

**MUSIC TEACHERS NATIONAL ASSOCIATION
BOARD OF DIRECTORS MEETING
Cincinnati, Ohio
December 2-3, 2016**

MINUTES

ATTENDEES

Present

President Rebecca Grooms Johnson, President-elect Scott McBride Smith, Vice President Karen Thickstun, Secretary-Treasurer Sylvia Coats, Immediate Past President Kenneth Christensen, Kevin Chance (Southern Division), Sue Field (Southwest Division), Sherry Frush (South Central Division), Christopher Hahn (Northwest Division), Ginger Hwalek (Eastern Division), Beth Klingenstein (West Central Division), Christine Steiner (East Central Division), and Executive Director & CEO Gary Ingle (ex officio without vote)

Staff Present

COO Brian Shepard and Executive Coordinator to the CEO Diana Viltrakis

CALL TO ORDER

President Rebecca Grooms Johnson called the meeting to order at 9:02 a.m. on December 2, 2016.

APPROVAL OF MINUTES

The minutes from the July 11-13, 2016 meeting of the board were entered into the record, the documents having been approved unanimously as submitted via email vote on August 18, 2016.

A question arose regarding the reporting in the minutes of Board actions taken in Executive Session. Roberts' Rules specify that the proceedings in Executive Session are confidential and not recorded, but the formal actions are not confidential and should be recorded in the minutes. In the future, minutes from the Executive Sessions should be kept, reflecting the purpose of the session and any formal actions taken by the Board.

The minutes from the September 11, 2016 meeting were approved as distributed.

OFFICER REPORTS

Written reports were received from the following National Officers: President Rebecca Johnson, President-elect Scott McBride Smith, Vice President Karen Thickstun, Secretary-Treasurer Sylvia Coats, and Immediate Past President Kenneth Christensen.

Secretary-Treasurer Sylvia Coats recognized Executive Director Gary Ingle to present an overview of the October 31, 2016 financial reports. Assets of MTNA are \$4,486,604.21 with liabilities of \$170,088.06. Income is \$1,941,840.37 with expenses of \$692,240.66. The balance of the MTNA Trust account is \$857,043.74. The Foundation Fund Endowment account has assets of \$1,158,361.60 and the McHose Trust has assets of \$587,244.76. Ingle's presentation included his financial projections for the fiscal year end.

DIRECTOR REPORTS

Written reports from all seven Division Directors were reviewed: Christine Steiner (East Central Division), Ginger Hwalek (Eastern Division), Christopher Hahn (Northwest Division), Sherry Frush (South Central Division), Kevin Chance (Southern Division), Sue Field (Southwest Division), and Beth Klingenstein (West Central Division).

EXECUTIVE DIRECTOR & CEO REPORT

Executive Director & CEO Gary Ingle reviewed his written report as follows:

Federal Trade Commission

- MTNA continues to comply with all the terms and specific actions required by the FTC Decision and Order (Consent Decree). A presentation was conducted at the Summit for MTNA Leadership on September 11, 2016 that summarized national, state, and local obligations under this order. Each state president was provided a hard copy of the MTNA Antitrust Compliance Guide for reference in their efforts to comply with the antitrust laws at all of their association meetings and in all publications.
- The MTNA website continues to include links to the Code of Ethics, the FTC press release and FTC Settlement Statements. These same documents were reprinted in the August/September issue of the AMT.
- All new and renewing members of MTNA received a copy of the FTC Settlement Statement.
- On October 4, 2016, all state and local affiliate presidents were sent an email, which provided a link to a digital version of the MTNA Antitrust Compliance Guide.
- MTNA attorney Scott Gilligan was asked to render an opinion on how to deal with state and local affiliates who choose to exclude non-members from their competitions. In the opinion, Mr. Gilligan makes it clear that our Guide is "generalized and may not apply to the facts surrounding every specific case." If an affiliate believes that its members-only

restriction does not violate antitrust laws due to small market share or other competitions in the area, it is their decision to make. Furthermore, he states: “While it may conflict with the advice provided in the Antitrust Compliance Guide, it does not require MTNA to take any type of punitive action against [the affiliate]. “Mr. Gilligan further clarifies that the Consent Decree requires MTNA to take action in only three scenarios: (1) restricting solicitation of teaching work, (2) restricting advertising or publishing of prices, and (3) restricting price-related competition by its members. MTNA, he says, “never agreed...to exclude affiliate organizations that did not comply with the Antitrust Compliance Guide.” Our obligation is to make it available to our affiliates, not enforce it.

