

**Minutes of the Meeting of the Executive Board of the
Twin Cities Chapter of the American Guild of Organists
March 24, 2014**

Present: Laura Edman, Dean; David Geslin, Treasurer; Kirsten Falc Uhlenberg, Secretary; Phil Asgian, Sarah Garner, Jim Hild, Mary Newton, Jane Nienaber, Jungjoo Park, Jeffrey Patry, Carsten Slostad,

Excused: Sharon Kleckner, David Jenkins

Guests: Michael Edwins, Chaplain

I. Call to Order

Dean Edman called the meeting to order at 6:35 PM at our meeting location, Sacred Heart Catholic Church, Minneapolis, Minnesota.

Rev. Mike Edwins opened the meeting with scripture readings from Hosea 11, Romans 5:2, a hymn stanza, and a prayer.

II. Secretary's Report

The spelling of "Hennig" in item IV. D. in the February minutes should have been "Henning." With that correction, Phil Asgian moved to accept the minutes from the February meeting and Carsten Slostad seconded. The February minutes were approved.

III. Committee Reports

A. Student Competition: Mary Newton reported that the competition went well and it was held at Augustana Lutheran Church. There were four competitors from four schools (Univ. of Minnesota, Twin Cities; Univ. of Minnesota, Duluth; Gustavus Adolphus College; Association Free Lutheran Bible School, Plymouth). Laura Hedstrom was the first place winner and Philip Radtke was the second place winner, both students of Dean Billmeyer. Judges were Tom Ferry, David Jenkins, and Kris Langlois. This was the first year that a Winners' Concert was held the day following the competition. Approximately fifty people attended the concert; Michael Barone recorded the concert. Going forward, it may not be possible to have a Winners' Concert every year due to scheduling challenges associated with acquiring two days at one venue.

B. Hospitality: Carsten Slostad reported that the committee provided a reception for the Student Competition Winners' Concert.

IV. Treasurer's Report

David Geslin reported on the Chapter's finances. Publicity Committee went over-budget, but the efforts to improve advertising with full-color posters and postcard mailings appear to have helped significantly in attendance at chapter events. The chapter has about \$4,000 in deficit. Phil Asgian moved to accept the Treasurer's report and Jane Nienaber seconded. The report was approved.

V. Membership Dues

National increased its portion of dues by \$2 to cover liability insurance. After much discussion, Phil Asgian moved to raise Regular Member dues to \$100 to absorb the additional fee. Further

discussion followed. Questions about National's handling of this issue were raised, including, Will members choose ONCARD (Online National Collection and Remittal of Dues) to save a few dollars? and, Will National let individual members from the Twin Cities Chapter know that there is a local chapter (as opposed to joining as "Individual" and not paying the local chapter portion)?

A new fee structure was proposed for 2014-15: Regular Voting Member, \$100; Special Member (over 65, under 21, or disabled, \$75; Student Member (with valid ID), \$40; Student Member 21 or younger from the Twin Cities area, \$0; Partner, \$75; Dual Chapter Member, \$40; Student Dual Chapter Member, \$15; Chapter Friend (non-voting member), \$40.

Phil Asgian amended his motion to change dues to those discussed, above. Jane Nienaber seconded. The motion was approved.

Dean Edman will communicate to National our concerns regarding passing on expenses to chapters and individuals being able to bypass joining a local chapter.

Ideas for encouraging students to join were discussed: memberships could be given as part of a prize of the student competition, or the sponsorship of a student membership could be included on the membership form, or student membership could be made an application process.

VI. Program Committee

Dean Edman reported that the Member Concert is on track for May 9 and that the June 1 Potluck Picnic Social Event is being planned. Programming work for next year has begun.

VII. New Business

A. *2014-2015 Budget Deadlines*: Submit your budget by next month.

B. *Executive Board potluck*: The potluck for incoming and current Board members will be held June 30.

Mary Newton moved to adjourn and Carsten Slostad seconded at 8:06 PM.

The next meeting will be held on April 28, 2014 at 6:30 PM, place TBD.

Respectfully submitted,

Kirsten Falc Uhlenberg, Secretary