

MINNESOTA FEDERATION OF MUSIC CLUBS
Summer All-Member Meeting
Bethlehem Lutheran Church, Saint Cloud, MN
Wednesday, July 27, 2016

Call to Order:

President Mary Wescott called the meeting to order at 9:00 A.M. by leading everyone in the recitation of the *Federation Collect* and singing “*America, the Beautiful.*” Members then introduced themselves.

Members Present:

Apple Valley MTA – Pat Steege, Sarah Twedt; **Central Lakes MC** – Karen Erickson, Mercedes Hagen, Annette Helder, Roxie Klemetson, Marlene Larson; **Chain of Lakes MC** – Sharon Kaplan; **Chin Rest & End Pin Society** – David Holmes; **Duluth MTA** – Vicki Ott, Liz Rahailia; **East Suburban MC** – Grace Kopitske, Kathy Stroemer; **Encore MC** - Nancy Fisher, Nichole Jensen; **Great River MC** – Jeanine Barrett, Marcia Benson, Jennifer Clark, Marcia Clark, Judy Fienes, Susan Mergen, Lois Muelich, Mary Neidermeier, Ann Oleksowicz, Bonnie Sorensen-Ernst; **Hibbing Musicale** – Barbara Baldrice, Nadine Berg, Susan Hoolihan; **Itasca MC** - Gwen Degner, Ann Dimich, Cathy Shields; **Keyboard Southwest** – Ramona Larson; **Lake Area Bridgetones** – Renee Anderson, Lila Clark, **Litchfield Cadenza Club** – Yvonne Rammel, LeRene Soderberg; **Music Southwest** - Mary Kaye Rabaey; **North Suburban MC** – Marianne Nold, Angie Stanislawski; **Renville County Club 88** – Rebecca Heerdt, Elizabeth Strandberg, Cathy Witter; **Southeast MN Federation** – ZoeAnn Abrahamson, Julie Gutzmer; **Successful Music Makers** – Christie Gergen; **South Suburban MTA** – Mary Wescott; **Thief River Falls MC** – Kristi La Salle; **Tuesday Music Club** – Sue Quist; **West Central MTC** – Marla Adrian, JoAnn Halverson, Cheryl Schmidt, Christine Schnieder, Barbara Swanson, Sharon Willen

Secretary's Report:

Minutes from the April 9, 2016 Executive Board meeting were distributed to members. A motion to approve the minutes was made by Kristi LaSalle and seconded by Sarah Twedt. Motion carried.

Treasurer's Report:

Treasurer Gwen Degner presented a summary of all transactions 7/1/15 – 6/30/16. Our current net worth is \$107,033.54, down \$1,191.54 from July 1, 2015. (report attached)

Two clarifications were made:

- 1) The Julia Gale Fund was originally established to help offset expenses incurred by a cello player participating in the National Young Artist competition. Since it rarely got used, the Gale family was contacted; now *anyone* participating at the National Young Artist level is eligible.

- 2) The Southeast MN Federation Club received a Southeast MN Arts Assistance Grant but the money received had to go through the State Treasury (a wash).

Budget:

Cheryl Schmidt outlined the Dues and Fees breakdown (attached sheet) and proposed that 2016-2017 membership dues be raised to \$30.00. A motion was made to adopt Cheryl's proposal by Sharon Kaplan and seconded by Barbara Swanson. Motion carried.

Cheryl then presented the 2016-2017 budget (prepared by the Executive Committee at the April 9 meeting). Sharon Kaplan made a motion to approve; Nichole Jensen seconded. Motion carried.

American Music Report:

Heather Hahn, Chair, was not in attendance but submitted a report which was read by Nancy Fisher. Nancy also indicated that Heather would like to pass the position on to someone else; Rebecca Heerdt offered to be the new American Music Chair.

Festival Report:

Nadine Berg, Chair, noted that the level of participation was down slightly this year. When the report is completed, she will put it on the website. She then elaborated on *Hibbing Musicale's* experience testing the NFMC on-line festival registration; for the majority of users, it was an exercise in frustration ("I can see the potential ... but we're not there yet!").

Also, regarding the comment that this year's "Superior" rating certificates are now generic (one fills in the number of consecutive "Superiors" received; no longer are they embossed or color-coded) --- National officials insist that we use *their* certificates and not the ones that Minnesota (Mary Angela?) created – only Minnesota had the "special" multicolored ones!

Insurance Report:

Nancy Fisher, Chair, distributed several guidelines and forms to the membership present, then reviewed and emphasized the following:

- 1) Child Protection Policy sheet MUST be submitted with each insurance request
- 2) EVERY member participating in club activities involving children must sign the last sheet and submit it to Nancy.

With regard to "Gold Cup" Festival events – the second person in each judging room MUST be a legal adult (at least 18 years of age).

Scholarships and Grants:

Rebecca Heerdt, Chair, reviewed the scholarships/awards currently offered by MFMC (see attachment). Some of the scholarships were open-ended but have now been capped to help with budgeting. All necessary eligibility requirements and submission deadlines may be found on the MFMC website.

- 1. BIENNIAL STUDENT AUDITION AWARDS:** cap at \$1,500 (3 x \$500 1st place awards, regardless of instrument, awards are made by a jury)
- 2. INTERNATIONAL MUSIC CAMP SCHOLARSHIPS:** Cap at \$800, award only if funds are available, and only at the discretion of the finance committee (these are not full scholarships)
- 3. JUNIOR COMPOSERS INSTITUTE SCHOLARSHIPS:** Cap at \$1,600 (4 x \$400), award only if funds are available, and only at the discretion of the finance committee.
- 4. TEACHER TRUST GRANTS:** Cap at 3 awards and \$500 total (e.g. \$200 + \$150 + \$150)
- 5. TUITION ASSISTANCE GRANTS:** Cap at \$2,500
- 6. JUNIOR COMPOSERS INSTITUTE:** MFMC should continue to give \$500 per year: \$200 dues and \$300 donation (which is higher than the mandated \$200)

Sharon Kaplan and Pat Steege shared highlights from the 2016 Junior Composers' Institute (held last week at the U of M, Minneapolis campus). Several teachers of students who have participated (this year and previous years) then offered testimonials on the positive (sometimes life-changing) experiences it provided for their attendees.

Website:

Cheryl would like to update the membership roster to include:

- Contact information
- "I teach ..."
- "I am willing to judge ..."

Gwen will send out a template for members to complete along with the dues requests in the fall.

Other:

*Cheryl Schmidt and Sarah Twedt shared highlights from the National Convention held in Tulsa. Sarah would like to these meetings address all information necessary for running a successful organization – especially rate increases.

*Julie Gutzmer and Nancy Fisher discussed grant writing experiences to fund their local clubs' activities and encouraged others to do the same. It pays to do some searching in one's area – there is money is available through the MN Arts Legacy Fund.

*President's Cup and Grand Cup awards were presented to the teachers of students achieving those levels.

*Zoe Abrahamson invited those present to make plans to attend the 2017 Biennial State Convention, July 27-28, in Rochester, MN – hosted by the Southeast MN Club.

*Mary Wescott asked for feedback regarding the possibility of a statewide competition for students receiving Superior ratings in their local clubs.

Motion made by Zoe Abrahamson, seconded by Marcia Benson to adjourn. Motion carried. Meeting adjourned at 10:20 A.M.

Respectfully submitted,
Mary Kaye Rabaey, MFMC State Secretary