

April 19, 2021 NWSMTA General Meeting Minutes

The meeting was called to order by President Brenda Buchanan at 9:45 a.m. Marie Rutter moved to approve the minutes from March 22nd, and Deb Lynch seconded. Minutes were approved.

**Treasurer** Midori Kim reports the most recent balances from our two accounts:

BMO Harris	\$15,127.96
Fidelity	\$35,264.90, an increase of \$315.20

**1st Vice President/Program Chair** is not here — Dr. Steven Alltop will present today after the business meeting.

**2nd Vice President/Membership Chair** is not here — Jerry Dolins states that we are currently ay 117, and Jerry wants to welcome Megan Pierce, here today, who has reinstated from 5 years ago.

Brenda Buchanan mentions Jerry's breakdown by age, and states that we need younger members.

**AIM** — Vonnie Mrozinski reports that the March exams, Level 3-9, included 188 students, from 35 teachers. There were 27 judges, and the average score was 93.18. There were some issues with teachers not reading emails, meeting deadlines, and reading Google drive. Vonnie and Helen Grosshans thank everyone for their involvement, and Vonnie reminds members to arrange an awards pickup time with Helen Grosshans.

If members did not get their technic scoresheets, they should contact Vonnie. For performance sheets, go to the OPERA account and read directions on how to access.

Suzanne Fleeer states that for Level 10-12, yesterday was the final day for enrollment. One teacher had a technical glitch and will be advised to fix it. All exams must be judged by May 8.

Brenda talked to Ilya Radoslavov at the 4/11 State Teachers meeting. He says that a google slide presentation was sent to all the AIM chairs. Jennifer Cohen elaborates that the state AIM committee has requirements in the syllabus, but there is no direction on how to conduct exams. There is no consistency between chapters, and that is because each chapter has different guidelines and standards, so it decided to let each run the exams its own way, so as to be accessible for all students. Suggestions on how they can do exams were given, but in the end it is decided by each chapter chairperson. If members have additional concerns, address Nancy Liley, the director of the state AIM Program.

Helen Grosshans adds that our syllabus is similar to Minnesota's but they have a board of judges and their local chapters are more consistent.

Brenda Buchanan would like to see a meeting of all local AIM chairpersons to discuss options.

Deb Lynch states that all the chairpersons are using the same tool, and that tool is outdated because of Covid.

Members are encouraged to send ideas to Helen for AIM.

Suzanne Fleer asks Vonnie Mrozinski about the status of Harper College. Vonnie reports that Harper will gradually bring back staff. Students will participate in labs this summer. Currently, the fall semester will continue virtually, and there is a plan for in person classes in 2022.

**RECITALS:** Brenda Buchanan states that the deadline was yesterday for Pop & Jazz, the recitals will be at 1:00 and 3:30 on Zoom on April 25th. A link will be sent out to the group.

**MUSIC BLOCKS:** Mary Anne Block sent out a newsletter — if any of our members are interested, please let her know. Mary Anne states that they are continuing lessons online, and currently have a 31 day practice challenge which will be done by May 23, at which time the Zoom recital will take place. They will be able to use the White House of Barrington for their recital, keeping the number down as per Covid restrictions. There are 9 graduating students. Mary Anne hopes that they can return to in person lessons next year at Sunny Hill Elementary. Mary Anne asked for \$500 to be donated by the group, and thanks NWSMTA for its sponsorship.

No other reports at this time.

**NEW BUSINESS:** Brenda reports that there has been only one person nominated for Member of the Year, Helen Chang. Maureen Flood nominated Midori Kim. Members voted by text to Brenda, and Helen Chang is the Member of the Year.

Brenda showed the slate of officers nominated for the 2021-2023 term.

Nancy Dempsey - 1st Vice President and Program Chairperson  
Elena Goptseva - Treasurer  
Membership - Chyi-Ling Evans  
Recording Secretary - OPEN

Marie Rutter moved to accept the slate of officers, Vonnie seconded, vote was unanimous.

Brenda was advised to put the slate of officers in the newsletter.

There being no other new business or old business, Carol Walgren-Georgas voted to adjourn the meeting, and Suzanne Fleer seconded. Meeting was adjourned.