



Clark County Music Teachers Meeting Minutes October 16, 2018

Present were Anton, Dmitri, Cinda, Lena VW, Tracey, Patti, Beth Louise, Ellen and Brenda.

Members Update

Thank you Patti, our newest member, for hosting our meeting at her lovely home, and a warm welcome!

Beth has had illness and concussions, but we are happy to report that she is back in church and ready to continue duties as our treasurer. We are grateful for both her recovery and her dedication and hard work.

Festivals

Anton has offered to head our Romantic/Modern festival this year. He has a line on someone we might be able to hire as our adjudicator. Lena pointed out that finding an available adjudicator has posed a problem lately. We pay between \$500 and \$600 for a weekend of adjudicating (two days). Patti suggested maybe having the adjudicator give a lecture recital, to help bring in money through ticket sales. Cinda said that it has been traditionally difficult to rustle up audience for such things. Anyone with a contact of a good adjudicator in our area is invited to please let Anton and Dmitri know.

The festival's date has not been set yet; it will be sometime after May 5, probably. It was suggested that we have a meeting devoted to "Teaching to the Festival".

News update from Lena: the First Congregational Church is now repaired, and the piano is as good - or better, inexplicably - than new (who knew all it needed was a good roasting?); but the church rent is now prohibitively expensive, no doubt in order to cover their raised fire insurance premiums. We wish them well, but will not be able to afford their space in the future.

Future Growth

We had quite a long discussion on how to keep the meetings from being so long. We fretted over whether we might be boring prospective new members who sit in on our sessions. Beth worried that various vital reports and subsequent discussions may not take place. Do we need the Chair reports in person, in detail? The suggestion was made to just write the reports out, send them to Dmitri, and he can broadcast them or put them up on the website. If anyone has any questions, they can email them to Dmitri before the meeting. A lot of our ideas can be communicated by email before each meeting. Streamlining the meeting might conceivably convince more people to attend.

This led to a discussion on how to get our absentee members more involved, both in meetings and in volunteering for our student functions, rather than just entering kids and not showing up. Cinda expressed annoyance that our group is being used by the no-shows. Do we need to require that teachers attend a certain number of meetings in order for their students to qualify to play in the functions? Louise raised the extremely important point that there was a lawsuit in 2013, filed by the Federal Trade Commission, that affects how we operate the CCMTA. Go to: <https://www.ftc.gov/enforcement/cases-proceedings/131-0118/music-teachers-national-association-inc-matter> to read how we are supposed to be “hands-off” when it comes to competition between teachers. It is difficult for us as laypersons to decipher how the court might interpret anything we do, especially as we are in a five-year legal “Purgatory” gray period now as part of the settlement.

If any good legal minds exist within our group, step up and be heard!

Treasurer's Report

Beth said that she may bring some funds from our investment account over into the operating account. She also noted that any expense greater than \$100 must be approved by the group or by the Board of Directors, according to the bylaws. Please get pre-approval for any expense. She suggested that we need an officers' meeting.

If anyone wants info on any of our members, please refer to the website.

Community Recital

October 20's “Anything Goes” recital at the Knights of Pythias” retirement center will take

place. Contact Brenda if you have an interested student.

Respectfully submitted by Ellen Putman, October 17, 2018