

2019-2021 LMTA Executive Board Meeting
Wednesday, Oct. 16, 2019
LSU Baton Rouge Board Room
3:00 p.m.

Meeting was called to order by **President, Pamela Pike**.

Those present were Pamela Pike, Kathy Norris, Raymond Yee, Chan Kiat Lim, Francis Yang, Carla Breaux, Rebecca Bellelo, Barbara Cockerham, Teresa Thomason, Sharon Callahan, Laura Pray. Present through Skype was Michelle Strain.

Pam Pike gave President's Report. She thanked Sharon Callahan, MTNA South Central Director, for being there. Pam stated that MTNA directors are also using Zoom Online now for some of their meetings. Rally Board used it this summer also & it does save travel time for our volunteers.

She stated that Keyboard Olympics will be unveiled tomorrow at the LMTA Conference. She would like for us to enter some of our students in this new program and give her some feedback on it.

In June, we had two chairs that resigned. Lina Morita stepped in as the Outstanding Teacher chair and did an excellent job. Sarah Jenkins, who will get her Masters from LSU in May, took over the State Advertising Chair & is doing great. We should remind chairs, that it is a two-year commitment.

Membership as of October 8, was 247. For some reason, too many members are waiting until late to renew and this is something the new board might want to address. We could, perhaps move the deadline for renewal to participate in Rally earlier.

Our Commissioned Composer is a PhD student at LSU. MTNA supports us by paying ½ of the fee for the commissioned composition.

The Presidents meeting will be at 7:00 a.m. on Friday at Conference. We can use this time to talk about membership. We have very active Collegiate Chapters. We have 25 entrants for the MTNA Competition on Saturday, which Charlie Jones is chairing.

Our Rally numbers were down last year, but the number of entries in our state Torgrimson/Swanzy Rally were up. We had a String Rally with 16 entrants. Chan Kiat Lim had more Chamber Music entrants this year.

Barbara Cockerham is doing a great job on getting *The Score* out on time. You don't have to be a board member to contribute. We now have Sharon Callahan on the mailing list. We'll need to add Barbara Fast, when she takes over as division director.

Pam stated that she is so excited about the new Keyboard Olympics. She thanked everyone for their time brainstorming on this at the beginning of her term.

Francis Yang, President Elect, gave his report.

He thanked BRMTA, Rebecca Bellelo and Pam Pike for hosting this year's LMTA Conference. Out-of-state presenters: Christy Vogt Huskey will not be here to give her session because she is sick. Chan Kiat Lim has a colleague that flying in to present, too. Sharon Callahan, our MTNA South Central Division representative, is our special guest. We have three (3) collegiate posters that will be presented. Chris Allen is putting them together for judging. Next year we can announce a proposal deadline with registered member proposal deadline. Collegiate members need to check in for lunch if they are coming. So far, we have 86 members that are registered for our conference, with 2 national clinicians: Kevin Olson and Derek Polischuk.

O'Neals Music, in Baton Rouge, was so generous to sponsor our banquet set-up fee this year. Sarah Jenkins has done a great job with getting Local Ads and money from national or statewide advertisers/exhibitors. In future years, we may need to get other revenue besides local ads. It might help if we tell our advertisers how many views they are getting on our website by tracking clicks on their links.

Pam said we are planning on having next year's conference at La. Tech University in Ruston, LA.

Raymond Yee gave Treasurer's Report.

Dues-paying members who wish to review a copy of the report should contact the President.

Pam asked if we could work getting the entry fees for competitions through Pay-Pal. She said that MTNA would no longer have a Benevolence fund for Disaster Relief.

We did not have any disbursements from the SOS fund this year. Raymond renewed our Insurance and our Entity with the Secretary of State. Pam said that Chan Kiat & Francis will do an audit before our Winter Meeting.

Michelle Strain gave a Certification Report.

She said that we have one Professional Advancement and one New Certification out of Lake Charles who is a Non-Member of MTNA or LMTA. Teresa Thomason may want to connect him with Lena to encourage him to join. We need to give him the Benefits of Membership brochure from MTNA. Thirty one percent of LMTA members in Louisiana are certified. We need to encourage teachers in our state to get certified. Michelle will be available in Exhibit Hall at Conference between 1:00 and 2:30 p.m. to answer any questions. Down the road, we may also want to add the Pay Pal option for State Certification.

Teresa Thomason gave her Membership Report.

She shows that we have 247 members now. We have a total of 20 new members. 5 New members, 5 new Collegiate members, 4 Reinstating members, 2 Transfers, 1 Collegiate Transfer, 1 Reinstating Collegiate, a Status change from collegiate to active, and a Reinstating and transfer from South Carolina.