Board and Governance

- In accordance with the Board’s decision on September 11, 2016, to accept the invitation from the College Music Society to begin formal discussions concerning possibilities for operational liaison and support, a letter was sent to CMS President Betty Anne Younker to initiate the process. MTNA President Rebecca Johnson and Ingle accepted the invitation to attend the CMS Conference on October 27-30, 2016 in Santa Fe, New Mexico. While there, they had an opportunity to meet with President Younkers and CMS Executive Director Robby Gunstream to initiate formal dialogue. In addition, as a means for contact with the CMS Board of Directors, Ingle was invited to speak to at its final meeting on the subject of globalization. Ingle also noted that, at this conference, the CMS Board elected a new CMS Executive Director to replace the retiring Robby Gunstream. His name is Dr. William (Bill) Pelto, who is currently dean of the Mariam Hayes School of Music at Appalachian State University in Boone, North Carolina. Dr. Pelto begins as CMS Executive Director on August 1, 2017. Between January 1 and August 1, 2017, Pelto will work closely with the CMS and MTNA leadership on the operational liaison of the two organizations. Ingle had the opportunity to visit with Pelto and CMS president-elect Keith Ward at the NASM Annual Meeting in Dallas on November 21, 2016.
- On August 4, 2016, MTNA Past President Richard Morris passed away after an extended illness. Dick served as MTNA president from 1989-91 and was a longtime member of the piano faculty at the Cincinnati College-Conservatory of Music. A memorial concert was held on Saturday, September 10, at 4:00 p.m. at CCM. A letter of tribute from Ingle on behalf of the membership of MTNA was read at the service.

Conferences and Meetings

- The 2016 National Group Piano and Piano Pedagogy Forum (GP3) was held on August 5-6, 2016, at Oberlin College in Oberlin, Ohio. This was the 9th edition of GP3. The theme was “Creative Perspectives: Rethinking Teaching and Learning.” Featured presenters were Christopher Azzara (Improvisation), Jeffrey Nytych (Entrepreneurship), Jeanine Jacobson (Piano Pedagogy and Performance), and Mary Dobreja-Grindahl (Dalcroze Eurhythmics). The event was attended by 120 college music teachers and industry leaders from the U.S., Canada, and China. MTNA is grateful to Casio and Yamaha for sponsoring the Forum receptions. The next GP3 Forum will be held August 3-5, 2018, at Oberlin College.
- The Summit for MTNA Leadership was held on September 9-11, 2016, in Cincinnati. Enthusiasm for this event continues to be at a high level. The attendees, especially the

state presidents, continually praise its value to their work. As always, the presentations and breakout sessions led to many lively dialogues, debates, discussions, and solutions. Next year's Summit will be September 8-10, 2017.

- The sixth MTNA Collegiate Chapters Piano Pedagogy Symposium, scheduled for January 14-15, 2017, at the University of North Florida in Jacksonville, is less than two months away. The event brings together collegiate chapter members and their advisors in an intimate setting to build bridges of communication through collegiate-led sessions and dialogues. The deadline for the Call for Proposals was September 30, 2016. The sessions have been curated and invitations to attend have been emailed. This Symposium promises to be another wonderful event for learning and fellowship with and among our collegiate members from all around the country.
- The 2017 National Conference in Baltimore, Maryland remains the primary focus of our attention. Leon Fleisher and Katherine Jacobson will be the featured artists on Tuesday evening along with the comic duo team of Igudesman (violin) & Joo (piano) at the Opening Session on Saturday evening. David Cutler, author of *The Savvy Music Teacher* and *The Savvy Musician* will deliver a keynote address on business and entrepreneurial skills needed by today's music teachers. 2017 marks the 10th anniversary of the MTNA Collaborative Conference in Toronto, Ontario. The collaboration will be commemorated at this conference, at which the Canadian Federation of Music Teachers Association will join us. The commemoration will be low-key and consist mainly of special events throughout the conference and during the Opening and Closing Sessions.

