

Minutes of the Executive Board Meeting
Twin Cities Chapter of the American Guild of Organists
November 8, 2021

Present: Jennifer Anderson, Jacob Benda, Joyce Brown, Isaac Drewes, Dave Geslin, Kathrine Handford, Kristina Langlois, Sr. Stacie Lightner, Laura Potratz, Kris Rizzotto, Lise Schmidt

Absent: Nils Halker, John Varona

Also present: Chaplain John Setterlund

Call to Order by Dean Jacob Benda at 6:30 PM, Virtual Meeting via the Zoom App.

The meeting began with a reflection by Chaplain John Setterlund on the New Testament reading from Sunday's gospel, Mark 12 (the widow's offering). Generosity is at the heart of the lesson. Generosity is a godly virtue and permits abundant and better life for all. We musicians can be challenged to also grow in generosity.

The agenda for this meeting was approved.

Motion: Lise Schmidt moved to approve the Oct. 2021 Minutes.

Second: Kathrine Handford

Motion carried

Report Secretary: The Board is reminded that we need to vote on the Nominating Committee Chair tonight.

Report: Treasurer's Report given by David Geslin

The effects of the pandemic are continuing to have implications on the budget. This might be a gap year. We still have enough money to cover our expenses. The opening program and dinner has been postponed until June. There will be significant cost sharing with Northrop Auditorium. The remaining program budget is minimal. There is still money in the Member Relief Fund. After much discussion on funding the Northrop Event and the Mid Winter Event, the Board decided to make budget changes for next year. To facilitate planning the program year, it was agreed that a line item in the budget for the Mid Winter Workshop is needed. Costs are continuing to increase with many churches now charging the AGO for using their facility.

Motion: Kathrine Handford moved that the Board make a line item in next year's budget for the Mid-Winter Workshop.

Second: Lise Schmidt

Motion Carried.

Motion: Lise Schmidt moved that \$1,000 from the special projects and \$1,000 from the unrestricted funds be made available for this year's January Workshop.

Second: Issac Drewes

Motion Carried.

Report: Program Committee Report given by Jennifer Anderson.

-Central Lutheran will be our Mid Winter Workshop location. It will be at the end of January. There are good topics to be covered with a wide interest for all. It is designed to encourage and inspire us, and provide the opportunity to learn new skills. The topics include: Mental Skills needed for performance, Leadership from the Organ and other instruments, Recording skills, and Children's Chorister programs. The day will conclude with a short Organ Recital.

-The program committee has asked for guidance on requests to co sponsor events. They would like some guidelines and practices to follow. The Board discussed the history of sponsoring events. Because we do not have an organ, we collaborate with churches for our events. It is pointed out that it can be a win-win situation.

Report: Dean's Report given by Jacob Benda.

-The Achievement Award Program, proposed at last month's meeting, has been updated with a proposal to get it started. It has been decided that the Mentor is not the teacher, but is the Evaluator for the skills tests. The Exams are already in place at National. This is still a pilot program to be evaluated at a later date. To start the program Mentors need to be approved by **the Board**.

Motion: Jennifer Anderson moved that the Board approve David Jenkins, Sr. Stacie Lightner, and Mary Newton to be Mentors for the Achievement Awards Program.

Second: Laura Podratz

Motion Carried with abstentions from Kathrine Handford and Sr. Stacie Lightner.

-The TCAGO Directory has not yet been printed. The costs are \$247 from the St. Thomas print shop. Because it is already November and the directory has not yet been proofed or updated, it was agreed that we aim for Sept. 2022. The directory information is available to all members on the web when you have logged into your account. Members will be reminded to update their information before we print.

-The 2023 Convention planning is waiting on approval from National on having Co Chairs for the Event.

-Phil Radtke has agreed to head up the Nominating Committee.

Motion: Lise Schmidt moved that Phil Radtke be approved to chair the Nominating Committee.

Second: Kathrine Handford.

Motion Carried.

New Business:

-The Development Committee should be looking into taking advantage of grants available. We can use the opportunities offered by them.

-There is currently a challenge, with prize money, from National for local Chapters to engage new and young organists. The Registrar will be looking into this program.

Meeting ended at 8:00 P.M.

Joyce Brown, Secretary

Next Meeting: December 6, 2021