



American Music Therapy Association Mid-Atlantic Regional Chapter

Delaware • D.C. • Maryland • New Jersey • New York • Pennsylvania • Virginia • West Virginia

MARAMTA
Executive Board Meeting

SEPTEMBER 25 - 26, 2009

FALL BUSINESS MEETING
SCRANTON, PA

MEETING CALLED BY	Debbie Benkovitz, <i>President</i>
TYPE OF MEETING	Executive Board Meeting
FACILITATOR	Debbie Benkovitz, <i>President</i>
NOTE TAKER	Gretchen C. Benner, <i>Secretary</i>
ATTENDEES	Kristen Brennan, <i>President-Elect</i> ; Brian Abrams, <i>Past President</i> ; Gene Ann Behrens, <i>VP for Membership</i> ; Nina Galerstein, <i>VP for Conference Planning</i> ; Elaine Abbott, <i>Treasurer</i> ; Bridget M. Skipper, <i>MARAMTS VP</i> ; Carol Shultis, <i>Historian</i> ; Kathy Murphy, <i>NJTF Chair</i> ; Carol Ann Blank, <i>GR Chair</i> ; Sr. Donna M. Beck, <i>Archivist</i> ; Sr. Mariam Pfeifer, <i>Hostess</i> ; Melissa King, <i>Regional Conference Coordinator</i> ; Mike Viega, <i>VP for Conference Planning-Elect</i> ; Sue Hadley, <i>Student Affairs Advisor</i> ; Meghan Hinman, <i>PR Chair</i> ; Nicole Hahna, <i>MARAMTS Guest Speaker</i>

I. Opening Procedures

A. CALL TO ORDER

DEBORAH BENKOVITZ

DISCUSSION	D. Benkovitz called the meeting to order at 6:35pm. She thanked all in attendance & welcomed verbal feedback for the first Executive Board (EB) Meeting under her facilitation. Sr. Pfeifer stated that 2009 celebrates the 30 th year that Marywood University hosted the MARAMTA Fall Business Meeting.
CONCLUSIONS	The business meeting officially began at 6:35pm.

B. APPROVAL OF AGENDA

DEBORAH BENKOVITZ

DISCUSSION	Adjournment topic of breakfast was changed to read recess. An agenda item was added under III, A, iii to read "Call to action by Judy Simpson."
CONCLUSIONS	Motion to approve the agenda as amended: G. Behrens; motion carries.

C. ROLL CALL

DEBORAH BENKOVITZ

DISCUSSION	Board members verbally introduced themselves and briefly explained their role on the EB, and current employment.
CONCLUSIONS	Board members began to become acquainted.

D. APPROVAL OF MINUTES

DISCUSSION	Board members received a copy of the proposed minutes from the MARAMTA Meeting held in Richmond, VA on March 2009.	
CONCLUSIONS	Motion to approve the agenda at a later time: G. Behrens, motion carries.	
ACTION ITEMS	PERSON RESPONSIBLE	DEADLINE
Secretary will e-mail board members for their approval. Upon the board's approval the minutes will be sent to the webmaster for posting on web.	G. Benner	ASAP

E. ROBERT'S RULES OF ORDER & PARLIAMENTARY PROCESS

BRIAN ABRAMS

DISCUSSION	B. Abrams explained the historical background of the MARAMTA – 5013c nonprofit. He reminded board members that there are stringent standards of democracy in the ways that the board proceeds to ensure that all voices are heard. Quorum is defined as the certain percentage of representation. A motion could be considered by group with a second. A motion does not mean “I agree” though it helps to formally discuss the decision. C. Blank shared support to follow Robert’s Rules to promote increased accountability for constituents. B. Abrams agreed that it helps with transparency. S. Hadley questioned e-mail communication & the topic was benched until agenda item titled “Electronic Communication.” Mike V. thanked all to help with first –timers.	
CONCLUSIONS	B. Abrams will aid the meeting’s procedures as necessary since Parliamentarian B. MacLean was not in attendance.	
ACTION ITEMS	PERSON RESPONSIBLE	DEADLINE
None identified	n/a	n/a

II. Officer’s Reports

A. PRESIDENT

DEBORAH BENKOVITZ

DISCUSSION	<p>D. Benkovitz reviewed details that transpired regarding Louise Monticello with The New School. In summary AMTA requested D. Benkovitz to regionally manage the issue. Subsequently AMTA President B. Wheeler clarified how to respond to the issue. A group was formed with various individuals to converse with Louise then report back to AMTA. MARAMTA Board Member Donna Polen was one of the group members in addition to B. Wheeler, Jane Creagan, and Leah Oswanski. A conference call was held on September 24, 2009 with Louise to discuss the content of materials on the school's website. In general the conference phone call was positive & productive lasting approximately 60 minutes. Louise understood confusion and is working to clarify that the program is for students to learn about the field but not be therapists.</p> <p>C. Blank questioned timeline about revision to The New School Website and inquired about the program's certification process. When C. Blank helps to license programs for early childhood practitioners she expressed the difficulty explaining and confirming validity to outreach programs. G. Behrens questioned which changes were made by AMTA. D. Benkovitz said perhaps D. Polen could follow-up with the timeline for website & how The New School will better educate students and the community about the certification program. The information about interns is a big issue needing to be clarified for MAR constituents. C. Blank requested information about the changed content within the school's website. Additionally, Sr. D. Beck questioned the curriculum. K. Brennan asked “will AMTA review content changes before the website is changed to ensure that the outcome of the discussions is reflected?” Ultimately AMTA is the quality control to follow-up with Louise. B. Abrams questioned if The New School will become a degree program. K. Brennan confirmed that AMTA did not include it as an approved program. G. Behrens stated that it sounds like an introductory stepping stone and C. Blank questioned the opportunity to transfer earned credits.</p> <p>Delaware Valley Art Therapy Association (DVATA) sent an inquiry letter to MARAMTA and questioned if MARAMTA could include a link on its website to DVATA and vice versa. Al Bumanis from AMTA confirmed this possibility. N. Galerstein as an Affiliates Relation Committee confirmed this important opportunity to collaborate with other creative arts therapists. DVATA also mentioned potential action in 2010 during Creative Arts Therapy Week.</p> <p>Cindy Smith emailed on Wednesday, September 23, 2009 requesting financial support from MARAMTA for the upcoming AMTA Conference in San Diego, CA. AMTA sought sponsorship for hand sanitizer for each conference attendee’s bag in the response to H1N1 flu. As a result of sponsorship the region could be listed in the program as a sponsor. The cost could be \$450. Gene Ann said advertise Bring Your Own Hand Sanitizer. Motion failed.</p>	
CONCLUSIONS	None.	
ACTION ITEMS	PERSON RESPONSIBLE	DEADLINE
D. Polen will e-mail the board follow-up details.	D. Polen	ASAP
D. Benkovitz will follow-up with DVATA and MARAMTA Webmaster to request linkage of websites - icons.	D. Benkovitz	ASAP
MARAMTA EB will respond with a decline to AMTA's request for financial sponsorship of hand sanitizing project at upcoming AMTA Conference.	D. Benkovitz	ASAP

