

**MAR Business Meeting**

**AMTA Conference**

**Kansas City, MO**

**Saturday, November 14th, 7:30AM-9:15AM**

G. Ritter called meeting to order 7:33AM

1. Approval of Agenda: G. Ritter motioned to approve agenda. D. Polen motioned. 2nd. Motion carries.
2. Welcome from G. Ritter. Thanked members for agreeing to the new format/agenda due to member’s feedback. G. Ritter gave an overview of the agenda items. G. Ritter recognized national standing committee reps by having them stand during the meeting.
3. “What is the AMTA Assembly?” presented by D. Polen at 7:40AM until 7:55AM
4. “What is the AMTA Board of Directors?” presented by J. Neal at 7:55AM – 8:09AM
5. “What is the MAR Board?” presented by M. Viega and G. Verhagen at 8:09AM – 8:21AM
6. G. Ritter stated that president, president-elect and past president are also assembly members. President also go to BOD to voice concerns from our region. T. Winter will open for MAR Conference (forum???)
7. Questions
   1. From Carol Ann Blank – financial get supported – How does membership funds go back to the region? Treasurer – percentage membership dues come back to the region. 6% goes back – funds. Created more grants and scholarships, national conference scholarships. Pushing back money to the membership, but making a cushion to make sure we are financially sound. Board has thoughtful considerations. C. A. Blank – never had problems of that, but wanted membership to know membership funds are dispersed quarterly. J. Neal – money go back to membership – will talk about that in the next segment.
   2. C. Loretto – Assembly vs. BOD – question is ultimately in charge in our association if we are to flow chart? G. Ritter – on the site - flow chart. G. Ritter explained the roles of BOD, Assembly Delegates and MAR Board and how they work together. G. Verhagen - Ultimately it is the president of AMTA because she oversees the BOD – Furman / Jennifer Geiger.
   3. B. Abrams Power of the board vs. assembly? With setting membership dues? J. Neal BOD has fiscal responsibility for the organization and comes from the top down. BOD can recommend change and the Assembly votes on it.
   4. C. Arezina – New Diversity and Multicultural Committee – what council is it in? D. Polen - Revisions are coming for vote today. Council of Association Services – will be voted at the AMTA Business Meeting. D. Polen stated the rational for the committee. Chaired the task force to develop committee by Ronna Kaplan.
   5. J. Neal – BOD – Asked if membership knew what the Board Book. The Board Book a collection of reports that come from committees and the BOD to the Assembly so that the Assembly can read and be informed about the organization. If suggestions come up, Assembly will discuss and vote on the changes. Board Book from the Summer BOD meeting – it is on the website. And minutes from the mid-year meeting are in there for membership to see. This conference’s Board Book and minutes will also be posted. Reiterated that Assembly/MAR Executive Board is to listen and help membership with what is needed . Board Book to find more information what is happening in our national organization. G. Ritter stated about concerns of our transparency, and offered to get answers from AMTA BOD
8. MAR Conference Update 8:37AM – T. Winter and J. Swanson
   1. Introduced themselves and stated that they look on what they change is based on the survey.
   2. Trying to use more Social Media.
   3. Regional Event Planner – Tina Meyers and Elaine Kong does everything with contract, find the site, making sure everything is OK. Site visit – T. Winter and Kong. Working with CMTE courses are appropriate – C. Arezina and L. Keough.
   4. Harrisburg, PA – State capital of PA. Find a way to get involved. Provide opportunities to participate in Hill Day. Local Committee chaired by Gene Ann Behrens and Emily Frantz. Contracts have been signed. Committee has doing a great job. Volunteers that work hard for the committee. Whittacker Center – Opening Ceremony. Adding more innovative features - Presenting for more concurrent sessions. Seeing trends in other related professions – 20 minutes/6 minute presentations. Help us determine what works with MT presentations and how conferences are unfolding nationally and internationally. No paper program! The app is great, and we will get through the transition. There will be a conference program on PDF on the website. Will have a help desk for the app, but also have just a few programs at registration and MAR booth. Acceptance letters are going out earlier. Trying to move timeline earlier. Let us know if timelines are working out. When is the deadline for application – call for papers were sent out around August and will closed October. CMTE and Pre-Institute calls go out. Information for hotel is all ready. Registration will up soon for conference. 8:45AM.
9. VPCP-Elect – stepping in J. Swanson – will be voting on at Spring Conference G. Ritter)
