

NCMTA Board Meeting  
January 7, 2012  
Ruggero Piano  
Raleigh NC

*Present: Diane Blanchard, Thomas Swenson, Diane Higgins, Barbara Furr, Cathy Albergo, Dottie Buster, Anne Scoggin, Amy Gardner, Kristen Allred, Vicky Fischer-Faw, Denise Clauhs, Margaret Anne Smith, Ellen Scott, Paul Stewart, Karoline Strickland*

The January meeting of the NCMTA board was called to order at 10:07 am by President Diane Blanchard. Both the president and the secretary were present. The minutes from the October 2011 board meeting were approved as they stand.

#### PRESIDENT'S ITEMS

The president provided copies of the two letters that NCMTA sent to MTNA to protest their July 2011 decision to discontinue competitions in woodwinds, brass, strings and voice. She also brought copies of two letters from MTNA president Benjamin Caton, and of the minutes from the MTNA December board meeting. The motion has been unanimously rescinded.

The president announced important dates, also listed in the agenda. She announced that NCMTA's Teacher of the Year, Paul Stewart, has been entered for MTNA's Teacher of the Year award. RPTA has been submitted for MTNA's Local Association of the Year award. She announced there will be a special recognition during the national conference of NCMTA member Marie Burnette for her 50 years of membership.

#### OFFICER REPORTS

President-elect Thomas Swenson gave the upcoming conference report. The dates are November 1-4, 2012. The conference artist will be Joshua Bell, who will be performing that weekend as part of the Carolina Performing Arts series. Jane McGrath is tentatively scheduled to give several presentations and a masterclass during the conference. Don Oehler is the on-site chair.

Cathy Albergo provided a printed membership report. As of January 2012, there are 545 members, down 3% from this time last year. There was discussion about ways of contacting non-renewing members, and encouraging first-time members.

Barbara Furr made the following motion: "I move that once board meeting minutes are approved, they should be posted on the website." The motion was seconded, and adopted. The level of detail in the minutes was left to the discretion of the president and the secretary.

Dottie Buster, Vice-President for MTNA Foundation, provided a printed report. She announced that \$295 was raised for the fund during the conference. Cathy Albergo made the following motion: "I move that the NCMTA sponsor a table for the gala banquet during the MTNA conference." The motion was seconded, and passed.

Denise Clauhs gave the Treasurer's report. There is \$6,797.85 in the Morgan-Stanley account. There is \$19,919.79 in general checking. She announced that the 2011 conference made a profit. The treasurer also alerted the board that she intends to purchase an online back-up service for Quickbooks.

## BOARD OF DIRECTORS REPORTS

The president relayed a brief report from the planning senate chair. NCMT Editor, Annette Shaw, submitted a printed report listing the prices for designing a flipbook e-journal. The president invited thoughts from the board about transitioning from a print to an e-journal. The following motion was made by Diane Higgins: "I move that we have a trial year, with both an e-journal and a paper journal, and see what the response is like." The motion was seconded. Discussion followed about how to fund two journals: whether to eliminate one of the issues, and other ways to reduce costs. The motion passed with seven ayes and five nays. There were several abstentions. Further discussion followed about communication with the membership and how the website can be a useful tool. Thomas Swenson moved "that we form a subcommittee to explore communication methods within the membership." The motion was seconded, and adopted.

The piano contest director report was given by Amy Gardner, who provided a printed handout. She has two items to bring up during the piano section meeting at the conference.

The president called a ten minute break.

When the meeting resumed, the president relayed a message from the organ/harpsichord chair, welcoming suggestions for organ sessions at future conferences. The president also announced that any information that needs to be posted on the website should be sent directly to Webmaster Carolyn Bryan.

Composition Chair Kristen Allred provided a printed report. She requested a list of past commissioned composers, and a list of past judges for the composition competitions. Paul Stewart, Piano Teachers Chair, provided a printed report. Contest repertoire is being selected for next year, and suggestions from members are welcome. MTNA Competition Chair Kerry Carlin was absent, but emailed his report to the board prior to the meeting. The president announced that the 2013 Southern Division Competition will be held at UNCG. Paul Stewart will be the on-site chair. Reports were given by the certification chair; the NC Scholarship Fund chair, who reported that \$650 was raised during the conference; and the IMTF chair. Constitution/Handbook Chair Barbara Furr is organizing a handbook. She asked all board members to create a job description for their position by or before the May board meeting, and send it to her. The RPTA president made a report and provided a handout. The president read aloud a report from Margaret Louise Norwood, CMTA president.

## UNFINISHED BUSINESS

There was no unfinished business.

## NEW BUSINESS

The May meeting was scheduled for May 5, 2012. The location will be announced.

## ANNOUNCEMENTS

Thomas Swenson announced that proposals for conference sessions should be submitted by March 1.

## ADJOURNMENT

The meeting was adjourned at 12:44 by President Diane Blanchard.

Submitted by Karoline Strickland