

**Wisconsin NATS
Board Meeting Minutes
November 3, 2016**

Time and Place of Meeting. The WI NATS Board Meeting and Dinner commenced at 5:15pm at Louise's Restaurant in Milwaukee, WI.

List of Attendees.

1.	John Gates	President
2.	Melanie Cain	Vice President
3.	Matthew Markham	Recording Secretary
4.	Rachel Wood	Corresponding Secretary
5.	Kenneth Pereira	Treasurer/Membership
6.	Susan Bender	District Governor
7.	Nathan Krueger	Member at Large/Auditions Coordinator
8.	Jessica Timman Schwefel	Member at Large
9.	Rachel Edie Warrick	Member at Large

Documents Introduced.

Treasurer's Report/Budget Comparison Form (Appendix A)
Chapter Sponsorship of National Student Auditions (Appendix B)
Ad Hoc Non-Classical Committee Report (Appendix C)

Summary of the Meeting.

A. Approval of Meeting Minutes. The September 1, 2016 Board Meeting minutes were approved as read.

B. Officer's Reports.

President's Report.

- John Gates began by discussing the procedure for the upcoming Saturday chapter meeting.
- John encouraged the members of the board to send their board membership descriptions to Rachel Wood so that she could post them to the WI NATS website.
- An email will be sent out in order to solicit dates for the next board meeting. It will take place in either February or March of 2017.

Auditions Report.

- Nathan Krueger informed the board that everything was ready to go with the Student Auditions, including the fact that we had a designated Tally Room at UW-Milwaukee.
- Nathan will add a section to the Auditions Handbook that will be devoted to the "Duties of the Host School"

Vice President's Report.

- Melanie Cain discussed what she will be doing in the upcoming chapter meeting. She will specifically inform the chapter the Discretionary Funds will have greater flexibility.
- We will begin accepting proposals from chapter members in January 2017. The Members of the Board will take an on-line vote for these proposals.

Treasurer/Membership Report. *see attached reports*

- Ken Pereira reported that we have 111 active/current members.
- Ken will do some detective work and track down Emeritus WI NATS members.
- John Gates will double-check with Kathy Otterson and/or Dan Johnson-Wilmot to make sure we find out the WI Emeritus members.
- Ken provided a budget comparison from 2012 through the projected year of 2017.
- Susan Bender interjected by raising the issue that some chapter members might raise the question of why the dues were increased. After a brief discussion on the matter, John Gates reminded the Board that 75% of the chapter chose to raise the dues. This should clarify any concern.

District Governor's Report.

- Susan Bender will continue to reach out to new members.
- Susan receives a lot of feedback from various members. Such "bits and pieces" should be discussed as a board at board meetings rather than as a chapter in chapter meetings.

Corresponding Secretary.

- Rachel Wood sought after clarification of her duties as Corresponding Secretary. There is a direct relationship between the duties and positions of Treasurer/Membership, District Governor, and Corresponding Secretary.

C. Other Business.

- There was a discussion about the difference between "lapsed members" vs. "expired members." We determined that there were four (4) categories based upon the deadlines for membership dues: 1) active, 2) lapsed, 3) expired, and 4) Emeritus
- The Recording Secretary will confirm the roster of chapter members at the upcoming luncheon and chapter meeting.
- There was discussion regarding chapter members who paid (or did not pay) for the luncheon. We decided to have the Treasurer stand outside of the luncheon room with a list to confirm those members who paid or not.
- Rachel Wood stressed the need for chapter members to keep their contact information up-to-date for her records and correspondence.
- John Gates will prompt discussion at the various tables at the upcoming luncheon chapter meeting that will solicit responses, feedback, and discussion regarding the following items: audition dates, moving from a Friday/Saturday format to a

Saturday/Sunday format, location possibilities, the non-classical categories (CCM). There will be table talks at the chapter meeting to discuss these matters.

Chapter sponsorship of National Student Auditions (NSA).

