

Mid-Atlantic Region of the American Music Therapy Association

MINUTES

MARCH 29-30, 2007 5:30 PM

CLARION HOTEL
OCEAN CITY, MD

MEETING CALLED BY	Kathy Murphy, <i>President</i>
TYPE OF MEETING	General Membership Meeting
FACILITATOR	Kathy Murphy, <i>President</i>
NOTE TAKER	Kristen Brennan, <i>Secretary</i>

Agenda topics

I. Approval of the Agenda

KATHY MURPHY

DISCUSSION	The agenda for the MAR business meeting was presented on an overhead slide.		
CONCLUSIONS	Motion to accept the agenda as presented: Mary Boyle; motion carries.		
ACTION ITEMS	PERSON RESPONSIBLE	DEADLINE	
None identified	n/a	n/a	

II. Approval of Minutes

KATHY MURPHY

DISCUSSION	Copies of the minutes from the 11/18/06 business meeting, held in Kansas City, MO, were distributed to the membership in the conference registration packets.		
CONCLUSIONS	Motion to approve the minutes as presented: Ruthlee Adler; motion carries.		
ACTION ITEMS	PERSON RESPONSIBLE	DEADLINE	
None identified.	n/a	n/a	

III. CBMT Update

KATHY MURPHY

DISCUSSION	See the attached paper from CBMT which was distributed to the membership prior to the start of this business meeting. Joy Schneck, representing CBMT, was present to address the issue of providing accommodations during the board certification test for ESL students. She reported that the established standard for the industry is to issue the test in the language that the certification is offered in. For example, in NY state, the LCAT licensure law states that they will not accept results from tests taken in languages other than English. CBMT has worked to establish secure online testing centers in several foreign countries for an additional \$50.		
CONCLUSIONS	CBMT is excited about national developments towards the recognition of the MT-BC credential. Currently, there are 35 states setting up task forces, which will be working towards state recognition of the MT-BC. Members were		

also encouraged to read the online CBMT newsletter, which can be found at www.cbmt.org. A recent survey of the membership was taken to determine if members are presenting to non-music therapists/organizations. If you would like assistance with presentations, CBMT and AMTA are available for your support.

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

IV. Officer Reports

A. PRESIDENT

KATHY MURPHY

DISCUSSION	K. Murphy expressed her gratitude to the out-going executive board and all who serve the MAR in any capacity. She stated that she felt honored to have been the president of such a strong region.	
CONCLUSIONS	None.	
ACTION ITEMS	PERSON RESPONSIBLE	DEADLINE
None identified	n/a	n/a

B. PAST PRESIDENT

GARY VERHAGEN

DISCUSSION	G. Verhagen expressed gratitude for all the help that he has received during his 6-year tenure with the MAR organization. G. Verhagen discussed his main role as immediate past president, which was to serve as the chair of the nominations committee. Other members of the committee were Brian Abrams, Diane Austin, Maria Carlini, Katherine Leonard, Amy Thomas, and Christine Wineberg. The committee is pleased to present a full slate of candidates. The following is a list of candidates for the membership's consideration: President-Elect: Deborah Benkovitz and Mary Claire Holliday Vice President for Conference Planning-Elect: Jennifer Cross and Valerie Uschock Vice President for Membership: Gene Ann Behrens and Julie Neal Government Relations: Carol Ann Blank and Suzanne Smith Public Relations: Susan Hadley and Carter Thorton Treasurer: Elaine Abbott and Michael Viega Assembly of Delegates: Julie Abrams, Ruthlee Adler, Bonni Ampela, Gene Ann Behrens, Jacqueline Birnbaum, Carol Ann Blank, Mary Boyle, Joke Bradt, Kristen Brennan, Jennifer Cross, Ava Dowdy, Karen Jasko, Irv Kaugdan, Betsy King, Beth McLaughlin, Kathy Murphy, Julie Neal, Kathryn O'Brien, Leah Oswanski, Sr. Mariam Pfeifer, Donna Polen, Rachel Reynolds, Barbara MacLean, Linda Sanders, Andrea Scheve, Joshua Schrader, Suzannah Scott-Moncrieff, Evelyn Selesky, Susan Stark, Adam Staub, Nancy Vees, Gary Verhagen, Michael Viega, Caryn Widrick, Alison Zadnick	
CONCLUSIONS	Additional nominations will be allowed from the floor during the second half of the executive board meeting (3/30). Voting will take place via mail-in ballots. G. Verhagen thanked the committee for all of their hard work.	
ACTION ITEMS	PERSON RESPONSIBLE	DEADLINE
None identified	n/a	n/a