A breakdown by category is as follows: Church Music: 1, Collegiate/University members: 51, Independent: 150, Students: 19, Other: 17, Retired: 1, Private School: 4, Commercial Studio: 2, No listing: 2. Of our Certified Members, we have 1 Brass, 1

Cello, 1 Organ, 72 Piano, 1 Piano, Voice, 1 Voice, 1 Piano Pedagogy, 1 Composition and 1 Music Education.

A list of unpaid members was emailed to VP of Membership on August 28. At that time, 68 members had not renewed their membership. As of October 8, 23 members had renewed, leaving 45 members who had not paid dues for 2019-2020. A list of all non-renewing members will be distributed at the Friday President's meeting so that local associations can follow up. MTNA suggests that the most effective personal contact is a phone conversation through the local affiliate. MTNA is also interested in reasons why someone has decided to discontinue their membership.

Pam Pike said that we do have a new president for the New Orleans local association.

Sharon Callahan, our MTNA South Central Director, mentioned that at the end of September MTNA's new membership and retention was down. Only 2 states had an increase: Iowa and Rhode Island. So, we all need to work on getting new members and keeping them engaged once they join. She is so impressed that LMTA has 20 new members!

Rebecca Bellelo gave Vice President of Rally Report.

160 students entered the Torgrimson/Swanzy state rally this year, but only 154 actually played. Torgrimson/Swanzy Rally will be held in Baton Rouge again next year.

Two acoustic pianos at LSU have been switched to hybrid pianos which should work well for younger students. We also had a String Rally for Violins only, which was held at O'Neal's Music in Baton Rouge. It was Co-chaired by teachers Antoaneta Ortiz and Alexandria teacher Sinae Baek.

At our Summer Rally Board Meeting, which was held in Alexandria and via Zoom, we voted to amend the work fee requirement of \$75 and to waive the fee for teachers who are judging in any district on the same day on which their own district rally is held. Susie Garcia is taking our Rally theory tests and making an editable digital file. She is making the heading and staves cleaner and easier to read. A Sub-Committee of Rally chairs will be reviewing the tests and discussing any changes with Susie, including making the answer keys for these tests on Microsoft Publisher. In 2020, we will be able to create new choices, such as changing the keys, but it will be limited for the younger groups.

Barbara Cockerham gave the Publicity Chair report.

The Score newsletter is now bigger and very informative. The last newsletter was the largest so far with 15 pages. It was published in September 2019. It was sent out to the membership via emails. She likes the idea of including ads in our newsletter.

Laura Pray gave Webmaster's Report.

She added a lot to the LMTA website for Conference. Some things she is not able to change, such as the actual Menu on the homepage. She also cannot change the names on the menu tabs (i.e., cannot change Convention to Conference). So, she is limited to what she can do, but she thinks it will work for now. She needs 2019-20 Banner ads for the Website. She has updated everything that she has gotten. Keyboard Olympics directs everyone to a Google drive & it is easy to use.

New Business.

Pam Pike reminded everyone that Chan Kiat Lim is our Foundation Fellow for 2020.

The MTNA Conference will be in Chicago in March. We need to try to attend to honor and support him.

She also mentioned that for the Outstanding Teacher Award at Conference, we usually pay for their guests to attend the Banquet. This year we have 6 guests. We need a policy about how many guests that we will pay for. Chan Kiat Lim said that he thinks 2 is a good number to purchase their banquet tickets for attending the banquet.

Pam also said that she thinks that we need to update our wording of the policies and procedures (P&P), so that the language is more inclusive (i.e., change Chairman to Chair) and change Convention to say Conference, since we've adopted that name change. To change this language in the Bylaws, we will have to give 30 days notice. We can do next year, or by email ballot to the membership. Pam said that she will follow through with this.

Also, she stated that having an audit of our books (by president & president-elect) every year at Winter meeting protects all of us.

The Division competitions could be live, so we'll leave this open in the Policies and Procedures. Our co-chairs need to be sure to carpool together when attending meetings. Rebecca said that for our latest update to Torgrimson/Swanzy, we went to a flat rate of \$400 for judges with no mileage. This seemed to work well. Changes will be added to P&P.

Pam will add a sentence on LMTA's Policies and Procedures about paying for a maximum of two guests of the Outstanding Teacher at the banquet. Laura Pray will add a "pdf" of the 2019 Update of the LMTA Policies and Procedures on our website. Rebecca Bellelo made a motion and Chan Kiat Lim seconded to approve the LMTA Policy updates that Pam Pike made.

Old Business.

Summer EB Minutes. Laura made the motion to accept the July meeting minutes and Chan Kiat Lim seconded the motion.

Meeting was adjourned by President Pamela Pike.

Respectfully & sincerely submitted,

Kathy Norris
LMTA Secretary