

Wisconsin NATS Chapter Meeting Minutes
November 4, 2017
Meeting and Luncheon held at UW-Stevens Point

ATTENDANCE:

John Gates- President
Melanie Cain- Vice President
Matthew Markham- Recording Secretary
Rachel Wood- Corresponding Secretary
Kenneth Pereira- Treasurer/Membership
Susan Bender- District Governor
Nathan Krueger- Auditions Coordinator
Ann Schoenecker- Member at Large
Jessica Timman Schwefel- Member at Large
Rachel Edie Warrick- Member at Large
Kathleen Otterson- North Central Regional Governor
Dean Southern- Guest Adjudicator/Master Teacher

Kassy Coleman, Thomas J. Weis, Mimmi Fulmer, James Doing, Susan Day, Gregory Berg, Peg Cleveland, Joanne Bozeman, Jenee O'Connor, Margot Friedli, Emily Davis, Elena Batman, Joy Amel, Patty Weis, Dan Johnson-Wilmot, Karen Leigh Post, J. Adam Shelton, Terence Kelly, Luke Otto, Julie DeBoer, Tom Dominguez, Tim Rebers, Saira Frank, Daniel Ellis, Esther Oh Zabrowski, Wendy Rowe, Christian Beste, Anna Hersey, Brian Leeper, Ken Bozeman

CALL TO ORDER:

The meeting was called to order at 12:00pm.

MINUTES:

The minutes were approved with no corrections.

OFFICER'S REPORTS:

PRESIDENT:

- John Gates began with welcoming everyone and thanking NATS members on a local and national level. Introductions were made of our new WI NATS chapter members.
- John prompted the chapter members at each round table to discuss several items during the luncheon: 1) the distribution of NATS related events and information via email, and the idea of having spring auditions (including other issues related to the WI NATS Student Auditions process).
- Bylaws requires an audit every two (2) years, but the current Treasurer has requested that we make an amendment to the by-laws that we have an audit every four (4) years. Thomas Weis made a motion to approve this change, and James Doing seconded the motion. Brief discussion followed and the amendment passed unanimously by the chapter. We will have an audit once every 4 years (see attached report)
- John asked District Governor, Susan Bender, to announce the slate of nominations for the WI NATS Board. (see attached report) Bender proceeded to announce the current officers and named

the proposals of new officers. The proposed nominations were unanimously approved and now go into effect.

VICE PRESIDENT:

- Melanie Cain spoke about “spring events” and reminded everyone that anyone can apply on the website. Applications must include a budget.
- This past year we had two events. Melanie asked each person who received a grant for a “spring event” to speak. 1) Mimmi Fulmer spoke about the innovative recital presented by a UW-Madison alum that took place at UW-Madison and was open to all NATS teachers and students and 2) Jessica Timman Schwefel spoke about the Julia Faulkner masterclass that took place at UW-Oshkosh. This event directly benefited NATS teachers and their students on a pedagogical level.
- John Gates reiterated that these “events” create opportunity and a greater sense of community, rather than making our lives busier.

TREASURER/MEMBERSHIP: (see attached report)

- Ken Pereira informed the chapter we have a greater number of chapter members currently than the date last year. We now have 123 WI members and 13 emeriti.
- The auditions are paying for themselves.

AUDITIONS REPORT:

- Nathan Krueger publicly thanked everyone for our help and input on the auditions process.
- Nathan welcomed input on the auditions and encouraged positive and constructive feedback. Specifically, he is interested in receiving feedback on the procedures for the semi-final and final rounds, and how students are chosen for the masterclass. Dan Johnson-Wilmot suggested sending the masterclass participants a text and/or email to inform them that they were chosen. Matthew Markham reiterated that the students chosen should reply with confirmation. John Gates suggested there be an informal poll about the length of the audition rounds. He encouraged chapter members to send feedback to the board. Brief discussion followed concerning staying on time with the auditions and talk about the pianists schedule was considered.
- The Auditions Handbook will be released in December 2017. The handbook will include a list of duties of all parties involved. Nathan envisions a 3-tier cycle where during the first year the auditions coordinator learns the ropes and shadows the current auditions coordinator, second and third year(s) serves as the coordinator, and the fourth year includes training a new person for the position.
- John Gates again encouraged all chapter members to volunteer to help in anyway he or she sees fit.

DISTRICT GOVERNOR:

- Susan Bender encouraged the chapter members to reach out to our many high school teachers and choral directors in the state, our alumns, and make personal connections in order to urge new teachers to join WINATS.

REGIONAL GOVERNOR REPORT:

- Kathy Otterson reported that she was in her second year as regional governor and this past year she attended a national meeting with the other regional governors from all over the country. They met in Jacksonville.
- Kathy announced the 2018 NATSAA (Finals) Auditions will be taking place during the Winter Workshop which will be held on January 5, 2018 in NYC.

