

**Minutes of the Meeting of the Executive Board of the
Twin Cities Chapter of the American Guild of Organists**

October 27, 2014

Present: Paul Westermeyer, Dean; David Jenkins, Subdean; Karen Becker, Secretary; Board members Jennifer Anderson, Phil Asgian, Sarah Garner, Margaret Gohman, Jim Hild, Jungjoo Park, Carsten Slostad. Also present: Michael Edwins, TCAO Chaplain.

Excused: Pam Carlson, David Geslin, Jon Kietzer.

I. Call to Order – The meeting was called to order at 6:30 p.m. Michael Edwins gave the devotions using the Moravian Daily Texts.

II. Secretary's Report – The minutes were approved.

III. Committee Reports:

- A. Program: David Jenkins reported that the October Organ Crawl went very well with recitals of excellent and varied performances. There was a smaller core group that attended the entire day, and others attended for selected events. There were 100 people at the lunch provided by Mount Calvary Church at no charge. There were suggestions for future crawls from people who attended: a zombie crawl; another Northfield crawl; and a bicycle crawl to country parishes. Phil Asgian suggested including an organ factory in a future crawl. David Engen offered to sponsor the food for a future crawl.

There was also a report regarding the composition competition, which has a committee of members who have served a number of years and choose a different type of composition each year. This year a problem developed when there was no publicity for the May 1 deadline, and there were no entries so a new deadline of Oct. 1 was publicized. Then the deadline for the Pipedreams scholarship was publicized as the composition deadline, and there were entries mailed after the actual composition deadline, and the winners had also already been chosen with their names announced publicly. There had been a retraction the day after the mistaken deadline announcement was made, but two composers felt unjustly treated because they didn't see the retraction. Phil pointed out there was no malicious intent. Jeremy has apologized for the publicity error by e-mail and phone and also offered to resign, which Phil pointed out would not solve the problem. It was moved by

Phil that David and Paul will craft a letter of apology. Jungjoo Park seconded.

B. Registrar report: There are 320 active members, 39 lapsed members, and 25 new members. The directory was sent to press one week ago, and the directories should be in the mail soon. Thanks go to Sue Moro of St. Thomas for putting the directory together, to David Geslin, treasurer, who gathered the data from Wild Apricot and sent it to Sue, and to Laura Edman who helped with the proofing.

C. Publicity and Social Media: Sarah Garner reported that in the past, TCAGO sold the list of e-mail and mailing labels to churches to publicize their events, but that practice may no longer be acceptable for privacy reasons. Currently, Hennepin Avenue Methodist is requesting mailing labels. Sarah is also working on a print exchange with Pipedreams and Thursday Musical. E-mail blasts are secure, and Sarah will research what other options are available. She suggests next year we give members an option to not have their addresses shared. The Dean requested that Sarah bring a proposal to the board.

III. Old Business - Regarding the relationship of TCAGO and Luther Seminary, Laura Edman copied past correspondence between both groups in 1992. There was discussion about TCAGO not paying their third installment or even suing because the seminary failed to keep their promise regarding the use of the money donated by TCAGO, but these actions did not take place. Paul clarified the intent of the TCAGO with the current president of the seminary. She had been under the impression the money was to be used for scholarships, rather than to support a professor in church music. The president of the seminary indicates she is sympathetic to TCAGO concerns. Jon Kietzer suggested we look for ways to combine resources of the various religious training institutions in the Twin Cities.

IV. New Business -- Chad Winterfeldt notified the TCAGO that he is our district convener. Phil made a motion that Chad be listed online along with everyone who performs a role for TCAGO. It was seconded by Sarah and approved.

The national AGO suggests local organizations host a January Jubilee with the aim to nurture church musicians at the local level though there is funding from the national level. The program committee for TCAGO is looking for a program option for January 2016 and will look at the possibility of the Jubilee as the program option with possible themes, such as a Widor festival and inviting John Near or something relating to Luther and/or the Swiss reformation. Possibly the district convener Chad

Winterfeldt could have a role in January, and the intent is also to invite him to the fall opening event.

There was a suggestion from Jennifer Anderson that we offer a memorial donation for Stephen Paulus. Karen Becker made a motion to give a donation to the American Composers Forum Paulus Fund to Support Composers. Discussion points were that our donations need to be restricted to organist needs, according to Jungjoo Park. Jennifer Anderson proposed that this donation is in line with our mission since Stephen Paulus made a significant contribution to the role of the organ in his music. Phil amended the motion to include the amount of \$500 as a donation, and Karen seconded. Sarah made another motion to offer the amount of \$1000, and David Jenkins seconded. All voted in favor of \$1000 except for one abstention. On the vote on whether to make a contribution, there was one abstention, one vote of no, and the others were in favor. Jungjoo made a motion that we place a tribute in Pipenotes, and Carsten Slostad seconded, and all voted in favor.

Phil Asgian commended David Jenkins for his mention of TCAGO in his recital program and suggested it be mentioned in the minutes and used as a model by other performers in their program:

“Visit the Twin Cities Chapter of the American Guild of Organists at www.tcago.org for information on local organ events, visiting performers, and educational opportunities about the organ. Membership is open to all those interested in the organ.”

- V. Adjournment at 8:30. **The next meeting will be November 24 at 6:30 at St. Paul Seminary.**

Respectfully submitted,

Karen Becker, Secretary