

Minutes of the Executive Board Meeting
Twin Cities Chapter of the American Guild of Organists
September 25, 2023

Present: David Jenkins, Kathrine Handford, David Geslin, Isaac Drews, Eileen Miller, Richard Gray, Carolyn Diamond, Ju Young Lee, Kris Langlois, John Setterlund, Simon Pick, Lise Schmidt

Absent: Melanie Ohnstad, Samuel Holmberg

Chaplain John Setterlund opened the meeting with reflections on Yom Kippur, the Day of Atonement, the most solemn of Jewish holy days, ending with a selection from the New Testament *Letter to the Hebrews* quoting Jeremiah “I will be their God and they will be my people . . . For I will forgive their wickedness and will remember their sins no more.”

Introduction: New board member, Simon Pick, was introduced. He has degrees in music from Benedictine College in Atchison, Kansas, and the University of Notre Dame, Indiana, and is currently working on his DMA at Indiana University. He serves as the Director of Music and Liturgy at the Church of the Assumption in St. Paul.

Minutes: Several spelling corrections were noted. It was suggested that the Program Committee report section be modified to read: On Sunday, February 18, 2024, The King Singers will be on the Bethlehem Music Series. That Monday, the TCAGO will collaborate with Bethlehem Music Series for a master class with The King Singers and a professional development day.

Motion: Carolyn Diamond moved to approved the minutes as corrected. **Second:** Isaac Drews. **Motion carried.**

Action item: A request was made to the Executive Board to consider converting the \$5000 loan made by the TCAGO to the North Central Regional AGO Convention to cover expenses. A lengthy discussion ensued. If the loan were converted to a grant, the amount could be taken out of the chapter discretionary fund. However, the \$5000 is a significant part of the TCAGO program budget. On the other hand, convention deficits are something the national AGO plans and provides for. It was observed that National has a lot more resources than TCAGO, and this is a large amount for the chapter. If the loan is not converted to a grant, approximately \$10,000 previously provided by national to the regional convention will be returned as it is not needed to cover unmet convention expenses.

Motion: Lise Schmidt moved to approve the request to convert the \$5000 loan from the TCAGO to the regional convention to a grant. **Second:** Kathy Handford. **Motion failed.**

Treasurer’s report: David Geslin provided a budget and finance update with a Statement of Revenue and Expenses and Statement of Financial Position through September 24, 2023. **Motion:** Eileen Miller moved to approve the treasurer’s report. **Second:** Isaac Drews. **Motion carried.**

Sub Dean’s Report: For the TCAGO Opening Dinner on September 17, Kathrine Handford reported the staff at the Green Mill were good to work with, and the meals were reasonably priced. It was reported the vegetarian option left something to be desired. The POHC organ crawl in St. Paul on October 21 has identified the locations and performers and is set to go. The November 19th dinner with Nathan Laube will be at Christ Church Lutheran, Minneapolis, at 6:30 PM, following the Bethlehem Music Series concert. There will be a two-hour pedagogy session with 2 or 3 younger organists.

Chapter website: David Jenkins reported that Jeremy Haug will join the board at the next meeting to discuss a change from the current Wild Apricot web site. We will need a process and an ad hoc committee for the new web site. Both Jeremy and Kristin have a lot of experience with the WIX website builder. David stated he would like to be able to complete the changeover this year.

Other business: David Jenkins listed priority items for the board including printing and distribution of the Member Directory, and requirements for and publicity of the Pipedreams Scholarship in consultation with the scholarship committee.

Motion: Isaac Drews moved to adjourn the meeting. **Second:** Kathrine Handford. **Motion carried.**

The meeting adjourned at 8:10 PM.

Lise Schmidt, Secretary