C. PRESIDENT-ELECT**BRIAN ABRAMS****1. PROPOSED MISSION STATEMENT**

DISCUSSION	Proposed mission statement was presented to the membership for review. The proposed mission statement reads: "The mission of the Mid-Atlantic Region of the American Music Therapy Association is to advance the public awareness of the benefits of music therapy, to increase access to quality music therapy services, and to provide support to its members within the MAR. " Motion to accept the mission statement as presented—G. Verhagen.	
	Discussion: P. Nolan asked if there was a hierarchal presentation of the purposes of the region. Amendment to the motion to re-word the mission statement to read "to provide support to the members of the MAR, to increase access to quality music therapy services, and to advance public awareness of the benefits of music therapy."—P. Nolan. Discussion: M. Boyle stated that we should consider keeping the presented order with regards to maintaining our 501(c)(3) status.	
	B. Abrams stated that the first two statements of purpose align with AMTA's statements of purpose, and the third statement of purpose specifically relates to the MAR. This proposed mission statement has already been presented and approved by the board of directors. G. Verhagen wished to speak against the amendment, stating that the statement fine as presented due to the fact that the statements are not in a hierarchal order. P. Nolan withdrew his amendment.	
CONCLUSIONS	Vote on original motion as presented by G. Verhagen—motion carries.	
ACTION ITEMS	PERSON RESPONSIBLE	DEADLINE
None identified.	n/a	n/a

2. PROPOSED BYLAW CHANGES

DISCUSSION	Motion to dispense with the reading of the proposed bylaw changes—M. Holliday; motion carries.	
CONCLUSIONS	Proposed bylaw changes can be found in the conference registration packets and will be voted on during the second half of the executive board meeting (3/30).	
ACTION ITEMS	PERSON RESPONSIBLE	DEADLINE
None identified.	n/a	n/a

D. TREASURER**NANCY VEES**

DISCUSSION	Current balances were reported to the membership: checking--\$9,773.93; Vanguard--\$15,727.79; Total--\$25,501.72. All treasury request forms that were received prior to the conference have been paid.	
CONCLUSIONS	Please continue to submit treasury request forms as needed. K. Murphy commended N. Veas for her outstanding job in her capacity as treasurer.	
ACTION ITEMS	PERSON RESPONSIBLE	DEADLINE
None identified	n/a	n/a

E. VP FOR CONFERENCE PLANNING**JOHN FOLEY**

DISCUSSION	J. Foley thanked all for making this conference a success. There are 463 attendees currently registered	
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for the conference. J. Foley extended his gratitude to Sr. D. Beck and J. Loewy for the wonderful institute they presented yesterday. In addition, the conference has hosted 11 CMTE sessions.

CONCLUSIONS	J. Foley welcomed everyone to the conference and encouraged members to find him with any concerns.
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ACTION ITEMS	PERSON RESPONSIBLE	DEADLINE
None identified.	n/a	n/a

F. VP FOR CONFERENCE PLANNING-ELECT

ANDREA SCHEVE

DISCUSSION	The 2008 regional conference will be held in Cherry Hill, NJ. Kathy Murphy and Angela Guerriero will be the local co-chairs. The theme of the conference will be: "Music Therapy in the Garden State—A Growing Field".
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CONCLUSIONS	None.
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ACTION ITEMS	PERSON RESPONSIBLE	DEADLINE
None identified.	n/a	n/a

