

**MSMTA ANNUAL MEETING
GENERAL MEMBERSHIP MEETING OF THE ASSOCIATION**

Friday, October 30, 2020
via Zoom

With about 36 members present on the Zoom call, President Margaret McGillvray called the annual meeting to order at 9:00 a.m. MTNA president Martha Hilley appeared virtually and read a poignant poem, "Kindness," to start our conference.

Treasurer's Report

The budget report of Treasurer Carla Bell can be found on page 34 of the conference booklet and on our website. Sharon Marble reported the August 29, 2020 biennial review by Sandy Soltis and Sharon of the two previous fiscal years of MSMTA financial records was successful. She complimented Carla Bell for her service as treasurer. The vote was unanimous to accept Carla Bell's Treasurer's Report.

New Business

Membership Secretary Marcy Holston reported MSMTA membership has increased by three to 109 since last year. Reports of Standing Committee Chairs will be posted on the website.

In the COVID-19 pandemic, MTNA has provided guidelines and recommendation which Diane Volkman summarized by noting that when planning an event, the first concern is the safety of all who attend. Because Montana residents cannot waive negligence, we must not depend on people signing a waiver. MTNA suggests we hold any event outside, limit attendance, wear masks, and check with local health boards. We can use liability insurance and legal counsel from MTNA. Read MTNA legal counsel T. Scott Gilligan's paper on MTNA's website. (Scroll down on the opening screen. Click on the first line Get the FAQs for "A Document of COVID-19 FAQs for State and Local Music Teacher Associations" and on the second line View It Now for "a document of Legal FAQs for studios considering a return to in-person lessons.")

This year MSMTA's Zoom account cost \$125.00. For 2021-2022, this budgeted item is \$150.00, which received a unanimous vote of approval.

Nominating Committee comprised of Jessica Olson, Diane Volkman, Kate Hansen and Sharon Weaver-Knowles recommended Ginny Reese for President-Elect and Cassandra Bak for Membership Secretary. Jessica Olson moved we accept the slate of officers, Lynn Bassett seconded the motion, and approval was unanimous. Jessica thanked Margaret McGillray for serving as MSMTA President.

Old Business

Laura Detrick reported on trading "in-kind" ads in Cadenza and Montana Music News by MMEA and MSMTA. A raffle at the MMEA conference gave away a free teacher fee certificate for entry of students in local or state festivals.

Friend of Carla Bell, Tami Park, in work on her doctorate, is using MSMTA as the subject of her research. Her new paper on organizational purpose and strategic planning using four different forms can be seen on the MSMTA website. Also on the website, the library catalog is posted with committees' Annual Reports. (Home-About MSMTA-Annual Reports-2020 Annual Chair Reports)

Each year conference proceeds from the purchase of raffle tickets has been split between our state's donation to the MTNA Foundation and a fund to support MTNA competitors traveling to divisional competition sites. With

virtual competition now and no additional entrance fees for these competitors, the funds can be used in other ways. Judy O'Dell proposed using money from the raffle to assist teachers to attend conference. A motion from Steve Hesla, seconded by Stephanie Davis, to maintain the status quo by using the travel grant funds to assist students in attending national MTNA competitions or the state MTNA competition passed. Discussion of the Legacy Fund -- how to fund it and how to use it, e.g. for scholarships to improve members' teaching through attending conferences -- was tabled. Judy O'Dell asked for suggestions to help fine-tune a future proposal.

Announcements

New Standing Committee chair appointees are Dorothy Beck Peterson - MTNA Competitions, Judy O'Dell – MSMTA Scholarships, Ginny Reese – Local Associations, Ruth Plesner – Continuing Education, Ken Christensen and Julie Gosswiller – College Faculty. Stephanie Davis will take on IMTF and Heidi Altenecker Certification.

The President recognized the service of Chris Hahn, Marcy Holston, Ruth Plesner, Molly Morrison and Cari Wilson. She gave a huge thank you to the 2020 Conference Committee of Carla Bell, Laura Detrick, Linda Holden, and Diane Volkman for their computer expertise and success in presenting a virtual conference.

Margaret McGillray asked Laura Detrick to tell about the 2021 conference. Choral composer Joseph Martin and former student of Martha Hilley will be clinician and guest artist for the conference in Great Falls, October 28-30, 2021.

The annual meeting was adjourned.

Respectfully submitted, Charlene Loge, Secretary