B. PAST PRESIDENT

BRIAN ABRAMS

DISCUSSION	B. Abrams emphasized the importance of <i>MAR Needs You</i> to involve people on a regional level. The MARAMTA Website and newsletter encourage such opportunities. G. Behrens mentioned that cost of membership is a barrier to some people that want to stay or become involved. B. Abrams echoed that the board must always stay open and responsive to members. Per G. Behren's request B. Abrams specified which e-mail address to submit names & contact information of intrigued volunteers.
-------------------	---

CONCLUSIONS	B. Abrams requested support from board members to recruit volunteers.	
ACTION ITEMS	PERSON RESPONSIBLE	DEADLINE
Submit name & e-mail addresses of people interested in <i>MAR Needs You</i> to B. Abrams.	EB Board Members	ASAP

C. PRESIDENT-ELECT

KRISTEN BRENNAN

DISCUSSION	The newly revised constitution and bylaws were sent to Website domain. K. Brennan is currently recruiting members to serve on the new committee. B. Maclean and John Foley may assist too. K. Brennan requested to propose to AMTA for decreased student membership. Essentially if more students join at a lower cost than membership rates would be increased. Also if each person solicited five to ten students to enroll as a member then it would increase money received and representation. Students receive nominal services since they usually do not attend AMTA Conferences. Educators are encouraged to receive form for welcoming them to the profession. G. Behrens requested more individualized process to recognize new professionals. The call-a-thon did not reap many benefits. It required a mature member to inquire about MAR and AMTA involvement and membership issues. Phone calls included an informative discussion regarding the impact on their job and inquiring why they did not become a member. The biggest two reasons for lack of membership were that people were no longer working in the field (second biggest reason) or membership costs were too expensive (biggest reason). C. Blank commented that perhaps people do not value the meaning of the membership. G. Behrens mentioned that perhaps journals were not meeting their needs. S. Hadley talked about a national goal to have CMTE credits received from reading journal articles and providing easier access online. G. Behrens mentioned that the new podcasts and JOIN MT website through AMTA greatly improved material and the variety of offered information. K. Brennan inquired about the number of people no longer members who never had credentials. G. Behrens clarified that people typically kept credential and neglected membership fee. The number of people who said they would join was only 9%. K. Brennan inquired about AMTA's action steps. Apparently all regions were reluctant to follow through with AMTA's charges.	
CONCLUSIONS	Motion for the formation of a policy committee including B. Abrams, K. Murphy, M. Viega, and Gary Verhagen to glean all of the policies during meetings and collect them into one binder. More people may be added to the committee as interested. K. Brennan; motion passed.	
ACTION ITEMS	PERSON RESPONSIBLE	DEADLINE
K. Brennan will organize the newly formed MARAMTA Policies Committee.	K. Brennan	ASAP

