Hard copy printed conference bulletin for conference was \$15 which was not enough to cover the costs. Perhaps the sponsors of the conference have posters we can use at the conference instead of the printing sponsors/advertisers in the bulletin. Jennifer will discuss with Kent for the next conference. It was suggested reestablishing the addition of Sunday at the conference. Kerry and Kent will discuss this possibility. They liked the Sat. evening social opportunities. It was discussed that some would like more time at the piano section meeting (90 min. this past conference). We should limit NCMTA winners recital to something around 5 min. per performer.

- H. Composition/Theory Chair (currently vacant)
- I. Organ/Harpsichord Teachers Chair (Mary Lou Peeples)
- J. Piano Section Chair (Eden Esters Brown) Thanks to Tonya for her help in the transition to this new role. Piano performance repertoire committee will convene soon to meet the April 1 deadline for the repertoire list.
  - i. Sept. 19 is the fall workshop and will be held only at Ruggero Piano in Raleigh. Yong Im Lee Ferderle, Vice Chair, felt like there were not enough people in Charlotte to have a workshop there. Two workshop clinicians receive \$250 each. Since there is only 1 workshop, Eden asked if she could reallocate funds and pay a little more than \$250.

MOTION was moved that the fall workshop clinician honorarium be increased to \$350 per clinician. Eden Esters Brown/ Vicky Fischer PASSED (13-1)
  - ii. Regarding the addition of the Elementary level, Eden has been in touch with Connie Kotis to get minutes of meeting. For the conference artist Eden is excited about the Cann Duo possibly coming for conference. She is looking to get someone who represents collaborative musicians for the conference.
- K. String Teachers Chair (currently vacant)
- L. Voice Teachers Chair (Annette Stowe) Can we add into the publication- Voice section news, instrumental news, etc? Section chairs can send in a report. Frank Pittman prepared quickly a form for voice duet category and now we have an adult category. Thanks to him for stepping up to get this done. The state voice performance festival is growing.
- M. /Perc/Brass and NC Chamber Music Teachers Chair (Nicolas Lira)
- N. Piano Performance Festival Chair (Frank Pittman)
- O. Voice Performance Festival Chair (Margot Hafner)
- P. Arts Awareness & Advocacy Chair (Dylan Savage)
- Q. College Faculty Chair (Laura Stokes)
- R. Independent Music Teachers Forum Chair (Dottie Buster)
- S. Local Conference Chair (Kerry Carlin) Kerry and Kent are creating a local conference chair job description.

T. Editor (Laura Pittman-in abstention) Need voice section news, woodwind brass news, composer news on template. Deadline is April 1st.

U. Technology Chair (currently vacant) Brittany would like to step away from the technology chair. She is still handling the mail currently. Discussion is happening with Cathy about if we need the technology chair since we have the webmaster and development chairs. Vicky and Cathy will be discussing if there are board positions that have overlapping duties. If you have suggestions to fill this position, please let Jeanine know.

V. Webmaster (Laura Pittman- in abstention) Jeanine asked Laura to look through the website and make some recommendations to improve the website. Membership is 502 currently. Laura needs a more recent pic for collegiate chapter and an updated letter to the colleges available. Can we put sample ads on the advertising page? Can the directory be easier to find? Update icons for publications to be more appealing. Website seems out of date. How can we keep old documents from coming up when things are Googled? The most up to date docs are available on the website but they are not the ones that come up when googled. Much of the revisions to the website will happen once we vote on when and how much to fund the revision with Laura. If you have updates from your board area, please send to Jeanine first then she will send to members or Laura for the website.

W. Development Chair (Jennifer Paschal) Her role is to help the organization create revenue. She is looking for grants to help meet budget short fall and to put us in a better financial position. She is working on revising the advertising portal on the website, streamlining payment system, and general fund raising. Board members are encouraged to get in touch with her in the spring to discuss the conference.

X. 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)

II. OLD BUSINESS: Vicky asks, can we trim our board some? Perhaps the local Presidents and competition chairs. Her sense from the local presidents was they didn't necessarily need to be on the board. There needs to be more communication between the local associations and board. It does change the voting pool/ quorum. Could we have them as ex-officio members-non -voting? Can we have more communication between presidents and board and keep inviting them to the board? Annette suggests we have a Voice Performance Director on the board and then chairs under them which would not necessarily be a board position. Eden

suggested that after connecting with local association, that the local association appoint one person to be a representative on the board.

A MOTION was made to restructure the 3 coordinators of the MTNA competitions from board positions to reporting to the competition chair. It was determined that we have to amend the constitution to remove positions from the board.

NC benevolence fund- Vicky asked Denise if we have any donations for this fund?

- III. NEW BUSINESS: Jeanine- We want to think about applying for an affiliate grant for any project we want. This is the same grant we received for the Summit last summer. We could use it for the website, festival, or membership drive. There are other grants available through MTNA like Program Development Grant (which includes \$5,000 for seed money to write the grant). Diane Blanchard said that the Summit, the new technology chair, and the creation of the Local NC Presidents Council were the reasons that NCMTA was awarded the MTNA State Association of the Year Award for 2020. These reasons might have also been the reasons that NCMTA was awarded the grant that was used for the Summit last August. How do we make our organization special? Summit doesn't have to be about the festival. We can expand the summit to include other aspects of our organization. Other ideas are to include community endeavors or focused themed events. Tonya has a contact that knows a grant writer. Possible committee members are Jennifer Paschal, Tonya and Vicky (and Allison?). We will meet via Zoom.
- IV. Announcements: Laura Pittman's husband, Keith, passed away February 6<sup>th</sup> from a massive heart attack. Those that would like to send her a card may use the address listed below. *(In the time that has passed since our meeting, Laura has declined continuing as our webmaster and editor for the time being. I am thankful for other members who have been assisting in the interim.)*
- Laura Brown Pittman  
1479 Worthington Road  
Greenville, NC 27858
- V. Adjournment 2:20 pm

**Important Dates:**

Next meeting of the NCMTA Board will be May 16th 10:00 am -2:30 pm.

62<sup>nd</sup> NCMTA State Conference, date TBA 2020, East Carolina University

MTNA National Conference, March 21-25, 2020, Chicago, Illinois

