

Northern Illinois Music Conference  
Fall Membership Meeting  
September 16, 2024  
7:00 PM  
Lake Zurich MS North

- I. Introductions
  - a. In attendance: Ellen Singer, Margaret Delligatti, Jim Garbrecht, Elise Matussek, Carolyn Awe, Ron Polomchak, Chris Monzel, Larry Goltz, Oksana Lukaszewskij, Kelly Harper, Jessica Rosales
- II. Approval of Minutes from 9/18/23
  - a. Motion to approve: Elise Matussek, Second: Carolyn Awe, Motion carried
- III. President's Report
  - a. 2024 event results-535 events for S/E, Festival 38 groups, AHMI 16 groups
  - b. 2025 event dates
    - i. Solo and Ensemble Contest Feb. 22 Lake Zurich MS North
    - ii. Festival March 7/8 Woodland MS
    - iii. AHMI-March 12/13 Edgewood MS
      1. 2 days at EWMS (12 & 13)
      2. Need a second (additional) on 3/11 or 3/12-Margaret/Larry checking
  - c. 2026 proposed event dates SE-2/21, F-3/6&7, AH-3/11&12
- IV. Vice President's Report
  - a. We have enough plaques for this year
  - b. No updates or changes to the rubric based on lack of comments
- V. Treasurer's Report
  - a. 2023-24 financial report
  - b. Proposed Budget for 2024-25
    - i. similar to last year, Jessica likes to be conservative and leave a small cushion
    - ii. Questions
      1. AHMI-If we have another site, our expense will go up, it is a self funding event, We brought in \$1700 last year , helped pay for clavinovas
    - iii. Medals- ESCO had sent paper statements to the wrong address, followed up a year later, so we owed from 2022/2023. Now sending email invoices so shouldn't be a problem
- VI. Judge Hirer's Report
  - a. Responses to survey of SE and Festival
    - i. Lots of feedback
    - ii. Jim has been going through the database
      1. removing old names
      2. updating contacts when possible
      3. solo and ensemble

- a. Good string judges and choral judges are hard to find
- b. When the contract is presented to judges to make sure they have read the bylaws and instructions for judges.
- c. The clinic is important, but there needs to be comments on the rubric.

iii. Festival-

- 1. Biggest problem is the band recordings-can't hear judges well
  - a. Equipment needs to be tested early in the year.
  - b. This was a main theme in the comments.
  - c. Elise and Carolyn have a plan- they're hosting in their gym and are working with their tech department.
  - d. Unsure if it's user error or a problem with the recording program.
    - i. Orchestra was ok, band/full orch couldn't hear the judges, choir is fine
  - e. Some people commented about having high school level judges. Jim is working on finding MS people who are available.

VII. Webmaster's report

- a. If you are hosting events, work with your tech department to make sure everything runs as smoothly as possible.
- b. If you have suggestions regarding additions or deletions from the website, Carolyn is taking suggestions.
- c. Question-Is there a way to keep Digital rubrics at 2 pages? Answer- You can change the font size or delete empty spaces

VIII. Old Business

- a. none

IX. New Business

- a. Change of title- Webmaster to Digital technologist (Carolyn)
  - i. The position has evolved from Webmaster to also working with digital rubrics and other tech.
  - ii. Motion to approve by Ron, Jim and Elise Second, Motion carried
- b. Board of Directors descriptions (Ellen)
  - i. updated officer descriptions (Article V) -haven't updated since created 10 years ago. Motion to approve Chris M, Second Elise, Motion carried
- c. Board of Directors stipends (Jessica)
  - i. Stipends have never been raised, and some roles have evolved in the past 10 years
  - ii. Recommendations
    - 1. President- \$3000
    - 2. Digital Technologist- \$1000
    - 3. Judge Hirer(s)- \$1000
    - 4. Treasurer \$750

- 5. VP- \$500
  - 6. Secretary \$500
  - iii. Total \$6750 (original \$6125- Increases\$625)
  - iv. Can work if we are purchasing only 1-2 pianos a year without needing to raise fees
  - v. lowers the judges hirer's stipend due to changes in how judges are now hired
  - vi. Keeps VP and Secretary the same rate
  - vii. Raises stipends for the President, DT, and Treasurer positions
  - viii. Chris motions, Larry Second, motion carried
  - d. Change SE rule #12 (Elise)
    - i. Changing rule regarding accompaniments:
      - 1. Use of electronic accompaniment at contest is prohibited per SE rules #12
      - 2. IHSA allows electronic accompaniments
        - a. IHSA has specific approval from Make Music
        - b. Elise will contact to get approval for NIMCon
      - 3. students would provide the accompaniment
        - a. set up of this is part of their S/E time
        - b. Can ONLY use electronic accompaniment, not "my neighbor recorded a piano part"
        - c. Other electronic accompaniments will be accepted as well.
    - ii. Approve the change to the bylaw with the caveat that we receive permission from Make Music to do so. Carolyn Moves, Jim 2nd
      - a. Discussion:
        - i. Ron: Could directors use a CD accompaniment?
        - ii. How do we know if it's smart music or grandma on piano?
          - 1. Judges may not know, and it's not their job to police
    - iii. Eliminate letter "e" on proposal
    - iv. motion as presented minus "E", Motion passes
    - v. Elise is following up with Brian Balmages and IHSA regarding the use of Make Music accompaniments in the same regard as IHSA.
    - vi. **Add to S/E google form: Are you using electronic accompaniment?**
  - e. Add to SE rule #15-It is recommended not to share accompanist between vocal and instrumental entries (Ellen)
    - i. Reasoning: If you share accompanists vocal and instrumental, they're going to different parts of the building. Creates issues with accompanists running behind. Motion to approve:Chris, Second: Elise, Motion Carried
- X. Election of officers (2 MIN)
  - a. Announce slate
    - i. Ellen Singer - President

- ii. Elise Matusek- Vice President
    - iii. Carolyn Awe - Digital Technologist
    - iv. Jessica Rosales- Treasurer
    - v. Margaret Delligatti- Secretary
    - vi. Judge Hirers: Jim Garbrecht and Chris Monzel
  - b. Nominations from floor
    - i. none
    - ii. slate passes
- XI. Adjournment 8:32pm