D. VP OF MEMBERSHIP

GENE ANN BEHRENS

DISCUSSION	<p>As far as numbers there was a 2.75% decrease since this time last year (around 20 people). The push for membership should be student membership, and young professionals. Ginny Driscoll put together numbers to propose to AMTA for decreased student membership. Essentially if more students join at a lower cost than membership rates would be increased. Also if each person solicited five to ten students to enroll as a member then it would increase money received and representation. Students receive nominal services since they usually do not attend AMTA Conferences. Educators are encouraged to receive form for welcoming them to the profession. G. Behrens requested more individualized process to recognize new professionals. The call-a-thon did not reap many benefits. It required a mature member to inquire about MAR and AMTA involvement and membership issues. Phone calls included an informative discussion regarding the impact on their job and inquiring why they did not become a member. The biggest two reasons for lack of membership were that people were no longer working in the field (second biggest reason) or membership costs were too expensive (biggest reason). C. Blank commented that perhaps people do not value the meaning of the membership. G. Behrens mentioned that perhaps journals were not meeting their needs. S. Hadley talked about a national goal to have CMTE credits received from reading journal articles and providing easier access online. G. Behrens mentioned that the new podcasts and JOIN MT website through AMTA greatly improved material and the variety of offered information. K. Brennan inquired about the number of people no longer members who never had credentials. G. Behrens clarified that people typically kept credential and neglected membership fee. The number of people who said they would join was only 9%. K. Brennan inquired about AMTA's action steps. Apparently all regions were reluctant to follow through with AMTA's charges.</p> <p>Again student membership and new professionals were emphasized as the greatest emphasis. There were concerns about the response biases. Half were professionals and half were professionals. It was broken into various regions, and membership types. C. Blank stated it was disheartening that only fifty percent of respondents were satisfied with their membership services. G. Behrens clarified that only twenty percent of respondents were unsatisfied with the membership costs. Sr. D. Beck stated that there needed to have been a follow-up question. Discussion continued about the challenges with such a new profession. C. Blank stated that it is difficult with such a "new" profession. Sister Donna shared that the nursing field has more specific niches because it is a larger profession. C. Shultis mentioned that also there is nothing to transition women welcoming back from motherhood for women who gave birth. B. Abrams confirmed that it is a cyclical marginalized issue. C. Blank suggested for the focus to be placed upon women who minimally work in order to care for their children. S. Hadley confirmed that her only time availability as is after 9:00pm which would be helpful if CMTE credits were electronically available late at night. G. Behrens stated that a part-time membership has been suggested repeatedly to AMTA and AMTA has not been receptive about that option. Part-time employees do not receive such income so less expensive membership rates would be more feasible for everyone involved. C. Shultis stated that the "inactive" membership is less expensive though it needs to be clarified and/or redefined. G. Behrens suggested drafting a document and bringing it to the Assembly of Delegates and proper channels. G. Behrens also suggested that representatives on the AMTA Board should model MARAMTA in having a Membership Representative. Sr. Beck reiterated that it must have an educational basis to improve the competencies of professional board-certified music therapists. G. Behrens explained interconnections of MARAMTA, AMTA Membership Committee and the World Federation of Music Therapy which all have a domino effect on membership. M. Viega inquired about a traveling institute to promote evidenced-based practice. Potentially board members may volunteer 2-3 days per summer to provide face-to-face connections meeting constituents within the mid-Atlantic region. S. Hadley inquired about presenters receiving stipends. Another option is that the region could invest in digital video cameras to tape presenters that provide permission. D. Benkovitz expressed interest in idea like "Music Therapists in Saratoga" – one-day symposium to reach out to local therapists. C. Blank questioned why CBMT did not have such initiatives. K. Brennan stated that perhaps facilities may sponsor and video</p>	
-------------------	---	--

	tape presentations. B. Abrams tagged onto motion that live interaction and budget issues may be explored to provide one-day symposium. C. Shultis stated that MAR could cover fee if they required a certain number of attendees. M. Viega questioned which Committee would target it. G. Behrens stated that the NE corner of PA needs to be better connected. N. Galerstein shared concern that it is difficult for rural people in Delaware for example. B. Abrams stated that perhaps this may make AMTA takes notice of services provided to MAR members. Deb inquired about the cost of "Inactive" Membership. Fellow board members clarified the inactive membership and explained that inactive members do not receive journals. N. Galerstein encouraged the follow-up question to be "What should the membership fee" within the next membership survey.	
CONCLUSIONS	Motion to investigate cost and feasibility of podcast for gaining information. Inquire with CBMT for likelihood of using podcasts towards CMTE credits. Presenters may also receive credits for providing satellite presentations. G. Behrens; motion passes.	
ACTION ITEMS	PERSON RESPONSIBLE	DEADLINE
Re-contact school/display & advertise professional opportunities to students.	EB Members	ASAP
Inquire with MARAMTA Webmaster to create and provide a "members only" section then allow non-members to view portion as an avenue to view reasons for membership.	?	ASAP
Research abilities for a responsible board member to organize speaker series... either appointed or voted-in position.	G. Behrens	ASAP
Share negative outcome of recent call-a-thon; redefine "inactive" membership and decreased cost for membership – bring to decision making body (Assembly of Delegates).	G. Behrens	ASAP
Contact B. Abrams as Regional Council Coordinator to assist as needed. Request and provide information for congratulatory/losses to G. Behrens...	EB Members	ASAP

SIDE NOTES: Melissa King introduced herself as the Conference Coordinator and next year's conference in Saratoga will be her fourth conference. She lives in Northern NJ and works in New York at the Rebecca Center. Bridget Skipper from Immaculata University introduced herself as the new VP of MARAMTS. C. Shultis introduced herself as the Historian and traveled from Pittsburgh, PA.

D. Benkovitz consulted the "Fun & Play" mentioned within the MARAMTA mission to explain an exercise of popcorn juggling! There was an 8 minute recess.

E. VP OF CONFERENCE PLANNING

NINA GALERSTEIN

DISCUSSION	<p>Please encourage presentation proposals for the next regional conference "Inclined towards Music Therapy." It will occur in Pittsburgh, PA March 24 – 27th with local co-chairs Bob Miller and Jessica Mull. Brigitte Sutton is the Chair for the Registration Committee and the AV Committee is co-chaired by Ginger Dougherty & Aaron Teague. N. Galerstein's complete report attached in the electronic Board Book has more details. The exhibit hall spectacular will include swing dance lessons and live music. There will be an institute taught by Ken Aigen regarding "theoretical foundations, clinical applications, and hands-on demonstrations regarding the use of musical groove as a tool in music therapy in the connect of various forms of popular music." Exciting news was revealed about Lincoln Park Performing Arts Center to drop and pick-up instruments. Three important issues for conference planning include quality, financial gain, and attracting as many people as possible. G. Behrens requested for the conference planner to replace and update web immediately. Next year's conference will be held in Saratoga Spring, NY from March 29 – April 1, 2011. Bob Miller has old printer from region which was purchased in Cherry Hill, NJ by Christine Wineberg Consensus was for the region to purchase a new printer for conference registration reasons. Questions regarding conference for the year of 2012 related to services provided by the Hospitality Performance Network (HPN). K. Brennan mentioned that members may not know of how to propose hosting a conference. M. King explained pros of working with HPN like the representative is extremely professional and the company's legal understanding of contract agreements. Cons include that it is extremely time-consuming to wait for the relay of communication between HPN and the hosting hotel. Additionally lack of a personal relationship with the hosting hotel is a con. The role of Regional Conference Chair (RCC) may serve as a personal facilitator between hosting city, hotel, etc. N. Galerstein agreed that personal connection with conference in Ocean City was very helpful. E. Abbot stated that perhaps the lag-time is not of importance since plans are already underway for 2012. Additionally C. Shultis mentioned that the region must best protect and represent constituents by legally understanding binding contracts. N. Galerstein provided an example that the region's former Regional Conference Coordinator Janet Murphy managed hotel searches and negotiations without the use of a third party like HPN. G. Behrens stated her perception that the advantages far outweigh the cons. D. Benkovitz inquired about HPN's gain which is ten percent of the final bill. Apparently it is a commonality for larger organization to use such an agency. E. Abbott stated that it is a</p>
-------------------	--