Foundation Fund

- On October 4, 2016, MTNA received a check in the amount of \$226,185.82, which represented the MTNA share from the estate of Dr. Thomas Ediger, who died so suddenly and unexpectedly on August 20, 2014. This bequest represents the largest single gift in the 140-year history of MTNA. There were no restrictions on how the monies are to be used. In addition to his gift to the national association, Tom also left an identical amount to the Nebraska Music Teachers Association.
- The August 2016 floods in Louisiana produced an outpouring of concern from MTNA members for their colleagues who were affected by this catastrophe. MTNA engaged immediately with notices on social media about the availability of financial support from the *MTNA Benevolence Fund*. Giving to the Fund in response to the Louisiana floods resulted in donations of \$6,905.00. Disbursements in the amount of \$5,700.00 were made to everyone who applied: five were \$1,000 grants and one was a \$700.00 grant, which was the total amount requested by the individual. Currently, the fund balance is \$48,152.75.
- Currently, there are 38 states require fundraising organizations to register when engaged in solicitations within the state. The magnitude of this number, combined with the complexity and variation among the states, prevents MTNA from doing the state registrations through the staff. As a result, MTNA has had to outsource this process to a company that specializes in this work. The company with whom MTNA contracted for

this purpose is *Accounting for Debits and Credits*, which is located in Crofton, Maryland. MTNA began its relationship on September 30, 2016. As charity registration is an annual process, this relationship will be long-term.

International

- The International Society for Music Education World Conference was held in Glasgow, Scotland on July 23-29, 2016. As chair of the Forum for Instrumental and Vocal Teaching, Ingle attended and presided over 108 Forum sessions, teaching demonstrations, and papers during the conference. Rebecca Johnson, Brian Shepard, and Ingle represented MTNA, along with dozens of MTNA members who were on the Forum program. The MTNA dinner was attended by 49 MTNA members and MTNA supporters, providing an opportunity for fun and fellowship. At the conclusion of the conference, the Forum Committee reelected Ingle for an additional two-year term as chair. Ingle immediately reappointed Brian for another two years as the administrator of the committee. The next ISME conference will be July 15-20, 2018 in Baku, Azerbaijan.
- MTNA President Rebecca Johnson, President-elect Scott McBride Smith and Ingle attended the German-Chinese Piano Forum in Qingdao, China on August 11-13, 2016. Their attendance furthered MTNA's global agenda through engaging the MTNA leadership with Chinese organizations and leaders and establishing relationships with Chinese teachers. At the event, Johnson, Smith, and Ingle participated in the dedication of the newly-formed Qingdao Music Teachers Association. It was formed by the group of Chinese teachers who attended the MTNA National Conference in San Antonio last March. Although the QMTA is not affiliated with MTNA, it recognizes the value of MTNA as the "gold standard" for all music teacher associations.
- At the invitation of the European Piano Teachers Association, Ingle traveled to Reykjavik, Iceland to speak at its conference on September 22-24, 2016. The EPTA-MTNA partnership had declined over the past several years. This event provided the opportunity to rejuvenate this important international relationship.
- The Music Council of the Three Americas (COMTA), for which Ingle serves as Vice President for North America, held its first regional meeting on October 8-10, 2016 at the Conservatory of Music of Puerto Rico in San Juan. Its purpose was to bring together institutions, music organizations, musicians and music educators from countries in North, Central and South America, and to highlight the musical richness that exists in the region of the Americas. The theme, "Decolonising Music," featured over 40 speakers and artists who addressed the issues of recovery of cultural heritage, musical creation with traditional instruments, contemporary avant-garde music of the Americas, music and social responsibility and music and human rights, among others. Ingle had the privilege of giving the final keynote address of the conference, which was published by New Music USA in its publication *NewMusicBox*. New Music USA was formed through the merger of the American Music Center (founded by Aaron Copland and Howard Hanson) and Meet the Composer (founded by John Duffy). Its purpose is to advance the cause of new music and to inspire an ever-growing community of listeners.