- Jessica Timman Schwefel provided a proposal (*see appendices) for the reimbursement of registration fees for students who for enter the National Student Auditions.
- Melanie Cain suggested that we have two separate accounts: 1) Discretionary Funds for students, and 2) Discretionary Funds for events. Having two separate allotments of money (discretionary funds) would clarify and simplify matters.
- Susan Bender and Nathan Krueger would handle emails regarding the discretionary funds for students post-student auditions.
- Melanie Caine will still handle emails regarding the discretionary funds for chapter events.
- We have a combined total of \$2000.00 devoted to the discretionary funds.
- The Board unanimously decided that we would amend Jessica's proposal to state that only the First Place Winner would receive the honor (and option) of reimbursement for registration fees in the NSA.
- Melanie Cain will make this announcement at the upcoming chapter meeting.
- An early December deadline will be posted and announced for those First Place Winners. It is up to those students (and their teachers) to follow through with this opportunity for reimbursement.

Dividing Auditions into Classical and Non-classical events.

- Rachel Edie Warrick provided a report (*see appendices). The overall sentiment was that there was not support for division. Rachel spoke to many people with expertise in the non-classical area(s) and the consensus was that we should be inclusive and amenable to learning opportunities for MT/CCM styles.

D. Old Business.

None.

E. New Business:

- Susan Bender informed the members of the board that reimbursement for travel to and from board meetings should be "tabled for now" and should be discussed at the next board meeting.
- This led to the brief discussion regarding the possibility for board members to have their WI fee waived. To be discussed at a future meeting.
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F. Adjournment. The meeting adjourned at 7:05 p.m.

Minutes respectively submitted by:

Matthew Markham, Recording Secretary

Wisconsin Chapter – National Association of Teacher's of Singing

Attached:
Appendix A
Appendix B
Appendix C

**Wisconsin Chapter - National Association of Teachers of Singing
Treasurer's Report – November 2, 2016**

Beginning Checking Balance September 1, 2016 \$15,120.17

Receipts

- Dues \$210.00
- NATS Auditions Fees \$9,808.17

Total Receipts \$10,018.17

Disbursements

- UW – Milwaukee (luncheon) \$578.29
- Christ Presbyterian (rental board mtg.) \$50.00
- John Gates (reimbursement) \$43.68

Total Disbursements \$671.97

Ending Checking Balance as of September 1, 2016 \$24,466.37

Beginning Savings Balance June 30, 2016 \$1,506.67

- Interest \$0.38

Savings Balance as of September 30, 2016 \$1,507.05

Total Funds \$25,973.42

Respectfully submitted,

Kenneth J. Pereira

Treasurer Wisconsin State Chapter NATS

2012

RECEIPTS

Dues 3,360.00
Auditions 9,820.00
Spring Luncheon 208.00
TOTAL RECEIPTS 13,388.00

DISBURSEMENTS

NATSAA
Christ Presbyterian 150.00
Ed Anderes (NATSAA judge) 310.00
Susan Bender (NATSAA) 108.00
Total 560.00

Auditions

Audition Awards: 6,675.00
Viterbo (ink, copy charges) 97.60
Auditions Breakfast 473.00
Mary Neumann (piano tuning) 700.00
Christ Presbyterian -supplies 61.90
Kathy Otterson - materials 154.78
Staples - toner, ink, laser printer 338.87
Audition Ware LLC 460.00
UW Whitewater SNATS 50.00
Randy's Restaurant - room rental 25.00
Seth Christman Tally Rm. Helper 200.00
Hohf Piano tuning 100.00
Total 9,336.15

Spring/Regional Meetings

John DeHahn, Dennis James, Matthew Ellenwood M. C. 1,121.90
Chartwell's Dining Service 390.29
Total 1,512.19

Other

Jamie Gabb audit 150.00
Supplies - Staples 20.34
Checks (new account) 31.39
Total 201.73

