

NWSMTA Member Meeting March 15th on Zoom

9:45am President Lois called the meeting to order

February meeting minutes were read by Recording Secretary Helen Chang. Marcia Rudin motioned to approved minutes. Deb Lynch second. Minutes were approved.

Officer Reports

President

Lois gave an Update on search for a new accountant. Lois contacted an accounting firm and contacted the board for approval. There were not enough responses so it will be discussed at the June Board meeting. An audit is not required in our bylaws, but an auditor selected by the board should do an annual review.

Lois reminded everyone to submit Annual Reports for your events as soon as possible after your event if it has not occurred yet. We need to have all the budget reports done before the June Board meeting

First Vice President

Justyna confirmed the April presentation will be the last program featuring Svetlana Belsky on Bach French Suites

Second Vice President and Membership

SuZane reported there are 117 members and one new member joined this month. Kimberly Gogolewski

Treasurer

Cindy Li Reports As of March 16th, 2026, the balance in the BMO Harris Bank checking account stands at **\$ \$25,656.38**

Mutual Funds Account : As of February 28,2025, the market value of the mutual funds account at Fidelity Investments is **\$ \$53,731.72**. This represents an increase of **\$398.03**in investment

Committee Reports

Aim

_Helen Chang Reported on the Theory Exams

Exam 4

Brenda Haynes reported had 88 students registered. If your student has a special approval from Stephanie Myers and cannot figure how to include that in your OPERA April 6th judges meeting and an email

Performance exam 3-9 was held yesterday Sunday, March 15th at Harper. 210 students entered. High Low and average scores can be viewed in OPERA tab. Scoresheets can be picked up from Vonnie this afternoon. Any other times should be arranged directly with Vonnie ahead of time, as Vonnie will be on vacation after this Friday.

Camp Scholarship

Suyi reminded the deadline is May 1st. No other reports

Classical/Pop and Jazz Recital

Michello Ho reported Online registration period for April 26th Recital is Feb.26-April 12th. Please check online for Rules and information. Sunday April 26th at St. Michael's Church. Chyi-Ling reminded everyone Maximum student entries per recital is 25 and is first come, first serve. Contact Michelle, Chyi-Ling or Elizabeth if any questions

Festival of Pianos

We are looking for someone to come forward to chair the event

Vision and Finance

Interim or new Chairperson needed. Please contact Lois if you are interested in this position.

Gold Medal Recital

Elena Goptseva will work with Michelle, Jerry, Deb and Terry for next year's SSF. She is estimating 6 recitals and need volunteers to help and host recitals. Terry added that he set in the SSF scoresheet a checkbox where the committee can decide the minimum score to be eligible to perform if different than the Gold medal score threshold. Minimum number of entries can be set for each recital in the new software and students can be moved around recitals if needed. Helen Chang asked if teachers can elect to opt out of GMR if they know ahead they will not have students participate. Jerry noted that there have been too many Gold medals-about 50% of participants, however if you raise the score, judges will want to give Gold medals regardless. Vonnie suggested judges choose specific students who are eligible to play GMR up to a certain number in their class. Lois said the SSF chairperson and GMR chair will decide with the committee.

Group Tickets Sales

Genya said the 2026-2027 season have been announced. Tickets become more expensive as each recital approaches. Genya has concern what to announce about the ticket sales if we don't know the exact number of teachers interested. There are conflicts on Sunday afternoons with NWSMTA events. Genya will work out the details for next year and report later.

Historian

Maureen is in the process of digitizing NWSMTA history files. Terry reported that Yearbooks are saved on the website.

Jazz Combo

Maureen reminded everyone event will be on Father's Day, June 21st at the House of Music and Entertainment.

Luncheon

Marcia reported some restaurants have minimum expenditure requirements, i.e. \$600.00 or \$900.00

MKPC

Brenda Huang reports: The MKPC went very smoothly last month with 23 teachers and 138 students participating with nearly 350 pieces performed. The financials were under the projected cost because we had surplus of award goods and trophies from last year. The total cost to NWSMTA is \$1,293.80. The feedback comments have been very positive.

Nominating Committee

Chyi-Ling is the chairman and will announce the committee members next week. Nominations will be open until the next meeting

Sonata/Sonatina

Deb and Terry will demonstrate the new registration platform in a training meeting on Friday evening April 10th 7:45pm. Demonstration will be recorded. COMPASS is the database that is similar to OPERA. Outline of the training and Zoom meeting link will be sent out closer to the date.

Teacher's Musicale

SuZane reminded that Deadline is April 20th and she is planning to put a Google Form on the website for registration. It is a great opportunity for teachers to come together and have fun playing. The Teachers' Musicale is Monday, May 4th at the Rolling Meadows Library

VILMA

Brenda reported that E-Festival is still open until the end of next month. A Constant contact was sent a week ago. The competition is open to students 7th-12th grade. Instruments other than piano can also participate for a very reasonable fee.

New Business

- Lois reminded everyone to update their Job Descriptions. Updated versions can be sent to Helen Chang
- Deb noted that the number of people attending the monthly program have been small and the quality of presentations can reach more people. Deb suggested we explore the possibility to open the program to non-members and people in the community. Vonnie noted she attended another Chapter's workshop and we can open to members from adjacent chapters. Jerry reminded bylaws may have to be changed if someone were to attend more than twice if invited by a member.

Deb motioned to adjourn the meeting and SuZane and Marcia second. Meeting adjourned at 11:04 am.