

**Minutes of the Meeting of the Executive Board of the
Twin Cities Chapter of the American Guild of Organists
April 22, 2013**

Present: Laura Edman, Dean; Phil Asgian, Carolyn Diamond, David Geslin, Andrew Hackett, David Jenkins, Mary Newton, Jane Nienaber, Geoff Olson and Jeff Patry. Excused: Michael Edwins, Sharon Kleckner, Carsten Slostad and Kirsten Falc Uhlenberg.

- I. **Call to Order:** Dean Edman called the meeting to order at 6:35 p.m. at Centennial United Methodist Church and grace was said before partaking in a potluck supper.
- II. **Secretary's Report:** There was one suggested change to the minutes of 2/25/13: under IV. Committee Reports, paragraph 4: change the wording to TCAGO "program" rather than "meeting." Phil Asgian moved to accept the minutes from the February meeting as amended. Carolyn Diamond seconded the motion and the minutes were approved.
- III. **Treasurer's Report:** David indicated that we are ending the year with a surplus. We discussed how to list various items including whether the Promotion Committee should advertise the Pipedreams Scholarship rather than the Scholarship Committee. We should be targeting MMTA and MacPhail and other music schools to advertise this scholarship. The payments from this account are made directly to the teacher, not to the student and are given twice a year. David indicated that the Schwaab account is convention money from 1980 and 2008 and investments are doing well. If someone needs to increase their budget, email David regarding this. Note: we need to work on the budget at the May meeting. Geoff Olson motioned to accept the minutes and David Jenkins seconded. The treasurer's report was approved.

IV. **Committee Reports**

- A. The Program Committee has reviewed several proposals for the upcoming year. The probable date for the opening meeting is September 22, 2013, though no venue has been confirmed at this point. It will feature music of Robert Elmore to honor his centenary. Michael Barone is working on getting Robert Plimpton for this program and a dinner will follow.

The next proposed date is either October 13 or 20, 2013 and will feature a member recital honoring composers with significant anniversaries, e.g., Horatio Parker, Richard Purvis, Wagner, Verdi, Krebs, etc. Venue TBD.

Two different dates in February are being considered for the next PODD and the Bach Birthday Bash is scheduled for March 15, 2014. Details are being worked out for the June boat trip.

- B. Web Committee –Advertising rates haven't changed since 2004. Paul Lohman is suggesting some changes and he wants to be more proactive in selling space. Since the larger ads haven't sold in quite a while, he suggests decreasing the amount of the full and ½ page ads to encourage people to buy them. The previous full page rate was \$170 per issue and he is suggesting \$125, online issue only. The previous ½ page ad was \$95 and he is proposing \$80, online issue only. The ¼ page ad would remain at \$60. Paul is suggesting raising the rate for the business card from \$60 for the season to \$70 for the season, or \$10 per issue. The proposed rate for business cards for the TCAGO directory is \$70.00. It is proposed to have web site advertising for \$75 for the season, size undetermined at this time. David Engen will look into whether a web site slide show is feasible. David Geslin and David Engen will try to find who the visitors are to the web site for follow-through. Three "packages" are also proposed: (1) business card in *Pipenotes* and the directory: \$130, (2) business card in *Pipenotes* and ad on the web site: \$135, (3) business card in *Pipenotes*, directory and the web site: \$180. David Jenkins moved to accept Paul's proposed rates and Jane Nienaber seconded.

Reminder: Kirsten wants everyone's information for the web pages in before the end of May with the goal of having everything on the web site by the end of June.

There was some discussion regarding if email blasts should be screened before they are sent. The web committee will discuss this as these messages may be going to Wild Apricot in the future.

- C. Competition – Mary Newton reported that the competition went very well. It was held at Westwood Lutheran and there were 7 very capable competitors. The first place winner was Jessica Park, second place winner was Karl Robson, and honorable mention went to Aaron Hirsch. Mary reported that we should be proud of our competition because we have the highest number of competitors. A consideration for future years is that we should offer a reimbursement to the host church. Previously they have been asked to waive their fee for use of the building, but there are costs involved and a church could potentially lose out on a wedding or other paying event. We don't want to wear out our welcome.
- D. Special Projects Committee – Laura Edman, Andrew Hackett and Thomas Kite met regarding 2 requests for funding. The first is from Carolyn Will from Media and Public Relations of the Cathedral of St. Paul. They are requesting \$1,000 to help with the organ restoration project. We discussed that this is a high profile, historic instrument and it would be a good will gesture for us. On the other hand, would a smaller church need our money more? What about Northrop Auditorium? Do we want to set a precedent? We decided that the Special Projects Committee needs to set up criteria and give justification as to why we would choose to or not choose to support a certain project and make a recommendation to the board.
- The second request was from Mark Sedio at Central Lutheran Church. He is requesting \$1,000 - \$3,000 to help defray costs for the Thomanerchor Leipzig and the Leipzig Baroque Ensemble concert on November 4, 2013. Andrew will contact Mark and ask what we would get in return for a donation. One suggestion was that they could offer several tickets for college students to be able to attend. Both of these issues will be voted on at the May meeting.
- E. Composition Competition – There were over 40 entries for this competition, but the \$1500 prize was not awarded this year, citing that none of the compositions met the full range of criteria. Motion by Geoff Olson, seconded by David Jenkins that this information will be posted on the web site and put in *Pipenotes* in a brief statement for no more than 2 months. It will not be sent out to the Star Tribune. Laura will call Lawrence Lawyer regarding this.
- V. **Auditor Recommendations** – Carolyn Diamond and Michael Barone worked on this and Pipedreams will use the term "grant" instead of "sponsor" which doesn't show up in the budget. David Geslin will follow through.
- VI. **New Business**
- A. The budget will be discussed at the next 2 meetings.
- B. Summer get-togethers: Mary Newton and Jeff Patry will work on this and Stephen Hamilton will work on promotion. Be thinking of ideas and venues. One suggested venue was Wooddale Church, but the feeling is that a smaller venue would work well too.
- VII. **Adjournment** – Jeff Patry motioned for adjournment and Mary Newton seconded. Meeting adjourned at 8:40 p.m. The next meeting will be on Monday, May 20, 2013 at Centennial United Methodist Church.

Respectfully submitted,

Jane Nienaber, Acting Secretary