definite benefit for new Regional Conference Chair. Ultimately the region is not bound to utilize HPN. G. Behrens inquired about Philadelphia as a host city and the reason was that costs were too expensive. B. Abrams mentioned that sites in MD need to be researched whether in Bethesda or Baltimore. Also the location is dependent upon finding interested people in hosting the conference. The EB agreed to stay with HPN. Send co-chair recommendations to Melissa. No hotels to house people in WV.

CONCLUSIONS EB members will continue to send recommendations for conference cities to M. King.

ACTION ITEMS	PERSON RESPONSIBLE	DEADLINE
Ensure that the new city and date is announced immediately through the website. Include a list of prior conferences and locations.	N. Galerstein	ASAP
Check with Rebecca Riley or LeAnn M. Belasco regarding potentially hosting conference in MD.	G. Behrens	ASAP
Advertise how to suggest hosting a conference via display posters at registration table; page within the conference brochure; and President's speech during opening session.	Registration Committee Members and D. Benkovitz	March 2010

F. GR CHAIR

CAROL ANN BLANK

DISCUSSION Tomorrow's report will include recently developed details about legislation in NY. A call to action as recently released by Judy Simpson to "reduce barriers to learning" act. The request was for people to call their representative requesting her or him to become cosponsors of the act. There was not yet a bill number. This would make states have services within school settings to access their services for learning and deals with all disciplines. The deadline is Tuesday, September 29, 2009. C. Blank emphasized that the region needs to re-support the PA group and its new charges. VA's state organization needs to be included. G. Behrens recommendations two contacts to aide GR issues. Nicole Hahna offered to assist the PA Task Force. B. Abrams questioned if state reports were given to newsletter and the minutes.

CONCLUSIONS

ACTION ITEMS	PERSON RESPONSIBLE	DEADLINE
Post information on Twitter site.	K. Brennan	September 29, 2009
Contact VA rep and Matt Phillips for Newsletter.	D. Benkovitz	ASAP

G. PR CHAIR

MEGHAN HINMAN

DISCUSSION Materials are still being transferred from the prior PR Chair. Soon PR materials will be converted to power point files for electronic distribution to members. S. Hadley added that people should be better informed of leadership roles. A system needs to be put in place to better house materials and supplies. Board members reiterated that the booth materials are still needed for health conferences. Signed releases need to be completed. Elaine will work with AMTA to order brochures on members' behalves.

CONCLUSIONS Motion for PR Committee to include Elizabeth Ghiorzi. M. Hinman; motion passes.

ACTION ITEMS	PERSON RESPONSIBLE	DEADLINE
Research costs and storage options for LCD Projector (maximum \$500.)	M. Viega & M. Hinman	ASAP
Contact Dianne War_____.	C. Shultis	ASAP
Coordinate with AMTA to order brochures on members' behalves.	E. Abbott	As needed.

H. STUDENT AFFAIRS ADVISOR

SUE HADLEY

DISCUSSION MARAMTS in living through changes having not held a summer board meeting. Conference calls included discussions about fundraising, conferences, and the fall business meeting. Less than two weeks ago the MARAMTS President resigned. The VP became President, the Parliamentarian became VP, Treasurer became Parliamentarian, the Secretary remained the same and the GR Committee person became Treasurer. Chapter representatives solicited applications for the GR Committee Representative. There was a tie between two of the three applicants. The new representative is from Nazareth College. S. Hadley wrote former president to educate on her lack of professionalism as a learning experience. G. Behrens verbally supported S. Hadley's decision to remain objective and professionalism and validate the student with support. The MARAMTS Secretary also had an accident. MARAMTS may change their hierarchy to include a President-Elect similar to MARAMTA and AMTAS.

*Motion to recess—G. Behrens; approved by consensus . Meeting recessed at 10:01pm.
Meeting reconvened on 09/26/09 at 8:35am with quorum.*

S. Hadley explained that the same scholarships will be offered with upperclassmen as the judges. Key chains may become fundraisers at the upcoming conference. MAR Passages will occur on October 24, 2009 at Nazareth College in New York. There is a wide mixture of students and young professionals. Next year it will occur at Slippery Rock University and will be organized by Vern Miller & Jillian Argue. S. Hadley explained that hopefully an online journal will stem from MAR Passages to allow mentoring system from the student phase into a professional journal. B. Abrams joined discussion about his students that are considering peer review process. G. Behrens questioned how the online journal will be research-based.

MARAMTS Students introduced themselves.. Michelle Bonaventura -- President; Erica – Chapter Rep. from Temple, Elaine V. – GR Chair; Sherry Dobrin – MARAMTS Past President, Brittany T. from Slippery Rock; Brigitte – MARAMTS VP; Kelly from Immaculata, Angela is MARAMTS Treasurer from SRU; Cayla from SRU; Matt Dancer from Montclair; Laura J. from Temple, Sarah from Nazareth, student from Marywood; Alicia from Marywood; Lian from Elizabethtown, Lea is a Chapter Representative from Elizabethtown; Kerri Sullivan from Duquesne University; student from Suny Fredonia; Sarah from Suny-Fredonia, Stephanie from Seton Hill University; Mike Jones from Seton Hill University.