10. Assembly Election – D. Polen – 45 minute for the Assembly Election tomorrow morning – 8 positions and 7 candidates. 2 candidates from MAR for the incoming – M. Ahola (Newsletter Editor) and shared bio and J. Neal is running (Immediate Past President). Assembly Delegates will be voting. Shared the names of the other candidates. Listed the people that are sitting tomorrow for the election (Elaine Abbott, Brian Abrams, Mark Ahola, Gene Anne Behrens, Carol Ann Blank, Flossie…. Gabby Ritter, Brigette Sutton, Gary Verhagen, Michael Viega, Patricia Winter – Get list from Report) – if you have strong feelings about other candidates to vote for, please find an assembly delegate and share your thoughts with them before the Election.
11. 3 people CMTE – Daniel Tague, J. Neal and third individual for (get info from G. Ritter)
12. Membership Concern related to specific trainings due to job postings, but not a specialty in Music Therapy. Response was given. G. Ritter will post the question and the answer.
13. AMTA – Amazon Smiles – Small amount will go back to AMTA.
14. Ballots were mailed on November 10th and due December 10th
15. Disaster Relief – Deb Benkovitz is taking over. Every region will have a main contact and will notify the membership when that contact is named.
16. J. Neal – (GET NOTES FROM JULIE) effort to streamline the meeting – As Immediate Past President - Chair National Services Council) – have sent important talking points to J. Neal – reports will be sent to website as well
    1. Affiliate Relations – Noah Potvin – work with AMTA office to work on papers to related conferences – reformatting and updating AMTA Fact Sheets – acquired brain injury, \_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_ What is music therapy?
    2. Continuing Education Committee – L. Keough – CMTE courses evaluations for this conference need to be completed by Monday. Need assistance stop by the Tech Stop booth with any questions.
    3. International Relations – Flossie Ierardi – Reminder Global Perspectives concurrent session is today.
    4. Reimbursement Committee - International Code of Diseases 10 – implementation of procedure for inpatient hospital services. Goals – Host periodic hot topic calls to learn helpful tips on funding efforts. Reimbursement survey to update on payment sources and procedures. Help to get accessible information.
    5. Research Committee – Tony Meadows – MAR Research Special Projects Award for $5000; Regional Collaborative Award $5000, Collaborative Student Award - $1000 – more information is on the MAR website. MTR 2025 – 65 music therapists around the country where we want to be in MT research in 2025. Audience is changing and trying to address changes in a more directive fashion. Outcomes 1) Very large document about the process and the direction and will be posted on the AMTA Website. Topic focus for a 2-day conference. Journals are looking at the way to facilitate the process. Positive potential for the future.
    6. All committee reports will be posted on the MAR website. Each Committee will have their own link. Committee Reps –more information will be coming to you about the updates for that process.
    7. Student Affairs – Conio Loretto – Think students should have the overview of how the organization – 120 students at Passages at Shenandoah University. At the national student group meeting and looking at a National Passages Conference that may be associated with the AMTA Conference. Student Service Project – concerns and ethics about the services. Moving away the Clinical based but towards the Advocacy Based – all regions are discussing this. Gaston Research Award discussion about that, and when you are declined for that one project, you cannot resubmit. Deadlines for scholarships (students) are coming up – for the
17. New Business
    1. None.

1. Good and Welfare Gabby Ritter
   1. Ruth Lee Adler - Say hi – could not come due to fracture. Recovering now.
   2. Thanked Noah Potvin for his service – off the assembly after this conference. Moving out of the region. He will stay on that committee until new person is
   3. Darcy Lipscomb O’Daniel (get correct name from G. Ritter) – congratulated on her wedding. Her clinic Flood instruments and guitars were damaged– appreciate AMTA and MAMT (MD)
   4. Rose Burstein (get name from G. Ritter) – local to Maryland and MAR has sent a flower arrangement to mother (and lost father)
   5. Gene Ann Behrens for World Music Therapy Federation - reached out to Paris music therapy colleagues
   6. Ahola – Lend support to Kristen O’Grady who is running for VP
   7. Sign card at AMTA Booth for Jane Creagan
2. Awards Ceremony (get specifics on each awardee from G. Ritter)
   1. Members who have served long term in our region
   2. National Standing Commmitee Service award for Flossie – International Relations Committee – served over 12 years
   3. National Standing Commmitee Service award - Research Committee – Tony Meadows
   4. National Standing Commmitee Service award - Leah Oswanski Judicial and A
3. New Business
4. Adjournment 9:09AM