

**Minutes of the Executive Board Meeting
Twin Cities Chapter of the American Guild of Organists
October 17, 2022**

Present: Carolyn Diamond, Isaac Drewes, Nils Halker, Kathrine Handford, David Jenkins, Kristina Langlois, Ju Young Lee, Mary Newton, Lise Schmidt

Present: via the Zoom App: David Geslin, Samuel Holmberg

Absent: Kris Rizzotto

Also Present: Chaplain John Setterlund

Meeting called to order by Dean David Jenkins at 6:30 pm at Church of Saint Mark, 2001 Dayton Avenue, St. Paul, MN 55104

The meeting began with Chaplain Setterlund acknowledging “St. Luke’s Eve” as the commemoration of Luke, the author of the third Gospel and the book of Acts. Remembered as “Evangelist” and for his mission of healing, it was his goal to tell the story of Jesus’ life. Chaplain Setterlund concluded with a prayer asking us to continue the mission of love and healing power to all in need.

Motion: Nils Halker moved the minutes of the board meeting on September 26, 2022 be approved.

Second: Lise Schmidt. **Motion carried.**

Treasurer’s Report: Given by David Geslin

David reported that even though we have an aggressive budget, we are ahead of last year for memberships and dues, largely because of rolling renewals.

And since big expenses are already behind us (i.e. the Opening concert event), we are in good shape financially. He also explained that only half our support comes from dues, of which AGO National claims approximately one-third of the fee. So, contributions and donations are an important source of revenue for our chapter. Ways to donate to the chapter include PayPal, ONCARD, Pipedreams Scholarship Fund, and online through our website. David also highlighted that conventions are sources of income, of which National gets a percentage of the profits. Our last two conventions yielded \$100,000 in 2008 and \$76,000 in 1980.

Program Committee Report: Given by Kathrine Handford

Kathrine gave a review of the Bruce Neswick master class/workshop held at Christ Church Lutheran on October 8, 2022. There were 33 attendees with 6 no shows. Isaac Drewes did a great job of facilitating the event which included singing the psalms and organ skills to enhance hymn and service playing. Several members were participants in the masterclass portion of the morning. It was agreed that both the workshop and Bruce Neswick's recital the next day were successful.

Feedback on event publicity was also discussed. Some members have reported that there are too many emails, and the question was raised as to how many are appropriate when followed up with additional printed information. Mary Newton wondered about the value of paper vs. electronic promotion, and a brief review of the transition that occurred when Pipenotes went from hard copies to an electronic format showed that it was a process that took time, but has resulted in good distribution. It was also noted that in this current post-pandemic time both emails and postcards reinforce in-person programs, and if that brings folks out, it's good!

There were brief comments made regarding David Engen's organ list about the online data base, and that it is important to have accurate listings as well as periodic updating.

Pipe Organ Heritage Committee Report: given by Nils Halker

Nils described the upcoming organ crawl scheduled for November 5, 2022 from 9am-5pm. It will be a Charles Hendrickson Retrospective, visiting his instruments at five churches: Church of St. Mark, St. Paul; St. John's Lutheran Church, Minneapolis; Mount Calvary Lutheran Church, Richfield; Trinity Episcopal Church, Excelsior; and Wayzata Community Church. There will be a description of each organ as well as a short recital by the resident organists. Members can attend some or all of the sites. Audiences from the congregations are also invited, and Nils stated that these programs promote good relationships with the churches.

Job listings online service discussion: given by David Jenkins

After raising this topic from the prior month, David provided notes on the pros and cons of charging for position listings in on the web site. Currently the charge to list is \$50.00 for two months, and after discussion (note the summary of statements in the Minutes from September 26,2022,) it was decided that the pros outweigh the cons, and that the fee will remain the same for now. It was also noted that updating for our website is needed so that it is easier to access various

resources, and it would be good to add a link to the “Handbook for Employing Church Musicians” within the Positions Listings section. Lise Schmidt offered to assist with updating and design, and will work with Jeffrey Patry, the job listings coordinator.

Motion: Isaac Drewes moved that we keep the fee structure for position listings that is currently used.

Second: Kathrine Handford. **Motion carried.**

Membership Report: given by David Jenkins

David summarized outreach efforts to call members who had canceled or were invoiced/not paid. Several members were retained, some had moved, a few were not renewing, and one was deceased. Because of rolling renewals, it is challenging to track who is yet to renew and who is not renewing.

The ONCARD renewal system shows that a member’s status moves to “canceled” two months beyond their renewal date.

A few of TCAGO member categories were discussed:

*Chapter Friend: \$20.00 fee, is just local, has no TAO subscription, and cannot be a committee or voting member. Currently there are 11 members, and there is no way to join online or no information about it. The continuation of the Chapter Friend category was discussed. No changes to current chapter policies were suggested at this time.

*Student: (35 chapter members or dual members) is free to those under the age of 21.

*Lifetime Member: (3 chapter members) is a one-time fee of \$3000 which can be paid in six \$500 installments over six years.

Lise Schmidt and David Jenkins will work to review and revise the webpage for renewals on the web site.

Motion: Lise Schmidt moved to adjourn the meeting.

Second: Nils Halker. **Motion carried.**

Meeting adjourned at 8 PM.

Next meeting: November 28, 2022

Carolyn Diamond, Secretary