Legal and Ethics

- MTNA’s application for a trademark of “Music Teachers National Association” and “MTNA” is in its final stages. On October 25, 2016, the U.S. Patent and Trademark Office published our application for opposition in the “Trademark Official Gazette Publication.” This means that the Trademark Office has accepted our application, but it has to publish the application to see if any third party has an objection to it. Any objection must be made within 30 days. If none, the trademark is approved.
- Recent changes in the Federal Fair Labor Standards Act related to overtime required MTNA to reevaluate its policies related to exempt and nonexempt employees. The changes led to the reclassification of four staff positions from exempt to nonexempt. This means that MTNA must pay these staff members overtime for hours worked beyond 37.5 hours per week.
- On October 11, 2016, MTNA was informed by the Ohio Bureau of Workers’ Compensation that an audit will be performed of MTNA records to ensure that the proper amounts of workers’ compensation premiums are being paid. Although these audits are routine (some 10,000 Ohio employers are audited each year), they involve a great deal of preparation. We speculate that the trigger for the audit was the uncommonly large number of 1099 forms we submit each year. MTNA compensates well over 100 competition adjudicators each year, each of which is given a 1099 for the pay. This number is unusual for a business our size. The audit took place on November 29, 2016, and no problems were discovered. In fact, MTNA may receive a refund as a result of the audit.

Strategic Partnerships and Advocacy

- The National Conference on Keyboard Pedagogy informed MTNA on November 1 of its decision not to continue with the MTNA Winners Recital at its conference in 2017. This recital began in 2001 when the NCKP conference was reestablished and has been a part of every conference since then. The leaders of NCKP believe it is time to innovate its programming and experiment with some new ideas. This in no way diminishes their partnership with MTNA. As a result, MTNA and NCKP will look for new and creative possibilities for taking the partnership to even greater levels.
- MTNA has partnered with Musical America Worldwide to provide our members with the annual *Musical America Guide to Competitions*, which includes information on the MTNA National Student Competitions.
- MTNA joined with many colleague organizations to support funding for the Military Bands of the United State Armed Forces. Earlier this year, the House of Representatives passed an amendment for US Department of Defense appropriations bill that could cut military band funding by \$430 million for the upcoming fiscal year. This amendment was created and sponsored by Congresswoman Martha McSally (R-AZ-2). MTNA upholds with utmost respect and support our nation’s military ensembles, and recognizes their importance to the music education community. To ensure this provision does not remain in the final bill, A “Dear Colleague” letter has been drafted and circulated to all

Defense appropriators, advocating to preclude any final appropriations language that diminishes funding for our Military Bands.

- MTNA also joined 65 other national music and arts organizations to urge the new administration to leverage the arts to their full potential by identifying and raising their visibility in policy issues that cut across federal agencies. The document, entitled “Advancing the Arts to Support National Policy Priorities,” is now public and may be accessed online at this link:
<https://drive.google.com/open?id=0B0006jRYTiwJcm55RngzYksxTEU>.
- MTNA participated with the National Association for Music Education and other members of the Music Education Policy Roundtable to support the Roundtable’s comments to the Federal Register on the Department of Education’s Proposed Accountability and State-Plan Regulations for the *Every Student Succeeds Act* (ESSA). These comments may be accessed online at this link:
https://drive.google.com/file/d/0Bx_xn_GfWLuWZTE4RzAyN0VBVWs/view.
- In his last report, Ingle mentioned the addition of the role of president to his elected position as Chair of the Board of the National Music Council. It was intended to be a temporary combination. However, at the NMC meeting on October 24, the Board asked him to continue with both positions until the conclusion of his term in 2018, which he accepted.

Programs

- The new MTNA Webinars continue to be enthusiastically received by MTNA members. Ten webinars have been completed. Overall, everyone is very pleased with the quality of the sessions and the number of members who take advantage of them. The latest webinar, “Jammin’ the Classics” with Bradley Sowash, attracted 246 attendees. The webinars have been coordinated by Chan Kiat Lim since June 2016.
- Implementation of the eFestival program continues to progress. Ingle announced that Amy Immerman has been appointed the new eFestival Coordinator. She began the position on December 1 and will work closely with Brian Shepard to develop the program for its anticipated rollout at the MTNA National Conference in Baltimore.
- The MTNA National Student Competitions experienced another record year. Following 2015’s record 2210 applications, this year’s applications increased to 2213. It’s an increase of only 3, but it is an increase and another record. Ingle congratulated Linda Stump and her committee.

