

Minutes of the Meeting of the Board of the San Francisco Bay Area Chapter of the National Association of Teachers of Singing held on March 14, 2010

Meeting called to order by President Wendy Hillhouse at 2:35 p.m.

Present: Wendy Hillhouse, Tina Baird, Dorothy Barnhouse, Alison Collins, Meghan Dibble, Grace Johnson, April McNeely, Anja Strauss

I. President's report: Wendy

A. Audition guidelines and copyright policy—national NATS

Wendy thanked Dorothy for sending her explanation to our members

B. Oren Brown CD

Lucy Beck and designer Allan Green have completed the design for the Oren Brown master class DVD. The estimates for costs are as follows:

Design and materials for DVD	gratis
Duplication, 500 DVDs with jewel case and insert	\$1355
NATS journal ad, 1/6 page, 5 times	\$1275
Classical Singer ad, 1/8 page, 6 times	\$ 990
Design fee for ads	<u>\$ 90</u>
	\$3710

Selling price per DVD: \$15.95 plus shipping

These numbers mean that we must sell about 250 DVDs to break even; income from additional sales would go to the SFBAC general fund.

It was moved and seconded that the Board approve the expenditure. Per the Bylaws, financial votes must be unanimous; all present approved; absent members will be asked to vote online.

C. Proposed Publicity board position

The Board discussed adding a Publicity Chair as a new board position. After considerable online discussion, the consensus is that the position should be informal for the time being, rather than creating a formal board position that would require an amendment to the Bylaws.

D. Grants for Salt Lake meeting

Dorothy reported that there were three applicants for financial support for members who have never attended a NATS national convention to enable them to go to the Salt Lake City meeting in July. Feeling that this is an investment in the future of the chapter, all board members present voted to approve up to \$1000 grant for each applicant for actual costs of hotel, transportation and registration. Subsequent to the meeting the two absent members voted to approve, so approval was unanimous.

E. The date for the chapter's annual meeting will be June 13. Wendy will book a venue.

F. Upcoming elections

Biennial chapter elections will take place at the annual meeting. Per the Bylaws, all Board positions will be elected. Dorothy will receive nominations. Meghan will research using internet balloting. Most current Board members are willing to run for reelection, with the exception of Recording Secretary, Membership Secretary and, Singing Festival Chair, although April would be willing to continue if she could share the duties with someone. Board members will talk to people about being nominated for those positions, and members may nominate themselves.

G. NATSAA contribution

We are asked to contribute financial assistance for our three District NATSAA winners to help them pay travel expenses to the regional auditions in Salt Lake City. Dorothy will check the records to see how much we have given in past years. The Board will then vote online to determine the amount and approve the contribution.

II. Membership report

Membership Secretary Grace Johnson gave each Board member present a list of national and chapter members whose dues are unpaid as of this date. Some of us will phone some of the

people on the list, when we have time to do so, though it was agreed this is a voluntary courtesy, and members should take care of this without extra prodding from the Board.

III. Singing Festival report

- A. The Singing Festival will be on Saturday, April 24, at San Francisco State University.
- B. Registration forms and rules are posted on the website. They will not be sent to members through the mail, because of the expense.
- C. April reported that the rental fee for San Francisco State was unexpectedly and non-negotiably increased recently, leaving little time to make arrangements for another venue. This high price makes it a certainty that we will operate this year's Festival at a significant loss. The Board is distressed and extremely concerned about this loss, but feels that as the Singing Festival is one of the Chapter's primary activities, it should proceed. Other costs must be reduced, and the number of students registering will need to be large, like last year's Festival. We are already looking at possibilities for a less expensive venue for future Festivals.
- D. Registration packets from teachers must be postmarked on or before April 2. No late registrations will be accepted.
- E. April has set up a number of subcommittee chairs, who will coordinate activities and volunteers. Eric Howe will help with judging and scheduling, as well as substitute for Wendy in her absence; Theresa Cardinale will be in charge of judging and scheduling on the day of the Festival.
- F. It was decided that as soon as Registration is complete, April will advise the Board of the estimated amount of the deficit. Depending on the size of this amount, the Board will reluctantly review whether the Festival has to be cancelled or not.

IV. Corresponding Secretary report

Alison reported difficulties in contacting some members. Alison tries her best to see that everyone receives information via the Newsletter, emails, the website, and postal service. The Board advised Alison to continue to do the best she can, within reason.

V. Recitals

Victoria was unable to attend today's meeting, so there was no report. Meghan will create templates for the student recital programs. Concern was expressed about the effect of low student participation rates on the recital budget.

VI. Webmaster's report

Meghan reported that only three people have submitted their bios to be posted on the chapter website, and encourages all members to take advantage of this simple and valuable service.

VII. Newsletter report

Anja reported that the number of people receiving their newsletter online has doubled. Response to her first question of the month was excellent, but this month's question has so far had few responses, possibly because people didn't understand the question.

VIII. Treasurer's report

Dorothy reported that we are at present financially healthy, though we have recently committed to several large expenditures (investing in the Oren Brown DVD, grants to 3 members to go to SLC, low recital attendance, and large expected deficit for the Singing Festival.)

IX. Recording Secretary's report

Tina had no new information to report.

X. Program report

Aleicia Byrnes was unable to attend the meeting.

- A. Wendy reported for Aleicia that the Spring Open Studios workshop on May 16 will be at La Salle Studios, in San Francisco on Market Street between Franklin and Gough. Sheri

Greenawald, Jane Randolph and Cesar Ulloa will demonstrate their teaching methods using their own students. The Board suggested that a \$5 donation be requested to pay for the facility. This workshop is intended to be for teachers.

- B. Meghan and Aleicia are working on finding a venue for a summer performance workshop in San Francisco, which will be held between June 4 and August 16, depending on when a venue is available. Wendy is also working on finding a south Peninsula venue for a second workshop.

XI. New Business

- A. Grace will be speaking for a meeting of the Redwood NATS chapter on May 1.
- B. Next board meeting May 2, 2010

- XII. On Mar 23, 1:33 pm, WENDY HILLHOUSE <whillho...@aol.com> wrote:
[Victoria and Aleicia have both voted online to approve the \\$3710 budget for the Oren Brown DVD. As required by the Bylaws, approval is unanimous. -Wendy](#)