S. Hadley will coordinate with AMTAS to eventually begin project as a mentoring process for upperclassmen and interns & grad students. S. Hadley volunteered to lead such an initiative and begin a committee. B. Abrams offered to serve on the committee. C. Blank mentioned that the field only has JMT and Perspectives and there is a need for more levels available to new professionals. S. Hadley mentioned that SRU is beginning to do that at SRU and encourage students to submit reflections and discussions to the Voices publications. G. Behrens questioned if it will only be available for members and perhaps allow public access to some articles. S. Hadley expressed her enjoyment of open access to *Voices*. B. Abrams stated that it may work as an excellent advertisement for regional connections that may be available upon their membership. N. Galerstein questioned if student membership could be free. G. Behrens explained that it is based upon the fees for membership services and delivery of materials. Sr. Pfeifer explained usage for training students. B. Abrams explained that membership works for future employers as an advantage to communicate one's involvement. The MARAMTS Sibling advocacy project is still underway. For example SRU, Seton Hill University and Duquesne University have been in touch two to three times per year. The project connects active and inactive schools. Temple University and Seton Hill University showed increased motivation. Nazareth University increased advocacy projects. G. Behrens requested more information for involvement of Elizabethtown College for a Skype party. Sr. Beck shared historical perspective that affiliations were excellent with Dick Grey's input and initiative. SRU and Duquesne University developed camaraderie. Sr. Beck explained that there has always been a connection and shared excitement for the expressed initiatives and diversity to collaborate. She referenced Van Comb... "together we row... together we grow."

CONCLUSIONS

ACTION ITEMS	PERSON RESPONSIBLE	DEADLINE
Follow-up with the new MARAMTS Treasurer.	E. Abbott	ASAP

I. HISTORIAN

CAROL SHULTIS

DISCUSSION	C. Shultis first reported that she selected a business in Downtown Pittsburgh to transfer film to DVD for the Clive Robbins excerpt. Archival/studio DVDs will be used. The board agreed to have seven copies made in order to send one to national archives; Carnegie Library; Robbins Institute; Clive Robbins; MARAMTA; and borrowable copies. C. Shultis expressed uncertainty if it is able to be placed online. Sr. Beck questioned if the region could post things to YouTube. C. Shultis is working on a release form to allow public's view and questioned online newsletters. G. Behrens stated that videos should be placed upon digital CDs. Sr. Beck questioned online access and explained that the next student archivist will post everything online. C. Shultis Publicly acknowledged L. Sanders, Sr. Beck, and D. Grey's family for collaborating on MAR submission to the <i>journal/newsletter</i> . Sr. Beck further explained D. Grey's musical ministry during the war period and former president of association in 1974.
-------------------	---

CONCLUSIONS None.

ACTION ITEMS	PERSON RESPONSIBLE	DEADLINE
None identified.	n/a	n/a

J. NEWSLETTER

DEBBIE BENKOVITZ ON BEHALF OF MATT PHILLIPS

DISCUSSION	M. Phillips Lee Morris & Terry for transitioning into his new job. The July 1, 2009 deadline was extended one week. The materials were finally published online on September 17, 2009. Postcards were distributed for the final time during the summer 2009. The postcard mailing costs were \$248.48 including staples, stickers, and postage. Thankfully M. Phillips received free printing. Gene made motion to stay electronic. Brian shared concern that AMTA does not provide adequate list of members. The deadline for fall newsletter edition will be October 8, 2009 with further processes and assistance from Gretchen Patty. Essentially the list of members' e-mail addresses would be received by VP of Membership, President, to be used to announce newsletter, conferences, GR relation issues, continuing education, voting on elections, membership due reminders, (new MAR information) to connect members to the website.	
CONCLUSIONS	The Webmaster's Fund may need to be reallocated soon. Further discussion will take place in San Diego, CA>	
ACTION ITEMS	PERSON RESPONSIBLE	DEADLINE
Deb will contact EB requesting feedback about website and then combine them to provide to Felice.	D. Benkovitz	None identified
Contact AMTA for access to members' e-mail addresses to help the national association to better communicate with members and bolster membership by better serving constituents. Contact Membership Committee to clarify rules and abilities with Angie Elkins. Then contact speaker of the house to request and raise concern with Assembly.	G. Behrens	ASAP

K. ARCHIVIST

SR. DONNA M. BECK

DISCUSSION	Eternally grateful for region viewing the topic of value. Since each person is part of the history and the MAR has a valuable past. Marywood University used to host the archives and then it was transferred to Duquesne University. She requested \$100 for external hard drive (terabyte). Gene Ann recommended reliable brands and Elaine will check into local distributor, perhaps Western brand. Sue explained that she recently purchased an external hard drive at Staples. Brian recommended that two hard drives will be purchased for back-up copies of original documents. Gene Ann recommended that videos be formatted correctly; check with college's technology department; and Amazon.com. Sr. Beck reiterated the need to review history to validate each other's growth processes.	
CONCLUSIONS	C. Blank will contact the chairs of the NYSTF and the PASTF to explain purpose of student task force members.	
ACTION ITEMS	PERSON RESPONSIBLE	DEADLINE
Research costs for external hard drives and update E. Abbott and EB.	Katie Myers	ASAP

