

**ASMTA Board Meeting**  
State Conference at the University of Central Arkansas  
November 12, 2023 at 1:30 p.m. via Zoom

Paul Whitley, President of ASMTA, presiding

Attendees: Sharon Ard, Dr. Mary Chung, Dr. Marika Kyriakos, Aline Phillips, Mark Smidt, Dr. Tim Smith, Dr. Paul Whitley, Leisa Arnett, Dr. Lauren Schack Clark, Xiting Yang, Dr. Naoki Hakutani, Dr. Lim Tchoi

Meeting commenced at 1:34 p.m.

## **Reports**

### State Conference – Mary Chung

Mary Chung tried to honor the request of Mary Bober as the conference artist, but she had a conflict. Dr. Kevin Olson will be the clinician again. The guest artist will be Petronel Malan, who became ill last year and was unable to attend. Arkansas State University will host on June 7-8, 2024.

Due to the long drive for many to Jonesboro a special session was proposed for parents and students on Saturday. This would provide them with something to do, especially if participants play only once. Perhaps something about practice habits, wellness, music ensemble in the lab, sight reading, or a harpsichord demonstration would be of interest. All responded positively to this idea. Mary Chung will provide a proposal to the membership. The National Association of Teachers of Singing could be used as an example with drop-in masterclasses, presentations by members for people to attend, etc.

### Bylaws – Paul Whitley

A possible modification of the bylaws is at hand. Last spring there was discussion on electing board members for this task. Lauren Schack Clark suggested someone like Marika Kyriakos who would be there already to handle the task. Sharon Ard asked if the bylaws needed to be entirely rewritten. The constitution and bylaws in most states are only bylaws. Room for improvement does exist. The conversation was tabled until a later date. Paul Whitley and Mary Chung will contemplate on the matter. Changes proposed require 30 days prior notice before a board meeting for approval or 2/3 vote. Tim Smith suggested to send something out early in the new year to the membership for voting.

### New Association: South Arkansas MTA – Sharon Ard

Five people are interested in beginning a new association in South Arkansas. A motion to approve the new chapter was made by Sharon Ard and seconded by Marika Kyriakos. All were in favor.

## Officers

Mary Chung will be President. Naoki Hakutani will move to First Vice President. Tim Smith will step down as treasurer. Marika Kyriakos will continue as secretary. There was discussion as to whether a Second Vice President is needed. Tasks for that position involve the Website and yearbook. The conference is organized by the First Vice President. Conference information needs to go into the yearbook, as well as ads. The decision was to keep the Second Vice President position and try to seek an appropriate member to fill the office.

## Treasurer's Report – Tim Smith

It was suggested that the next Treasurer may want to do something different with the CD to get more return. November 15 is the deadline for filing taxes and a new \$40 filing fee is in place. The current balance reflects the judging fees. There was reimbursement from national (\$1,560).

## Website Master – Alline Phillips

Alline Phillips reported that she is still getting oriented with the software and a few minor changes have been made. In moving forward to the state conference, it will be up and running. She will meet with Lisa Miller for region information, especially regarding the testing. Reminders will be sent to check the Website since it has been updated. Bring ideas to the board meeting if things need to be accomplished or discussed. GoDaddy is functioning properly.

## **Committee Reports**

### Membership – Sharon Ard

There are currently 116 paid members. Contributions to the Foundation Fund are needed. Considerations: giving in memory of someone who has passed away, or in honor of someone.

### Festival – Paul Whitley

The question was raised regarding doing something for our adult students in the festival. Perhaps adults could participate at the region level. A category of adults could be grouped together and play for comments only. No board members had strong reservations; therefore, Paul Whitley will recommend to Lisa Miller that this be considered.

Compensation for judges is currently \$20 an hour. There was discussion on raising fees. The student fee was raised by \$5 (\$20 to \$25). Entry forms still exist that are \$20. Those need to be deleted and the new forms loaded. For MTNA, judges are paid \$35 per hour and \$.655 per mile. Paul Whitley made the motion to raise the allowable amount for judges to be \$35 per hour maximum. The motion was seconded by Lauren Schack Clark. The motion passed with one member abstaining.

The meeting was adjourned at 2:20 p.m.  
Respectfully submitted, Marika Kyriakos, Secretary