TOTAL DISBURSEMENTS 11,610.07

BALANCE 1,727.93

2013

RECEIPTS

Dues 3,470.00
Auditions 8,533.00
TOTAL RECEIPTS 12,003.00

DISBURSEMENTS

Auditions

Audition Awards 7,150.00
Mary Saunders-Barton (hon) 500.00
Mary Saunders-Barton (flight) 397.50
Mary Saunders-Barton (fl. Ins) 19.88
Don Simonson (hon) 500.00
Don Simonson (mileage) 358.00
Michael Keller (pianist) 100.00
William Lavonnis (pianist) 100.00
Delta Omicron 100.00
Phi Mu Alpha Sinfonia 100.00
UWSP Opera Workshop 100.00
Dan Johnson-Wilmot (reimb) 632.60
Kathy Otterson (reimb) 320.39
UWSP Opera Workshop (lunch) 468.00
Audition Ware LLC 317.00
Total 11,363.37

Spring/Regional Meetings

Stephen Austin 1040.00
Linda Sparks (pianist) 50.00
Total 1090.00

Website

Melanie Cain - Website Costs 200.00
Melanie Cain - Site Modification 157.88
Total 357.88

Other

Glass Nickel (Aud. Com. Lunch) 68.20
Bank Service Fees 15.00
Total 83.20

TOTAL DISBURSEMENTS 12,894.45

BALANCE -891.45

2014

RECEIPTS

Dues 3,400.00
NATSAA Luncheon 52.35
Auditions 8,447.25
TOTAL RECEIPTS 11,899.60

DISBURSEMENTS

NATSAA

Patricia Weis (Judge) 500.00
Marcia Roberts McCoy (Judge) 500.00
Brian Pfaltzgraft (Judge) 500.00
Christ Presbyterian 100.00
Luncheon 157.08
Piano Tuning 110.00
Total 1,867.08

Auditions

Awards 6,225.00
Judge Honorarium 500.00
Judge Travel 248.20
Judge Hotel 342.00
Audition Ware LLC 293.00
Tally Room Helper 200.00
Piano Tuning 500.00
Supplies 163.10
Luncheon 762.45
Pianists 100.00
Total 9,333.90

Website

Hosting Fee 119.88
Total 119.88

Other

Feb Meeting Lunch 45.00
Chapter Letter 166.28
Support for Singers - Nationals 700.00
Total 911.28

TOTAL DISBURSEMENTS 12,232.14

BALANCE -332.54

2015

RECEIPTS

Dues 4,110.00
 NATS discretionary Funds 412.08
 Auditions 8,970.00
TOTAL RECEIPTS 13,492.08

DISBURSEMENTS

Auditions
 Awards 6,550.00
 Judge Honorarium 500.00
 Judge Travel 487.34
 Judge Hotel 224.74
 Audition Ware LLC 376.00
 Tally Room Helper 200.00
 Piano Tuning 699.00
 Supplies 355.09
 Copies 80.00
 Luncheon 683.50
 Board mtg dinner 103.17
 Tally Room Pizza 29.36
 Pianists 100.00
 PayPal fees 161.30
Total 10,549.50

Website

Hosting Fee 143.88
Total 143.88

Other

Chapter Letter 167.59
 Deluxe Business Systems/checks 132.18
 NATS - Spring Event 1000.00
Total 1299.77

TOTAL DISBURSEMENTS 11,993.15**BALANCE 1,498.93**

2016

RECEIPTS

Dues 2,430.00
 NATS discretionary Funds 400.00
 Auditions 10,052.00
TOTAL RECEIPTS 12,882.00

DISBURSEMENTS

Auditions
 Awards (6,550.00)
 Judge Honorarium 500.00
 Judge Travel (200.00)
 Judge Hotel (250.00)
 Audition Ware LLC (400.00)
 Tally Room Helper 200.00
 Piano Tuning 1,200.00
 Supplies (350.00)
 Copies (100.00)
 Luncheon 578.29
 Board mtg dinner (105.00)
 Pianist 100.00
 PayPal fees 243.83
Total (10,777.12)