III. NEW BUSIENSS

A. REGIONAL REPORTS AND ACTION ITEMS

I. NEW JERSEY STATE TASK FORCE

K. MURPHY

DISCUSSION	K. Murphy explained a recent problem with the division of consumer affairs. Apparently the division complained to the Attorney General's Office without stating our need. The MARAMTA Consultant explained the licensing dilemma and Consumer Affairs will provide NJ options. The Attorney General's Office has a meeting scheduled for October 17, 2009 with K. Murphy & Patrick. The options will be determined soon. One option requires master's degree only across the board and negates two-tier option. The NJ Task Force requested further support from EB. There may be conflicting discussions about revised options so members should be prepared. Currently music therapists board-certified may work as consultants within school settings. The bill was raised under a difficult governor with recent licensing laws. He did not provide monetary support for genetic counselors. Additionally an election will soon surface – if (D) Gov. Coor___ then his cabinet already supports our initiatives with the same Consumer Affairs Division. If he is not re-elected then the NJTF may have to begin working from the bottom up again. At least the Attorney General Office's will mostly remain the same personnel. An additional dilemma is that there is a leadership war within the state senate between southern New Jersey bosses. Joe Roberts (huge advocate for people with disabilities & MT & opening doors) and Nielson C. Perez (chair of consumer affairs) will not be re-elected. Senator Sweeney may unseat Sen. Cobey (huge advocate of MT). Discussion followed and C. Blank explained that CBMT and AMTA may not continue to financially support the NJ Task Force's continued efforts. Sr. Pfeifer inquired about the number of music therapists in NJ and the answer was 155. This would be contrary to CBMT since we would not facilitate two-tier program. D. Benkovitz inquired about which facilitates requested MT services without requiring master's degree. K. Murphy clarified that most policies stipulate the requirement of a master's degree. The Department of Education may need to endorse music therapy curriculum. It is broader reaching beyond NY's psychotherapy	
-------------------	---	--

<p>issues. K. Brennan explained differences between ATMA and CBMT standpoints since they only responded to issues and did not craft the responses. C. Blank reiterated that 2/3 of members are bachelor leveled only and the goal is to support the broadest spectrum of members for a two-tiered system. M. Hinman questioned the plans of AMTA & CBMT if they may potentially oppose MARAMTA's actions. K. Murphy explained consequences that people who may benefit from services will not have any funding, no title protection – minimal incentive. The Division of Public Affairs released statements to the public which may set dangerous standards. Board members expressed feeling pushed to support the task force while potentially making rifts with professional organizations. Questions included what would the task force do in response to the Division of Consumer Affairs and a potential grandfather clause. K. Murphy stated that supervision may very well be a requirement. Sr. Beck stated that it must be reiterated that each state will face individual complications. NJAMT (?) is very supportive. Kathy mentioned that they will be a listening and supportive presence. Sr. Beck explained support must be through communication – openness and receptivity. C. Blank reasoned that the next logical step should be consensus between all involved parties.</p> <p>Kathy thanked EB. Sr. Pfeifer inquired why the NJTF requested further support since they were created from the MARAMTA. MOVED to Item "D". K. Murphy explained the potential controversy.</p>		
CONCLUSIONS	<p>Motion to reapprove NJTF Members of K. Brennan, C. Blank, David Ramsey, and L. Oswanski; K. Murphy, motion carries.</p>	
	<p>Motion of affirmation to NJTF to continue to make recommendations and attend meetings as needed. Any discussion or released statements contrary to AMTA or CBMT must be reviewed by the MARAMTA EB prior to representing the region. The NJTF will remain open and receptive to discussions on both sides – be a listening force within the context and situation. G. Behrens; motion carries with three friendly amendments.</p>	
ACTION ITEMS	PERSON RESPONSIBLE	DEADLINE
E-mail new charge to D. Benkovitz to distribute to EB.	K. Murphy	ASAP

3. NEW YORK STATE TASK FORCE

DONNA POLEN

DISCUSSION		
CONCLUSIONS	B. Abrams thanked K. Murphy and the NJTF for their continued work.	
ACTION ITEMS	PERSON RESPONSIBLE	DEADLINE
None identified	n/a	n/a

B. 2010 MARAMTA CONFERENCE

CAROL ANN BLANK

DISCUSSION	<p>N. Galerstein and M. King distributed information about costs. Nina moved for approval for registration fees to be reduced by \$5.00 per member... professional members/students. With friendly amendment to reduce registration costs by \$5.00 for non-members too (NOT high school students or CMTE courses). G. Behrens drew attention that Non-members' services were not changed. C. Blank emphasized that student member's rates should be decreased. For example Student full – \$65/ \$55; student member full—\$50/\$70; student partial – \$40/\$60. E. Abbott explained that registration costs in Richmond, VA cleared \$27,000. In Cherry Hill, NJ the region cleared \$42,000. So if projecting from the early-bird rate the region will remain financially stable without \$2500 - \$3000. Board members discussed negating Board Dinner versus the Institute's lunch. M. King reminded board that hotels have a minimum number of food expenses. C. Shultis reminded board to remain fiscally responsible for example drop fees for all members – students and professionals. Perks from conference money includes gas reimbursement and an LCD projector. The newly revised costs were student full day member \$60; late birds Full student member – \$75/\$65. Mike reminded to emphasize theme and provided institute & cohesion. Deb spoke about collaboration with PSO to come to their site and M. King inquired about possibility of a day-long workshop.</p> <p>There have been no concrete figures determined for institute presenters. A. Bumanis from AMTA explained that chairs of institutes receive complimentary registration during national conferences. G. Behrens moved to provide complimentary registration and then withdrew her motion. Institute presenters will receive \$500 with at least ten participants. K. Murphy explained total cost received is \$2000. Sometimes coordinators receive free registration; two hundred dollar stipend and essentially it is up to local hosts. MARAMTA provides more than AMTA to set an example for other regions. G. Behrens stated that institutes require handouts and do not always distribute them. Feedback from attendees would help ensure quality control. C. Shultis stated that policies should be established within a regional level for institute presenters. C. Blank explained that her upcoming presentation in December at 0-3 Conference has established criteria that are time intensive. G. Behrens questioned who could lead quality control & board stated that Tracy Souhrada will remain involved with Mike V. as the lead person. C. Shultis offered input to the initiative. It was clarified that the executive board must provide approval of the regional conference logos. Program biographies should be available online and presenters should provide consent to distribute biographies online. K. Murphy explained that the research</p>	
-------------------	---	--

