

LMTA Executive Board Meeting
Saturday, January 13, 2018
Northwestern State University
12:00 – 3:30pm

Meeting was called to order by President, Pamela Pike.

Roll was taken by signature. Those present were Pamela Pike, LaWanda Blakeney, Kathy Norris, Sherry Frush, Carla Breaux, Frances Yang, Barbara Cockerham, Raymond Yee, Teresa Thomason and Chris Allen.

Pamela Pike, President, welcomed our special guest, Sherry Frush, MTNA Division Director. Sherry mentioned that MTNA is expanding internationally. One recent addition is in China as of October 12th, 2017. MTNA is talking about possibly having our National Convention in 2019 in Spokane, WA, Chicago, IL, in 2020 & in Georgia in 2021.

Dues have been increased to \$79.00 for MTNA's part.

They recently approved having MTNA competitions for Divisions online which will make things much easier & efficient.

This year they began a new procedure for selecting the State Affiliate of the Year. Out of seven (7) nominees for Affiliate of the Year, Louisiana was selected as "Affiliate of the Year" for 2018!

President's Report: Pamela Pike mentioned that the Silent Auction and Music Sale at our recent New Orleans convention brought in \$1100 and the SOS fund is approximately \$5500. We are going to give \$1000 each to Texas & Florida MTA.

LMTA recently renewed Go Daddy for our LMTA website for another year.

We hope to have 2017 competition checks to clear soon and we have the expense of the Collegiate Winners also.

In December 2017, LMTA was selected as MTNA Affiliate of the Year. Many thanks to LaWanda Blakeney and her board of 2015 – 2017 for helping to make this possible.

The award will be given out at the 2018 National MTNA Convention on March 20, 2018, at the Annual Meeting in Ballroom 6 at Lake Buena, Florida.

Sherry Frush stated that our LMTA membership numbers are down. Last year our membership number was 324 and currently is 283. Numbers are down all over the country. So we need to talk among local members to encourage and remind them to renew their memberships in MTNA and mention the benefits.

The LMTA State Convention will be held October 25th and 26th of 2018 in Natchitoches, LA, at Northwestern State University. Our LMTA Executive Board Meeting and Full Board Meeting will be held on Wednesday, October 24th at approximately 3:00 p.m. The State Competitions will be on October 27th.

LMTA decided last year not to have a Foundation Fellow because of expense.

However, this year, Sharon Callahan and Victoria Fischer Faw nominated Billie Leach for our Louisiana Foundation Fellow. LaWanda Blakeney will check with Billie to see if she will be able to attend the MTNA Convention in Florida this year.

The Rally Board and Executive Board approved having a flat fee for our Torgrimson/Swanzy judges. The judges will be responsible for their own travel expenses. Tamah Goad and Rebecca Bellelo will communicate with the local districts concerning sending in their State Monitor Fees and Rally Profit Checks by the deadline date.

LMTA purchased a liability/sexual harassment policy for about \$1400 for 2017-2018.

Next week Patti Misita, Carla Breaux, Michelle Strain, David Easley and Sue Steck Turner will meet for the Music Curriculum Festival Committee to explore options and ideas for a comprehensive program from which students can choose to participate in besides Rally. It may possibly be an online selection. We will see what the committee recommends.

Frances Yang is working on an article for The Score. We also need to include information about Certification. The 2018 Score articles are due to Barbara Cockerham 2 weeks before publication. The Score is published February 1, May 1, August 1 and November 1st. The local members can also submit some short articles.

For Outstanding Teacher Nominations, the local teachers need to submit nominations. Also, Melissa would like to have the deadline earlier this year. Maybe May instead of July.

Laura Pray, Webmaster for LMTA website, has put pictures from October Convention on our website. If you are in charge of an area, look at the LMTA website and see what's not there. The cost for a one year renewal of our website is \$119.88. She needs to check with Hannah Mayo to make sure that information about flood assistance is up to date. She also needs updated minutes.

Carla Breaux gave Rally Database report. She said that the Rally Database needs to be renewed. (About \$120). She will renew with her credit card and give Raymond Yee the amount. She talked with Back 40 company to see if we could do an entire website without the online payment option and just keep Rally database functional to see how much this would cost us. It will be much less than the original amount. Carla should communicate with Rebecca Bellelo concerning the details of Rally database.

Also, Pam Pike said the Torgrimson/Swanzy competition will be held on Saturday, June 2nd at LSU in Baton Rouge.

Theresa Thomason will keep trying to locate the public school teacher who attended the New Orleans convention to see how she found out about our convention and what she was hoping to learn from it.

Raymond Yee gave his treasurer's report. MTNA gives us one half of Commissioned Composer fee. Convention Artist, Elizabeth Moak's hotel room was completely comped. For the state composition competition winners, Raymond needs to give them cash so that the young students will not have to worry about cashing the checks.

Francis Yang gave his report concerning the upcoming State Convention in Natchitoches. The hotels that they are considering charge between \$94 and \$96 per night. They all have free breakfasts. He talked with The Marriott which wants us to be committed to a certain number (30-50). The Hampton Inn is older but is nice. Charlie Jones said that

we could have our Wednesday night board meetings at the La. Arts & Science meeting room.

For the banquet, he has talked with two places, Maglio's and also Mariner's. Maglio's is downtown across from the museum. We will need about 4 or 5 tables for the Silent Auction and expect about 60 members for the Banquet. He will need to check on taxes and fees & bartender fees to see how much and what is included. He will need to appoint someone for selling local ads. Could possibly pay some students for entertainment at banquet.

For presenters at convention he is considering three different persons. Courtney Crappell, Mario L.Ajiero, and Jeanine Jacobson. The presenter selected needs to have three different topics. Our first choice for this year is Jeanine. 2nd Choice is Mario. The two convention artists that he is considering are either Angela Cheng or Corrie Hamm.

He also needs to check on availability of Stage Hands and will need a recording of the new commissioned composition premiere (Friday morning during general session). The recital will be at 5:30 p.m. on Thursday and the banquet will be afterwards.

Francis will coordinate with Denise Cox for National and State Ads for the bulletin. We may need to consider having some of our lunch meetings on different days so that more members can attend that hold more than one position. The Presidents meeting could possibly be during breakfast at the hotel on Friday. Could have Rally Board and Collegiate meetings on Thursday. We need to make sure that the Collegiate students who get a free lunch are actually LMTA student members & need to see which university they are affiliated with. This was on the registration form in 2017. On Convention Registration form, we could have an option to check if someone would like to donate a college student's lunch.

Start looking in July on LMTA website for Convention Registration information and form. Chan Kiat is not going to have The Chamber competition at Convention this year. Need to start collecting door prizes now for convention banquet.

Theresa Thomason mentioned for our Board Meeting on Wednesday at convention, that we might consider ordering casseroles from The Main Dish in Alexandria. Her husband, Tim, offered to heat up the casseroles for us. Their food is very good and reasonable.

Meeting was adjourned at 3:15 p.m.

Respectfully submitted,

Kathy Norris
Secretary