G. VP MEMBERSHIP

GENE BEHRENS

DISCUSSION	G. Behrens reminded the membership of the availability of the Membership Support Fund. The deadline is now December 15 th , which will better align with the AMTA membership deadlines. G. Behrens will be contacting internship directors and educators to assist in the distribution of the New Member Welcome Packets to recent graduates. Announcements will also be placed in the newsletter and on the website. G. Behrens requested membership assistance to help identify music therapists who are new to the region or who are not yet members of AMTA. Please send contact information for those clinicians to G. Behrens. G. Behrens is also looking for members who are interested in serving on the Membership Advocacy Committee. The new MAR website is approximately half completed. G. Behrens extended thanks to Tom Holliday for his work on the website thus far. A new PowerPoint presentation is being developed on the national level. The purpose of the PowerPoint is to educate interns on the benefits of maintaining professional membership with AMTA. The CD-ROM will be distributed to all Clinical Training Directors. AMTA has requested that the MAR conduct another membership call-a-thon. Please contact G. Behrens if you are interested in assisting with this effort. Also, feel free to contact G. Behrens for any concerns related to membership advocacy. Remember to contact AMTA to update your address as needed.
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CONCLUSIONS	G. Behrens challenged all members to find one new person to join AMTA this year.
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ACTION ITEMS	PERSON RESPONSIBLE	DEADLINE
None identified.	n/a	n/a

H. HISTORIAN/ARCHIVIST

**SR. DONNA MARIE BECK
FOR KAREN JASKO**

DISCUSSION	The documentary on Florence Tyson has recently been transferred to DVD. K. Jasko is currently working on setting up interviews of regional pioneers for the archives. If you are interested in assisting with the project then please contact K. Jasko for the documentary outline and related forms. Duquesne continues to house the archives.
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Meredith Loudermilk continues to serve as student archivist. All information related to the archives can be found on the website.

CONCLUSIONS None.

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

I. NEWSLETTER REPORT

LEE MORRIS

DISCUSSION A full color copy of the current newsletter is available on the website. There are 54 members currently opting out of receiving a paper copy of the newsletter. L. Morris encouraged members to continue to opt-out of receiving the paper copy of the newsletter. Your name will be then printed in the "Hall of Fame" in the next newsletter and your contribution will help the region to continue its efforts in working to better serve the membership. Continue to send articles to L. Morris for the newsletter and inform her of any media coverage that members are receiving. Melanie Kwan, the current assistant editor, will be moving back to Singapore and will be unable to continue to work on the newsletter. L. Morris is looking for a new assistant editor to fill the position. The next newsletter deadline is July 1, 2007.

CONCLUSIONS None.

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

J. ASSEMBLY OF DELEGATES

SR. MARIAM PFEIFER

DISCUSSION The report from the last meeting of the assembly can be found on the website. Current issues brought before the Assembly include the following:

- 1) The advanced competencies document will be reviewed tomorrow and members will have the opportunity to speak at the Town Hall meeting. The document will be voted on during the next meeting of the Assembly. Copies of the document were distributed to all present at this meeting (see attached).
- 2) The 2008 professional dues have been raised to \$200/professional and \$75/student.
- 3) A presentation on evidenced-based research was given to the Assembly, aligning with the AMTA strategic goals related to research.

CONCLUSIONS Email Sr. M. Pfeifer if you have concerns that need to be voiced at the Assembly of Delegates meeting.

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

K. PUBLIC RELATIONS REPORT

MARY CLAIRE HOLLIDAY

DISCUSSION M. Holliday continues to work on a PowerPoint presentation on Music Therapy FAQs. The goal is to have this presentation available free-of-charge for the membership by next year. A survey will be distributed online within the next several weeks. The goal of the survey will be to gather current regional demographics. M. Holliday reminded the

membership that there are videos and brochures which are available to members free of charge for PR efforts. A full list of available resources can be found on the website.

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

L. GOVERNMENT RELATIONS REPORT

KATHY MURPHY

1. NYSTF

DISCUSSION	The region's contract with Diana Georgia has expired at the end of 2006 and was not renewed. D. Georgia continues to be an advocate for our work and is available to help us on a task-specific basis. D. Polen and M. Ventre attended the recent NYCCAT meeting. During this meeting, concerns were expressed by other CAT's regarding the letters of clarification that were issued to music therapists distinguishing bachelor's level practice and advanced practice. Chris Burke, the chair of the NYCCAT, expressed a desire to have music therapy represented at the NYCCAT quarterly meetings. The NYCCAT board will look into rotating their meetings to other areas around the state. The NYSTF will be meeting this evening and the NY state meeting will be held tomorrow morning. Also, there will be a panel discussion with representatives from five NY universities regarding how each has responded to the new licensure requirements. This will be held tomorrow morning. Recently, the exemption language has been re-submitted by Assemblyman Hoyt. The issue has been referred to the Committee on Higher Education for review. This update was communicated to the NYSTF email list. See D. Polen for extra copies if needed.	
CONCLUSIONS	The task force will continue to keep the membership informed on emerging issues.	
ACTION ITEMS	PERSON RESPONSIBLE	DEADLINE
None identified	n/a	n/a