Website

Hosting Fee 155.88
 Weebly-website upgrade 144.00
Total 299.88

Other

Spring mtg luncheon 95.45
 Spring Event 500.00
 Bryan Post memorial 150.00
 September mtg room fee 50.00
 September mtg coffee 43.68
Total 839.13

TOTAL DISBURSEMENTS 11,916.13**BALANCE 965.87**

2017

RECEIPTS

Dues (3,000.00)
 NATS discretionary Funds (400.00)
 Auditions (10,000.00)
TOTAL RECEIPTS (13,400.00)

DISBURSEMENTS

Auditions
 Awards (6,550.00)
 Judge Honorarium (500.00)
 Judge Travel (200.00)
 Judge Hotel (250.00)
 Audition Ware LLC (400.00)
 Tally Room Helper (200.00)
 Piano Tuning (800.00)
 Supplies (350.00)
 Copies (100.00)
 Luncheon (500.00)
 Board mtg dinner (105.00)
 Pianist (100.00)
 PayPal fees (250.00)
Total (10,305.00)

Website

Hosting Fee (160.00)
 Weebly-website upgrade (150.00)
Total (310.00)

Other

Spring mtg luncheon (100.00)
 Spring Event (1,500.00)
 September mtg room fee (50.00)
Total (1,650.00)

TOTAL DISBURSEMENTS (12,265.00)**BALANCE (1,135.00)**

Proposal:
Reimbursement of Regional and National Fees for National Student Auditions

The Wisconsin NATS Chapter would like to reimburse registration fees to winners of our State Auditions to help the advancement of Wisconsin singers at the national level. We propose that our 1st place winners are to be reimbursed registration fees to the National Student Auditions (NSA) for the regional round, and subsequently the national round should the student advance. This reimbursement is intended for 1st place winners, but would be awarded to lower place winners should the 1st place winner choose not to participate. We propose the following deadlines:

Deadline for reimbursement of regional round entry fees (\$25):

1st place: Jan. 1

2nd place: Jan. 15

3rd place: Feb. 1

Deadline for reimbursement of national round entry fees (\$75) - depending on date of notification of eligibility to progress to national round:

1st place: 10 days after notification

2nd place: 5 days after the 1st-place deadline

3rd place: 5 days after the 2nd-place deadline

Cost: Should a student participate in every category of the NSA, the cost would total \$2000.00 for the chapter.

Ad Hoc Non-Classical Committee Report

Items discussed at last board meeting:

- 1) Problems with attendance at Spring Meeting
 - 2) People feel overworked at Fall Auditions
 - 3) Interest in investigating the possibility of a CCM category
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- 1) I spoke with several NATS members and got a positive response from most about having two big events or competitions a year. Some people have conflicts with the fall auditions, and people were receptive and excited about the concept of more learning opportunities at our auditions. If we split it into two auditions, we could accommodate more learning opportunities or workshops. HOWEVER, it sounds like splitting in terms of genre might further divide the chapter. We want to continue cross-pollination of different types of teachers. One member recommended dividing the auditions by age.
 - 2) If we split up categories or age groups, people would not feel so overworked at the fall auditions. Nathan also brought up the concept of having a youtube round for the prelims to make the auditions less hectic.
 - 3) I think all members of the board want to be more inclusive and progressive in what we offer as categories. However, in speaking with members who teach MT and CCM styles, it does not sound like we have enough experts to make the CCM category work. More on this in the meeting...

Possibilities for workshops:

Drama integration, diction, stage movement or choreography, vocal technique (including MT and CCM styles), classical crossover.

People to reach out to:

Collaborating with American College Theatre Festival (sort of a theatre folks version of NATS competitions) link here: <http://kcactf3.org>

Theatre Communications Group: <http://www.tcg.org/index.cfm>

Association for Theatre in Higher Education: <http://www.athe.org/general/custom.asp?page=About>

Chicago NATS might do a classical day and a musical theatre day
NYSTA in New York - classical and then branching out