

**Minutes of the Meeting of the Executive Board of the  
Twin Cities Chapter of the American Guild of Organists  
August 27, 2012**

**Present:** Laura Edman, Dean; Sharon Kleckner, Sub-Dean; David Geslin, Treasurer; Kirsten Falc Uhlenberg, Secretary; Carolyn Diamond, Mary Newton, Andrew Hackett, Phil Asgian, Geoff Olson.

**Excused:** Michael Edwins, Zach Busch, David Jenkins, Stephen Self, Carsten Slostad

**Guest:** Stephen Hamilton, Membership

### **I. Call to Order**

Dean Edman called the meeting to order at 6:35 P.M. at our meeting location, St. Paul's United Church of Christ, St. Paul, Minnesota.

Carolyn Diamond opened the meeting with a blessing from the book, *To Bless the Space Between Us*, by John O'Donohue.

### **II. Secretary's Report**

The minutes from the June meeting were accepted with minor corrections.

### **III. Treasurer's Report**

David Geslin presented the financial report. Phil Asgian moved to accept the report and Stephen Hamilton seconded the motion. David also submitted a Cumulative General Ledger for the period of July 1, 2011 to June 30, 2012.

### **IV. Registrar's Report**

Dean Edman presented the Registrar's report for John Salveson. As of August 16, 2012, the Chapter has 250 members. Suggestions for outreach were discussed, including adding the address for the TCAGO website to concert programs, recognizing new members at meetings, and personally inviting people. A deterrent for those who did not renew include minimal social interaction with other members at chapter gatherings.

### **V. Committee Reports**

A. *Program:* Sharon Kleckner and the Hospitality Committee are finishing plans for the reception and dinner following the Opening Meeting on September 23 at 4:00 P.M. at St. John the Evangelist Episcopal Church in St. Paul. A presentation on Messiaen by Almut Roessler is planned for October 14 at 3 P.M. at St. Thomas University, with a buffet dinner on campus. She suggested a Board Members Recital as a November event, possibly on November 11.

She asked the Board to approve an additional member for the Program Committee (one member beyond the limit of five, including the Chair); she is considering asking Kraig Windschitl.

B. *Publicity:* Geoff Olson reported that the Committee has written the publicity for 2013 Composition Competition for a solo organ prelude or postlude and it has been sent to an extensive list of organizations. The Committee developed a form for Program Committee to use

for future publicity needs.

*C. Hospitality:* Dean Edman presented the Hospitality report for Priscilla Franken. The committee made a planning form for use in conjunction with the Program Committee to ensure set up, receptions, and dinner details are coordinated. Kirsten Uhlenberg shared Priscilla's email which adds that "our committee is focused on member engagements, good turn out for events, and enjoyable social opportunities" during intermission or a reception.

*D. Pipe Organ Discovery Day:* Phil Asgian reported that the date is set for Saturday, February 16, 2013 at Mayflower Church (United Church of Christ), 106 E. Diamond Lake Rd., Minneapolis (Diamond Lake Rd. at 35W) and continuing at St. John's Lutheran Church, 4842 Nicollet Ave., Minneapolis (at Nicollet and 50th St.) He is looking for a person to replace Charles Hendrickson, who is stepping down from his annual PODD presentation about sound and organ pipes. He would like to give Charles a token of thanks for his years of assisting at PODD. Phil and Mary Newton presented an educational program this summer to children 4-11 years old at Westminster Presbyterian in Minneapolis.

*E. Student Competition:* Mary Newton reported that the date is set for Saturday, April 6, 2013, at Westwood Lutheran Church, 9001 Cedar Lake Rd., St. Louis Park. The church will allow rent-free use of their space for this event.

*F. Composition Competition:* The Committee has written publicity announcing the competition and its rules (see Geoff Olson's Publicity Committee report, above).

## **VI. Wild Apricot (Online Membership Website Software)**

Board members are asked to be placed in the directory first in order to test the system. Dean Edman suggested a task force be formed to look into reorganizing the website and updating the design using the Wild Apricot templates.

## **VII. Pipenotes**

Dean Edman met with Merritt Nequette and discussed advertisement placement in the newsletter. She suggested and many agreed that they should be interspersed throughout the document and not in one place. She also suggested that the inside first page of names and committees should be printed just once per year and then the space could be used for an article.

## **VIII. E-blasts**

A composer asked to send a composition for free use via the Chapter's e-blast service. A suggestion was made that a paid e-blast could be sent to share information about it with a link to the music file. It was agreed that the e-blasts are to be used to inform the Chapter about events and activities but not in such a way that they would be perceived as advertising.

## **IX. TCAGO Summer Get-togethers**

Mary Newton reported that two chapter events were planned in an effort to recruit new members and to renew lapsed members. The musical focus of the event was having people volunteer to play some of their favorite light and easy music for summer. Information for the events was sent out via our website, fliers, postcards, and e-blasts.

The first event was hosted by Laura Edman and Bill Stump on the east side of the Twin Cities area in Stillwater on Thursday, July 19. There were 20 attendees in total and 5 people played. Of the 20

attendees, 14 were current members, 6 were non-members and 1 lapsed-member renewed. The second event was hosted by Mary Newton and Jeff Patry on the west side in Plymouth on Tuesday, July 30. There were 20 attendees in total and 10 people played. Of the 20 attendees, 15 were current members, 4 were new members who had joined this summer, and 1 was a potential new member.

Some of the things attendees enjoyed were 1) having an informal event during the summer, 2) meeting new members, 3) meeting others in the area, 4) the networking opportunity for new members 5) successful community building, 6) the small size of the event, and 7) the welcoming atmosphere. At the Plymouth event, Stephen Hamilton spoke about membership and John Salveson spoke about AGO resources. Mary suggested we make a special event for new members on a yearly basis during the summer.

## **X. AGO Annual Fund**

Dean Edman reminded the Board that August 31 is the final date to make a gift to the AGO Annual Fund, which funds educational programming within the Guild, the Professional Certification program, liability insurance, money for local chapters, among other things. The last gift made by the Chapter was in 2005 for \$350. Stephen Hamilton moved that we support the Annual Fund with \$100. Kirsten Uhlenberg seconded. The motion was accepted.

## **XI. Professional Endorsements—ACDA**

Postponed

## **XII. Planning for 2013-14**

Dean Edman suggested that we, the Board, do long-term planning to develop our identity as a chapter, and gave an example of a possible major event every 2 or 3 years. She asked the Board to bring some big ideas, to think ahead, and to go above and beyond as we have discussions about long-term plans.

Respectfully submitted,

Kirsten Falc Uhlenberg, Secretary