	committee will submit seven sessions as a research track. Occasionally there will be a research CMTE. MOVED to NY discussion. The Registration Chair will maintain database of conference attendees and B. Sutton will take both positions and consistently explain next year in Saratoga Springs.	
CONCLUSIONS	Motion for one week extension to Call for papers deadline – October 15 th (\$35 discount) and November 15 th (\$25 discount); E. Abbott, approved by affirmation. G. Behrens will follow-up with B. Miller to amend the logo via ProTools software. Decreased conference registration costs will be highly publicized with an emphasis on improving quality. Motion for the region to relinquish coffee in the mornings and beverage breaks; M. King, Motion carries.	
ACTION ITEMS	PERSON RESPONSIBLE	DEADLINE
E-mail revised registration fees to EB.	N. Galerstein	On-going
Compile list of tourist attractions to Nina for conference advertisements/website.	Sr. Beck & G. Benner	ASAP
Research costs and need for an EB dinner at conference.	M. King	ASAP
Post presentation submission deadlines on Facebook & Twitter.	K. Brennan	ASAP

C. PR Committee Members approval

MEGHAN HINMAN

DISCUSSION	Discussed night prior during M. Hinman's PR Chair Report.	
CONCLUSIONS	None.	
ACTION ITEMS	PERSON RESPONSIBLE	DEADLINE
--	B. Abrams	None identified

D. MAR Policy for Conference Reimbursement

D. BENKOVITZ

DISCUSSION	The current MARAMTA Parliamentarian Barb Maclean requested reimbursement for conferences – regionally and nationally. D. Benkovitz initiated the topic of improving the implementation of reimbursement policies at conferences. It is difficult to implement reimbursement policies at national conferences because of accountability with the honor system. C. Shultis mentioned one choice of going back to the MARAMTA Treasurer to gather roll call. K. Murphy mentioned a second issue that alternates do not always receive reimbursement. B. Abrams mentioned that there are increased costs to arrive on time for meetings. Sr. Pfeifer mentioned another conflict is that excused absences for presenting. K. Murphy clarified that AMTA explained rule that you are not able to arrive late post-roll call. Delegates end their term on Saturdays. Sunday morning hosts a meeting for new delegates to elect new speaker and three representatives to AMTA EB which is mandatory. N. Galerstein questioned the need for a formal policy. E. Abbott explained that the president must further explain the policy and honor system to be implemented during the conference for reimbursement reasons. The following board members plan to attend the AMTA Conference in November 2009: E. Abbott, N. Galerstein, B. Abrams, B. Skipper, C. Blank, M. Viega, G. Behrens, D. Benkovitz and G. Benner. Board members unable to attend include M. Hinman, S. Hadley, K. Brennan, and Sr. Beck.	
CONCLUSIONS	Motion to reimburse parliamentarian at national & regional conferences; G. Behrens, Motion carries. Motion for members to receive procedures from the President to accommodate attendance of all required meetings with an alternate to attend other meetings as previously arranged for reimbursement reasons was withdrawn by G. Behrens.	
ACTION ITEMS	PERSON RESPONSIBLE	DEADLINE
Send policy to all delegates, committee member, EB Members regarding reimbursement policy. Ann states that Donna should send as Assembly Chair; Deb—President for Board Members; Brian-Past president for Committee members.	D. Benkovitz	None identified
Add parliamentarian's reimbursement for conferences to the treasury policies and submit to K. Brennan.	E. Abbott	ASAP

E. FINANCES

ELAINE ABBOTT

DISCUSSION	E. Abbott will add ten thousand to vanguard account. Newsletter advertisements remain the same. The investments are very conservative so the cash remains the same. The liability reserve is for conference failure in the event that a conference does not progress well. We would owe hotel and other contracts. Reserve would fund the terabytes and external hard drives. Additional reasons could fund tragedies, etc. Legal fees through	
-------------------	--	--