- The National Student Auditions will be taking place during the summer 2018 convention in Las Vegas. There will again be online preliminary regional auditions rounds followed by the nationals
- Kathy will send out an email with logistics regarding the regional audition procedures. (For example, she will announce that the online preliminary audition deadline will be February 15, 2018) She urged all NATS teachers to encourage our students to audition. WI historically has a strong presence at the national level.
- The National Conference will be in Las Vegas on June 22-25, 2018. It will be the 75th year.

ANNOUNCEMENTS:

- Ann Schoenecker announced an opportunity for high school students to participate in a vocal competition at Viterbo (annual event each November), which includes prize money. Ann also announced on behalf of Diane Faust that Viterbo would host the annual Alexander Workshop (primarily for beginners of Alexander work) during the summer of 2018.
- Dan Johnson-Wilmot spoke about “NATS for a lifetime” which honors long-serving NATS members. He encouraged the chapter to read about this in Inter Nos. Dan thanked everyone for their commitment and service to NATS.
- James Doing reminded everyone that the NATS Intern Program deadline was coming up.
- Tom Weis informed the chapter that he is soliciting feedback on the WI NATS Facebook Page for information about teaching fees, payment breakdowns for services (one rehearsal, one performance), and making this information available to teachers, coaches, and freelance musician
- Nathan Krueger asked the chapter members to return the plastic sheets for nametags for future use
- Remarks were made from each table regarding the use of email and spring audition ideas. It was decided that the best solution would be to have a monthly or quarterly email newsletter. The idea of having spring student auditions was nixed due to numerous complications.
- Continued discussion ensued on Music Theatre vs. Classical separation of audition dates. This was tabled for a future discussion.
- This particular year the WI Student Auditions conflicted with the WI Met District auditions. Melanie Cain offered to reach out to Tanya Kruse Ruck regarding this matter.

MEETING ADJOURNED at 1:15pm

Minutes respectively submitted by:

Matthew Markham, Recording Secretary

Wisconsin Chapter – National Association of Teachers of Singing

Appendices include:

Board Nominees

Bylaws Revision Proposal

Treasurer's Report

2017-2018	Current	Proposed
Past President	Brian Leeper	John Gates Y
President	John Gates	Melanie Cain Y
Vice-President	Melanie Cain	Rachel Edie Warrick Y
Tres./Membership Secretary	Kenneth Pereira	Matthew Markham Y
Recording Sec.	Matthew Markham	Thomas Weis
Corresponding Sec.	Rachel Wood	Rachel Wood Y
At-large members	Jessica Timman-Schwefel (2018) Ann Elise Schoenecker (2019) Rachel Edie Warrick (2017)	Jessica Timman-Schwefel Y Ann Elise Schoenecker Y Kenneth Joseph Pereira Y

Bylaws Revision Proposal
November 4, 2017

Text highlighted in yellow to be replaced with text in red.

The Treasurer/Membership Secretary shall manage the Chapter's finances and membership records. The Treasurer/Membership Secretary shall keep record of dues payments as collected through the National Association and inform the Board and Communications Secretary of members who have not renewed by the national deadline. The Treasurer/Membership Secretary shall give a report of the Chapter's finances and membership at each Board and Chapter Meeting. ~~Every two years, the Treasurer/Membership Secretary shall arrange for the auditing of the Chapter's accounts by an auditor outside the Chapter's membership.~~ Every four years, coinciding with new election to the office, the Treasurer/Membership Secretary shall arrange for the auditing of the Chapter's accounts. The Treasurer/Membership Secretary shall serve as liaison with the national office of the Association on membership concerns. In the absence of the President, Vice-President, and Recording Secretary, the Treasurer/Membership Secretary shall perform the duties of the President.

**Wisconsin Chapter - National Association of Teachers of Singing
Treasurer's Report – November 1, 2017**

Beginning Checking Balance November 1, 2017 \$17,171.22

Receipts

- Audition Fees \$10,985.00
- Dues \$300.00

Total Receipts \$11,285.00

Disbursements

- Auditions – printers \$243.96
- Blu-Wiscon – Website domain \$155.88

Total Disbursements \$399.84

Ending Checking Balance as of June 2, 2017 \$28,056.38

Beginning Savings December 31, 2016 \$1,507.80

- Interest \$0.76

Savings Balance as of Balance March 31, 2016 \$1,508.56

Total Funds \$29,564.94

Respectfully submitted,

Kenneth J. Pereira

Treasurer Wisconsin State Chapter NATS

In Review – Total Funds Balance at previous Fall Auditions Meetings:

2016: \$25,973.42

2015: \$24,963.64