

Wednesday, October 11, 2017
LMTA Executive Board Meeting
University of New Orleans
4:15 p.m.

Meeting called to order by LaWanda Blakeney, President.

Roll was taken by signature.

Those present were LaWanda Blakeney, Pam Pike, Raymond Yee, Michelle Strain, Teresa Thomason, Chan Kiat Lim, Katherine Tobey, Patti Misita, Judy McGehee, Rebecca Bellelo, Kathy Norris, Carla Breaux and Laura Misita (via Skype).

Minutes were read & approved.

Teresa Thomason gave Treasurer's report.

95 at this time are registered for Convention. Includes 65 members & 21 collegiate members. More will probably register onsite.

Received SOS funds from several states including University of Oklahoma, Alabama, South Carolina & also our district affiliates.

Teresa's husband suggested that we include the SOS money in with our other balance for LMTA instead of keeping it separate.

Membership report for Gulya Chandler is that we have 271 in our State membership at this time. It is going down about 2 or 3% each year.

Pam Pike, President Elect, mentioned our Convention Artist.

She said for our General Session on Friday, that we need 28 members present to vote and to approve the new LMTA Board. She also said that Laura Pray, Webmaster, did a great job with our website and that everyone needs to take a look at it.

Certification report was given by Michelle Strain.

We have two new Nationals this year and Louisiana is still ranked No. 1 in the nation! We also have several new State Certifications and a Provisional Certificate.

Vice President of Rallies Report was given by Rebecca Bellelo.

She had a person interested in a Strings Rally recently. It has been 2 years since we have had a String Rally. Maybe they would be interested in chairing this Rally. The President can decide on this at a later date.

The Webmaster report was given from Laura Pray. She is updating as much as she can. She needs certain information for the website. If something is sent to her in pdf format she cannot easily edit it. Please send forms to her in Word.

The SOS Fund Report was discussed. LaWanda Blakeney mentioned that no one except for Patti Nance, Melanie Rushing & Judy McGehee had applied for assistance. We still have so much money in this account.

She said that Rick @ Texas MTA needs money for their flood victims. Since a lot of states gave to LMTA Benevolence Fund for La. at MTNA, LaWanda suggested that we give to Baton Rouge, Texas & Florida.

Teresa Thomason made a motion for \$1,000 to be given to Judy McGehee, Patricia Nance and Melanie Rushing. Also for \$1500 each to go to Texas and Florida MTA directly. Chan Kiat seconded the motion.

There was a discussion concerning the Silent Auction money going to LMTA general fund or to SOS and LMTA Projects. This year it was advertised that money will go toward LMTA projects, though all of the money goes into the general fund.

There was also a discussion about future Conventions. Shane @ Nichols State wants to have an LMTA convention there in 2019. They have new grands and he said Nelita True may be able to come.

Carla Breaux gave a report on the Rally Database System, Back 40. She said it is a great company, just expensive. But no one is cheaper. We may have to use our old database the first year. A percentage of the cost of \$3,000 would be for maintenance of the database. The building of the website will have a Teacher/Student Directory. Everything would be in one spot. We would be able to do payments and everything online. They would build a database for the entire state and add Rally program to it.

Katherine Tobey discussed the fact that membership and Rally participation is shrinking. Don't really need to pay for online payments. Chan Kiat said maybe we could add on things as we need them. Less than one half of our members participate in Rally.

We need something functional and attractive for new members. Chan Kiat said maybe we can come up with ways on LMTA website to get income to post pictures.

LaWanda mentioned that in Texas they have public schools who pay to take Rally Theory tests. The new Executive Board will meet on Saturday to discuss The Vision. Pam Pike said we need to take a look at the budget for the last three years and decide.

Old Business:

LaWanda Blakeney and the Executive Committee decided not to have a Foundation Fellow as there were not any outstanding candidates.

New Business:

LaWanda talked with Patti Misita about the Advertising Chair. It will be put back in for next year's bulletin.

Policy and Procedures Discussion:

LaWanda Blakeney and Teresa Thomason created guidelines for disbursements to Competition Winners at the discretion of the Executive Board so they would know how much to pay. The Executive Committee can decide and discuss. Pam Pike made a motion and Patti Misita seconded it. Chan Kiat suggested a generic deadline for the different competitions.

Meeting was adjourned.

Respectfully submitted,

Kathy Norris
Secretary