State and Local Affiliates

- A few state presidents have contacted the MTNA Office requesting both financial and staff assistance for their own state affiliate charitable registration. Unfortunately, MTNA cannot provide staff or legal/financial assistance to our affiliates for the required registration. With 51 states and DC along with approximately 500 local affiliates, the cost of acquiring and maintaining the individual registrations would be beyond MTNA’s

financial resources, even eliminating the affiliates in the states that do not require registration. One state affiliate, the Colorado Music Teachers Association, has informed us of its successful completion of the registration process in Colorado.

- At its Fall conference in late October, the Florida State Music Teachers Association started the process to amend its bylaws to eliminate its membership restriction requiring a music degree. The process will culminate with a vote of the membership at the next year's FSMTA conference. Currently, the Florida State MTA is the last state affiliate to have membership restrictions.

Staff and Headquarters

- On October 25, 2016, Chad Schwalbach, Marketing and Public Relations Associate, submitted his resignation after 11.5 years of service. Ingle is in the process of finding his successor, which includes the possibility of hiring a third party to take over the ad sales aspect of his position.
- Casio Musical Instruments has become a generous supporter of MTNA and its programs, beginning with sponsoring collegiate events at the conferences, a reception at the last GP3 Forum, and now with a gift of its newest piano, the Celviano. The piano joins the Steinway grand and the Yamaha Disklavier in our recital room.
- In September, the MTNA staff expressed its continued commitment to the MTNA Foundation Fund by contributing \$3,286.00, surpassing our "stretch" goal of \$2,500.00. Although participation is entirely voluntary in this annual "campaign," every member of the staff contributed, either by single gifts or monthly payroll deductions. The staff is to be commended for its generosity and 100% participation.

Travel and Meetings

July

Jul 21-31, 2016	ISME World Conference	Glasgow, Scotland
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August

Aug 04-06, 2016	MTNA GP3 Forum	Oberlin, OH
Aug 09-14, 2016	German-Chinese Piano Forum	Qingdao, China

September

Sep 09-11, 2016	Summit for MTNA Leadership	Cincinnati, OH
Sep 20-25, 2016	European Piano Teachers Assn Conf.	Reykjavik, Iceland

October

Oct 06-11, 2016	Council of Music Three Americas Conf.	San Juan, PR
Oct 12-15, 2016	Nebraska MTA Centennial Conference	Omaha, NE
Oct 21-23, 2016	Connecticut MTA Conference	New Haven, CT
Oct 24-24, 2016	National Music Council Board Meeting	New York City
Oct 26-31, 2016	College Music Society & J. Grealish	Santa Fe, NM

November

Nov 09-12, 2016	NAfME In-Service Conference	Dallas, TX
Nov 18-19, 2016	New Jersey MTA Conference	Princeton, NJ
Nov 20-22, 2016	NASM Annual Meeting	Dallas, TX

December

Dec 01-03, 2016	MTNA Board of Directors Meeting	Cincinnati, OH
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Personal Reflections

On December 2, 2016, Ingle celebrated his 20th anniversary as Executive Director & CEO of MTNA. MTNA and the music teaching profession have been the central focus of his time, emotion, and energy for over half of his professional life. He expressed his appreciation and gratitude to the Board of Directors and to his staff for making his pilgrimage over these momentous years the most exciting, fulfilling and memorable time of his life.

COMMITTEE REPORTS

Written reports were received from the 2016 Collegiate Chapters Piano Pedagogy Symposium (Katherine Chandler), 2018 National Group Piano/Piano Pedagogy Forum (Tom Pearsall), 2017 Conference Planning Committee (Debra Florian), *AMT* Editorial Committee (James Litzelman), Composer Commissioning Program (Ann Witherspoon), e-Journal Editorial Committee (Andrew Hisey), Finance Committee (Sylvia Coats), Foundation Fund Development Committee (Brian Chung), Grants and Awards Task Force (Karen Thickstun), Membership Committee (Karen Thickstun), Nominating Committee (Kenneth Christensen), and the State Presidents Advisory Council (Nicholas Phillips).

BUSINESS

Investment Advisor Presentation

The Board of Directors welcomed Howard Kaplan, Senior Vice President/Investments at Kaplan, Litwin, Kaplan & Associates, for a presentation on the MTNA Investment portfolio. Kaplan reviewed the various investment accounts and the investment policy. The Board expressed its satisfaction with the status of the investments as well as the current MTNA investment policy.