2. NJSTF

DISCUSSION	NJSTF has recently entered into a collaborative contract with the firm Public Strategies Impact. Patrick Stewart is the lobbyist from the firm who is representing our organization. P. Stewart will be present at the NJ state meeting tomorrow. The task force will be jointly appointed by the MAR, AMTA, and CBMT. All questions can be referred to njtaskforce@yahoo.com .	
CONCLUSIONS	More detailed information will be available at the NJ state meeting tomorrow.	
ACTION ITEMS	PERSON RESPONSIBLE	DEADLINE
None identified	n/a	n/a

3. PASTF

DISCUSSION	The task force continues to work on gathering sources of reimbursement throughout the state. They have also been examining the LPC regulations as they pertain to music therapists working in PA. Many aspect of this law	
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are very ambiguous. Also, the currently education requirements for gaining the LPC are changing. Chapter 49 education laws indicate that 9 instructional credits need to be in the area of special education inclusion. The goal is to work towards including courses in music therapy in the list of approved courses in this topic area. Music therapists are working towards forging new connections with educators.		
CONCLUSIONS	None	
ACTION ITEMS	PERSON RESPONSIBLE	DEADLINE
None identified	n/a	n/a
Meeting recessed at 6:30pm.		
Meeting reconvened at 2:00pm.		

V. Student Affairs

JOKE BRADT/KEVIN HAHN

DISCUSSION	J. Bradt reported that this past year's MARAMTS had a wonderfully intensive executive board. There was only one applicant for the graduate scholarship. The students are running a swap shop at this conference. The MARAMTS board will be presenting a concurrent session on Friday. They will also be working on making a regional scrapbook throughout the conference. MARAMTS will be adding a government relations position to their executive board. It was suggested that the MARAMTS could do more advocacy work to maintain connections with interns from their schools in order to try to encourage them to remain members of MAR. It was also suggested that MARAMTS could begin to collect data about the financial hardships that students are facing which might preclude them from becoming members. The establishment of a "new professional" category did not work on the national level. There is an AMTA "welcome to the profession" packet but it is difficult to find on the national website.	
CONCLUSIONS	MAR will place an on-going notice in the newsletter to remind members of the packets. It was also suggested that emails be sent to internship directors to remind them to tell their interns to request the packets. A letter could be drafted to internship directors for that purpose. A link will be placed on the MAR website to the page containing the packet request form. K. Murphy thanked the students for all of their hard work.	
ACTION ITEMS	PERSON RESPONSIBLE	DEADLINE
None identified	n/a	n/a

VI. Nominations Committee

GARY VERHAGEN

DISCUSSION	G. Verhagen re-presented the slate of candidates that was presented during yesterday's half of the membership meeting. At this time, G. Verhagen welcomed nominations from the floor.	
CONCLUSIONS	Nominations were taken from the floor. Final ballots will be mailed out to all members for their consideration and voting.	
ACTION ITEMS	PERSON RESPONSIBLE	DEADLINE

None identified	n/a	n/a
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VII. Constitution and Bylaw Revisions

BRIAN ABRAMS

DISCUSSION	B. Abrams re-presented the list of constitution and bylaws revisions to the membership. Motion to dispense with the reading of the revisions—M. Boyle. Motion carries. Motion to approve Constitution and Bylaws revisions as presented. Motion carries.	
CONCLUSIONS	The newly approved Constitution and Bylaws document will be made available to the membership via the website.	
ACTION ITEMS	PERSON RESPONSIBLE	DEADLINE
None identified	n/a	n/a

VIII. Other Business

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

IX. Good & Welfare

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

MEETING CLOSED	At 3:07pm
NEXT MEETING	November 17, 2007—Louisville, KY