<p>CTT Corp in Delaware. The AMTA Legal funds protects board members if sued, and the hotel follows through with bills. NY Task Force will receive extra estimation for legislation services. Education and ___ goes towards reimbursement for travel; folders, fliers, etc. National conference reimbursement allots \$200 per person. The amount of \$550 for postcards drastically minimized budget line from \$10,000 because of the digital era. N. Galerstein will travel to Pittsburgh with M. Viega as a preparatory visit for 2010 MARAMTA Conference. Continuing education requires funds for certificates printed during the conference. This line includes CBMT fees for presentations in various states and regions. Other budget items include the president's travel, EB Meeting costs, and for the Recording Secretary to annually renew Norton Antiviral Program and make occasional copies. The webmaster may receive extra money. MAR Passages receives \$250 with their annual conference. Jenny Shinn scholarships and mailings costs remain the same. PR costs include the distribution of materials. Every two years the treasury books are reviewed. Membership includes website, membership support fund, and other related areas. Student archivist receives annual stipend of \$1000.00. The student archivist is in charge of scanning work to electronically publish archival items. G. Behrens suggested that a scanner is used to save files as a PDF attachment. This process would allow the multi-page document to remain intact. B. Abrams inquired if there are abilities to allow OCR (optical character recognition) and G. Behrens responded that OCR is often inadequate, and not valuable for spent time and energies. There was a reallocation of funds from General Reserve to Archivist. Additional budget lines reviewed included the President's Awards, and her clerical costs for stamps. Other costs for the region include research booklets, and handouts. Past President has a specific amount of money within the budget, too. K. Murphy questioned if MARAMTA made contact with SER President regarding recent national tragedies. Regional Conference Reimbursement was able to be maintained for members.</p>														
<p>CONCLUSIONS D. Benkovitz will personally follow-up with SER President to extend concern for recent tragedies. Motion to approve Finance Committee Members B. Abrams, D. Benkovitz, Pres-Elect Kristen, Brigette Sutton; Elaine-chair & one more person—tba . E. Abbott; motion carries. Motion for Finance Committee to review policies to provide fixed amount of reimbursement for mileage. Motion carries. C. Shultis; motion carries.</p>														
<table border="1"> <thead> <tr> <th>ACTION ITEMS</th> <th>PERSON RESPONSIBLE</th> <th>DEADLINE</th> </tr> </thead> <tbody> <tr> <td>Follow-up with NJ at Public Strategies Impact_____ and report to E. Abbott.</td> <td>K. Murphy</td> <td>ASAP</td> </tr> <tr> <td>Research avenues to alleviate time when scanning materials for archive purposes.</td> <td>K. Myers</td> <td>ASAP</td> </tr> <tr> <td>Review policies to provide fixed amount of mileage reimbursement.</td> <td>Finance Committee Members</td> <td>ASAP</td> </tr> </tbody> </table>			ACTION ITEMS	PERSON RESPONSIBLE	DEADLINE	Follow-up with NJ at Public Strategies Impact_____ and report to E. Abbott.	K. Murphy	ASAP	Research avenues to alleviate time when scanning materials for archive purposes.	K. Myers	ASAP	Review policies to provide fixed amount of mileage reimbursement.	Finance Committee Members	ASAP
ACTION ITEMS	PERSON RESPONSIBLE	DEADLINE												
Follow-up with NJ at Public Strategies Impact_____ and report to E. Abbott.	K. Murphy	ASAP												
Research avenues to alleviate time when scanning materials for archive purposes.	K. Myers	ASAP												
Review policies to provide fixed amount of mileage reimbursement.	Finance Committee Members	ASAP												

IV. OTHER BUSINESS

A. ELECTRONIC COMMUNICATION

DEBORAH BENKOVITZ

<p>DISCUSSION B. Maclean was unable to attend the meeting and requested D. Benkovitz to raise issue for the need of established policies related to electronic communication. There have been comments and complaints about "reply all" function during electronic discussion. K. Brennan said that Robert's Rules of Orders states that the least people involved is best with electronic communication. It is a large burden for secretary to electronically record discussion. S. Hadley stated that the subject line should always be accurate. Secondly that the students are curious about how to tally electronic votes. K. Brennan explained a form that is used in Microsoft Word to record votes however it is not explained in the bylaws. AMTA will allow people to utilize survey monkey occasionally. K. Brennan re-focused question that business must be fundamentally explained to how electronically occur. C. Blank concurred that it is very helpful with technology. Meghan explained that Survey Monkey provides results. B. Abrams reiterated that elections should be private. M. Viega stated that motions should sometimes be carried into a phone meeting to best address tones and deeper issues. G. Behrens proposed for two or three people to investigate steps used for Survey Monkey and report back to EB in San Diego, CA. C. Blank mentioned that perhaps the MARAMTA President should step-in to utilize better services. C. Blank expressed enjoyment with receiving continual e-mails for consistency and best representation of members. K. Brennan mentioned that it is important to always state "reply all" so that everyone is on the same page. G. Behrens suggested that all new board members complete a communication agreement regarding access to the internet and using "reply all" feature. C. Blank explained that it would help for a welcome letter with a list of duties/responsibilities; reinforcement and explanation of position; timeline of newsletter submissions, etc. ACTION: Most of business is taken place online – Deb. With conference call procedures. B. Abrams mentioned that there are websites like www.conferencecall.com to record the discussion for future reference. It provides mp3 file record with paid access. The <i>Wimba</i> site has limited support.</p>					
<p>CONCLUSIONS None.</p>					
<table border="1"> <thead> <tr> <th>ACTION ITEMS</th> <th>PERSON RESPONSIBLE</th> <th>DEADLINE</th> </tr> </thead> <tbody> </tbody> </table>			ACTION ITEMS	PERSON RESPONSIBLE	DEADLINE
ACTION ITEMS	PERSON RESPONSIBLE	DEADLINE			

Research e-mail tallying processes and include within bylaws.	K. Brennan	ASAP
Submit a document template to tally electronic votes to MARAMTS Secretary.	K. Brennan or G. Benner	ASAP
MARAMTA President will remind people to stay on topic within electronic communication.	D. Benkovitz	As needed

B. REVISED OFFICER LIST

DEBORAH BENKOVITZ

DISCUSSION	G. Behrens requested updated information. D. Benkovitz explained that she is still awaiting updated information for service council members.	
CONCLUSIONS	None.	
ACTION ITEMS	PERSON RESPONSIBLE	DEADLINE
Submit updated list of the board members' contact information to entire board.	G. Benner	ASAP

V. Good and Welfare

DISCUSSION	K. Brennan inquired about the intent for an old computer and printer owned by MARAMTA. B. Abrams mentioned another item for Constitution & Bylaws regarding the timing of officers. The succession of president should potentially coincide with fiscal year. Congratulations and well wishes were extended to K. Brennan for her upcoming wedding in November 2009.	
CONCLUSIONS	Motion for K. Brennan to donate old printer and computer to an agency. G. Behrens; motion carried through consensus.	
ACTION ITEMS	PERSON RESPONSIBLE	DEADLINE
Research opportunities for individuals to be elected into two positions simultaneously.	K. Brennan	ASAP

MOTION TO ADJOURN	G. Behrens
MEETING CLOSED	At 12:45pm
NEXT MEETING	November 2009 at the AMTA Conference in San Diego, CA