FY2016 Audit Approval

The results of the FY 2016 Audit as performed by Clark, Schafer, Hackett & Co. were reported to the Board and state presidents by head auditor Kerry Roe at the 2016 Summit for MTNA Leadership on September 10, 2016. The Board received and reviewed the printed copy of the audit results.

Motion from the Finance Committee that the Board approve the FY 2016 audit as presented by Clark, Schaefer, Hackett & Co.

PASSED

Presidential Appointments

President-elect Scott McBride Smith submitted the following resolution:

Motion and second to ratify the following appointments:

2018 Pedagogy Saturday Chairs

Recreational Music Making - Richard Rejino, Dallas, Texas

Young Professionals - Chris Madden, Waco, Texas

Musicians Wellness- Gail Berenson, Sarasota, Florida

2018 Group Piano and Group Piano Pedagogy Forum

Chair - Tom Pearsall, Statesboro, Georgia

Member (Immediate Past Chair) - Lisa Zdechlik, Tucson, Arizona

PASSED

Benevolence Fund Policy

The *MTNA Benevolence Fund* is a fund for disaster assistance to music teachers established by the Board in 2013 with \$25,000 from the MTNA Foundation Fund. The Fund has been supplemented by contributions from MTNA members and affiliates, especially when disasters strike. A policy was adopted to limit financial assistance from the Fund to a maximum of \$1,000 per person. Following the latest flood in Louisiana, it was requested by an MTNA leader that the Board consider increasing the maximum amount per person.

The Board discussed the issue in depth, ultimately concluding that the current amount was prudent, especially given the rather modest size of the fund. Furthermore, the purpose of the fund was to serve as an immediate stop-gap measure to assist the recipient purchase basic essentials, not as replacement for insurance, Federal disaster assistance, or loss of income.

Motion by the Finance Committee that no changes be made to the disbursement policy of the MTNA Benevolence Fund.

PASSED.

Antitrust Compliance Guide

Executive Director Ingle reported that he had asked MTNA attorney Scott Gilligan for an opinion regarding an apparent contradiction in MTNA's formal policy that competitions must be open to nonmembers as stated in the "MTNA Antitrust Guide," and that of an attorney's opinion sought by the Phoenix Music Teachers Association, which indicated that PMTA does not have to open its competitions to nonmembers. The relevant issue is whether or not the specific competition provides a competitive advantage for members. Gilligan makes it clear in his opinion that the MTNA Guide is "generalized and does not apply to the facts surrounding every

specific case.” If an affiliate believes, as does PMTA based on its legal opinion, that its members-only restriction does not violate antitrust laws due to small market share or other competitions in the area, it is their decision to make. While it may conflict with the advice provided in the Antitrust Compliance Guide, it does not require MTNA to take any type of “punitive” action against the affiliate.

The Board decided to let stand MTNA’s conservative, by-the-book stance on competitions, as its cautious approach provides the most protection to the affiliates. Any affiliate questions about the issue will be handled on a case-by-case basis.

Board Confidentiality Policy

The Board discussed the issue of maintaining confidentiality of Board deliberations of agenda items at its meetings. According to Roberts’ Rules, all Board deliberations are private; only formal actions and any explanatory material should be made public. Board deliberations include both verbal and written materials associated with the issue.

Motion and Second that the Board of Directors approve the following policy statement: “All documents related to Board debate, such as agenda items and exhibits, are considered part of the confidential deliberation process and, as such, shall not be provided to non-Board members or staff, except as required by law. Any exceptions are at the discretion of the MTNA Executive Director & CEO in consultation with the MTNA President.”

PASSED

RECOGNITION

At the conclusion of the day, President Johnson recognized Executive Director & CEO Gary Ingle for twenty years of service to MTNA, which began on December 2, 1996. She presented to him a framed decorative tile by Cincinnati artist Charley Harper to commemorate the occasion. He was then treated to a rousing rendition by the Board members of “The Twelve Days of Christmas,” which had been modified with new verses, each representing a serious or, more often, a humorous aspect of his work and character.

The Board meeting was recessed at 4:02 p.m. on December 2, 2016.

