

CSMTA Board Meeting  
St. John the Evangelist Church  
360 Church St.  
Yalesville, CT  
August 18, 2009  
10:30 a. m.

In Attendance: Steven Oyler, President, Kathleen Theisen, Vice President Roxane Lee, Recording Secretary, Felicia Zhang, Treasurer, Sharon Girard, State Certification Chair, John Metz, President Middlesex/New London Chapter, Ludmilla Ozeryansky, Co-President of Hartford Chapter, Zoe Vandermeer, President WCMTA , Linda MacGougan, MAP State Chair

Steven Oyler called the meeting to order. Roxane Lee distributed the minutes from the last meeting and they were read by the members. The minutes were approved by Ludmilla Ozeryansky. Kathleen Theisen seconded the motion.

**Commissioned Report** – presented by Steven Oyler. Maxim Vladmiroff 's commissioned piece , “Triangle” is a piece for 3 musicians and will be performed at the state convention on Nov. 7, 2009.

**Membership Report** presented by Steven Oyler – 175 renewals, \$2310.00 received in dues.

**Treasurer’s Report** was read by Felicia Zhang.

Cash Income: \$7042.42

Cash Expenses:\$ 6405.37

Balance as of July 31, 2009 \$11,001.55

**New Business:**

John Metz and Kathleen Theisen both expressed concerns that the CSMTA is not offering opportunities for teachers who do not teach piano. Kathleen Theisen mentioned National Music Certificate Program is being offered in CT at 3 sites. She recommends that the CSMTA explore this student audition program. There was interest in the program from individual members but there was no consensus on using this program as a tool to increase CSMTA membership.

**Chapter Reports:**

**Hartford Chapter**

The Audrey Thayer Competition and the Select Student Auditions are planned for the coming year.

No dates have been set for either event.

**Western Chapter**

No report submitted.

**Middlesex/New London Chapter**

John Metz wants to set up a non-profit memorial or scholarship fund in honor of Karen Nelson, a highly respected member of the Middlesex/New London chapter.

## **Fairfield Chapter**

The Fairfield Chapter's events have been scheduled for the coming year include a Fall Festival, several open studio recitals and a student showcase. Member accomplishments were also noted. For details go to [fairfieldcountymusicteachers.com](http://fairfieldcountymusicteachers.com).

**Members hip Reports:** *Action Item – Chapter presidents, please submit your membership reports to Roxane Lee for inclusion in the CSMTA records.*

**MAP Chair** – No report submitted.

## **Certification Report**

Sharon Girard stated that Roxane Lee, CSMTA Secretary, has passed her Music History Proficiency and has submitted her certification portfolio.

Tracey Ellwanger will be taking the certification proficiency exam.

**Changes to the Certification Program** – starting Jan. 1, 2010

The certification requirements have been simplified and are described at [mtnacertification.org](http://mtnacertification.org).

Re-certification will take place every year rather than every 5 years.

Sharon will submit an article to the newsletter about certification.

## **Vote on membership requirement for state:**

The vote was unanimous that teachers who want to join the state will not have to choose a local chapter first.

*Action Item: Steve Oyler will contact the national MTNA office to implement this change.*

Kathleen Theisen presented the following issues:

### **Slate of Officers for November 2009- November 2011:**

Newsletter: – Steve Oyler will do one more newsletter. Position will be open.

Membership Officer: Steven Oyler will continue

Treasurer: Felicia Zhang

Historian: Edith Sullivan

Secretary: Roxane Lee

Immediate Past President: Steven Oyler

President: Kathleen Theisen (nominee)

Vice President: Possibilities: David Westfall

*Action Item : Kathleen Theisen will contact David Westfall to determine whether he is willing to accept the position as Vice-President.*

*Action Item: Steve Oyler will include slate of officers in the newsletter.*

CSMTA Mailing Address: - Issue for next meeting.

**Directory** – Steven Oyler has agreed to revise and print the next directory. It was agreed that it will be an alphabetical list for the entire membership and that chapters will be listed under each member's name.

The goal is to have directory available at the state convention for distribution.

## **State Conference hosted by the Western Chapter:**

Nov. 7 White Hall WCSU

Weekley and Arganbright “History of the Piano Duet, Pedagogy of Piano Duet, Master class  
Millette Alexander – Collaborative music with strings  
Bruce Brubaker – Theater/Dance/Music Collaboration

Action Item: Kathleen Theisen will email all the state presidents of music organization to invite their membership to the state convention.

Student Registration for the Conference: Will pay for lunch only. (\$20) Sharon Girard made motion to only charge students for price of food. Ludmilla Ozeraynsky seconded the motion. Unanimous approval. .

Kathleen Theisen stated that local chapters must file for non-profit status on their own.

WCSU students will be available to record the performances for a fee.

Conferences and Online Meetings and Seminars: Kathleen proposed that state conventions be offered every other year. There was no decision on this issue.

Registration Fee for CSMTA Members or Members from other Music Organizations: \$50 Non-Members \$55 Student Members: will pay for lunch only. The student fee is TBD.

State Dues for 2010-2011 : will be unchanged at \$15/member

Action Item: Kathleen Theisen A registration form for this year’s state convention will be created on Friday, August 21, 2009 at the WCMTA meeting.

### **Strategies for Increasing CSMTA Membership**

The following were discussed as ways to increase CSMTA membership: contacting all college faculty in the state, inviting students free to the conference, and finding teachers who don’t yet belong to MTNA, especially non-keyboard teachers.

**Fundraising Idea:** Kathleen Theisen suggested a statewide play-a-thon for the CSMTA that is similar to the play-a-thon offered by the NJ Music Teachers’ Association. Secretary’s Note: Website:

<http://www.njmta.com/2009Performathon.php> The program was described recently at the national MTNA convention. Funds raised will partially benefit the CSMTA. The state is looking for a chair for this event.

Action Item: Kathleen Theisen will contact Keri Salustri to see if she is interested.

A motion to adjourn the meeting was made by Sharon Girard and seconded by Ludmilla Ozeryansky. The meeting was adjourned at 12:10 p. m.