The Board meeting was reconvened at 9:06 a.m. on December 3, 2016

Annual Dues Adjustment

The current policy for setting the annual active member dues is for an automatic adjustment based on the average CPI of the previous year rounded up to the nearest dollar. In addition, the Board may adjust it further as appropriate and necessary. MTNA active dues are currently \$75.00, and the average CPI to date is +1.5. On the basis of this ratio, the automatic dues adjustment for FY 2018 would be \$2.00.

After discussion, the Board felt the automatic adjustment was sufficient. Active member dues for FY 2018 (July 1, 2017- June 30, 2018) will be \$77.00.

Frances Clark Award

The Board of Directors of the Frances Clark Center for Keyboard Pedagogy recommended the book "*Modules*," written by Paul Sheftel, as the recipient of the 2017 Frances Clark Keyboard Pedagogy Award.

Motion and second that the MTNA Board of Directors ratify the book "*Modules*," written by Paul Sheftel, as the recipient of the 2017 Frances Clark Keyboard Pedagogy Award.

PASSED

Grants and Awards Task Force

Vice President Karen Thickstun introduced recommendations from the Grants and Awards Task Force.

The Task Force was created in April 2016 to study all current grants and awards. In July, 2016, the Board adopted a preliminary "Framework of Funding Opportunities" that clearly identified how the MTNA Foundation supports the MTNA Strategic Plan.

On behalf of the task force, Thickstun presented four recommendations, which were discussed and considered separately:

1—Adoption of framework document that identifies how the MTNA Foundation (and its grants) supports the MTNA Strategic Plan (to engage the public, sustain the profession, and inspire the member). In this framework, grants are "mission-driven." Each grant is defined (and named) by its purpose and how it fulfills the MTNA mission (Partnership Development Grants, Professional Development Grants, and Membership Support Grants), regardless of who the applicant is.

2—Adoption of a revised process for grant application and grant review, which simplifies the application process and application form substantially; eliminates grants committees in favor of grant evaluators; specifies the respective roles of the staff, evaluators, officers, and board; and requires the development of an evaluation rubric.

3—Adoption of new Community Engagement Grant, which focuses on programs and projects that bring together MTNA teachers/students and the local community, and that engage the community in making music, appreciating music, or attending live music events.

4—Elimination of Local Association Start-Up grant, as it is redundant with the current Affiliate grant.

Motion and Second to adopt the framework document that identifies how the MTNA Foundation (and its grants) supports the MTNA Strategic Plan.

PASSED

Motion and Second to approve the revised process for grant application and grant review.

PASSED

Motion and Second to approve the establishment of a Community Engagement Grant focusing on programs and projects that bring together MTNA teachers/students and the local community, and projects that engage the community in making music, appreciating music, or attending live music events.

PASSED

Motion and Second to discontinue the Local Association Start-Up Grant.

PASSED

Thomas Ediger Bequest

On October 4, 2016, MTNA received a check in the amount of \$226,185.82, which represented the MTNA share from the estate of Dr. Thomas Ediger, who died on August 20, 2014. This bequest represents the largest single gift in the 140-year history of MTNA. There were no restrictions on how the monies were to be used.

The unanimous opinion of the Board members was that the bequest should be used as a transformation resource for MTNA. Several ideas were considered, including composer commissioning, support for developing young MTNA leaders, and outreach to increase membership both in the U.S. and internationally. Of particular interest was an idea to utilize the bequest to create the “Thomas Ediger Global Initiatives Fund” to turn MTNA’s global strategy into action.

Motion and Second to establish a Global Initiatives Task Force whose purpose is to develop a global initiatives plan utilizing the Thomas Ediger bequest.

PASSED

President Johnson appointed Scott McBride Smith and Ginger Hwalek to serve on the task force along with Executive Director & CEO Gary Ingle and herself.

Motion and second to ratify the appointment of Scott McBride Smith (chair) and Ginger Hwalek to serve on the Global Initiatives Task Force.

PASSED.

ANNOUNCEMENTS

The next meeting of the Board of Directors will be March 17, 2017 at the MTNA National Conference in Baltimore, Maryland.

ADJOURNMENT

President Johnson adjourned the meeting at 2:55 p.m. on December 3, 2016.

Respectfully submitted,

Sylvia Coats
Secretary-Treasurer