

# 2022 Bylaws Revision Proposals

Submitted by the Constitution and Bylaws Revisions Committee

April 4, 2022

Thank you to all those who contributed feedback and suggestions for this year's revision proposals. Some have been included, some will be looked at for next year's revisions in order to give them due diligence, and some are outside the scope of the Constitution and Bylaws Revision Committee and are better addressed in policies or discussion.

Minor grammatical changes like adding commas or taking out an "and" are not presented for the membership to vote on.

## CURRENT WORDING

## PROPOSED WORDING

## RATIONALE FOR PROPOSED CHANGE

## CURRENT WORDING

### Article I - Membership

**Section 1.** Membership shall be open to all persons and organizations who hold any type of membership in the American Music Therapy Association, and who are residents, employees, students, or organizations in New York, Pennsylvania, New Jersey, Maryland, Delaware, Virginia, West Virginia, or the District of Columbia.

**Section 2.** Such membership shall provide the privileges of participation in the activities of the Region and of receiving the official regional publication and all other publications of the Region.

**Section 4.** Student members in good standing shall have the right to participate in the activities of the Region, to receive the official regional publication, or other publications of the Region, and to hold the office of Student Representative to the Executive Board.

**Section 5.** All other members in good standing, except those delineated in Sections 3 and 4, shall have the right to participate in the activities of the Region, and to receive the official regional publication, or other publications of the Region.

## PROPOSED

**Section 1.** Membership shall ~~be open to~~ include all persons and organizations who hold any type of membership in the American Music Therapy Association, and who are residents, employees, students, or organizations in New York, Pennsylvania, New

Jersey, Maryland, Delaware, Virginia, West Virginia, or the District of Columbia.  
Regional membership is designated by the American Music Therapy Association.

**Section 2.** Such membership shall provide the privileges of participation in the activities of the Region voting and serving in an elected or appointed position and of receiving the official regional publication and all other publications of the Region.

**Section 4.** Student members in good standing shall have the right to privilege of participate in the activities of the Region. holding the office of Student Representative to the Executive Board. and of receiving the official regional publication and all other publications of the Region.

**Section 5.**

Remove

**RATIONALES FOR PROPOSED CHANGES**

1. Addresses questions about residency
2. Clarity: membership is not required to receive publication, “activities of the region” is unclear.
3. Section 5 does not apply with above proposals

---

**CURRENT WORDING**

**Article II - Dues**

**Section 1.** All members are required to pay dues to the AMTA and the Region concurrently. Any member in good standing in another Region coming into the Mid-Atlantic Region will be accepted in good standing for the duration of the fiscal year. Any AMTA Honorary Life Member living in the MAR shall be extended an Honorary Life Membership in the MAR

**PROPOSED WORDING**

**Section 1.** All members are required to pay dues to the AMTA and the Region concurrently. Any member in good standing in another Region coming into the Mid-Atlantic Region will be accepted in good standing for the duration of the fiscal year. Any AMTA Honorary Life Member living in the MAR shall be extended an Honorary Life Membership in the MAR

**RATIONALE FOR PROPOSED CHANGE**

This is implicit.

## **CURRENT WORDING**

### **Article III - Duties of Elected Officers**

**Section 5.** The Immediate Past President shall: endeavor to effect a smooth transition of power by assisting and advising the new President as necessary; chair the National Services Council; chair the Nominating Committee present the slate of nominees to the membership; facilitate the election of the Assembly Chair; attend Regional Executive Board meetings; serve as a member of the Assembly of Delegates; serve as a member of a Constitution and Bylaws Revision Committee; serve as a member of the Historical Preservation Committee; establish and/or maintain a handbook outlining job responsibilities; submit an annual written report at the regional conference; and carry out such other duties as may be assigned by the President or the Executive Board.

## **PROPOSED WORDING**

The Immediate Past President shall: endeavor to effect a smooth transition of power by assisting and advising the new President as necessary; chair the National Services Council; chair the Nominating Committee; present the slate of nominees to the membership; facilitate the election of the Assembly Chair **in odd-numbered years following the annual AMTA conference**; attend Regional Executive Board meetings; serve as a member of the Assembly of Delegates; serve as a member of a Constitution and Bylaws Revision Committee; serve as a **member of representative to** the Historical Preservation Committee; establish and/or maintain a handbook outlining job responsibilities;

## **RATIONALE FOR PROPOSED CHANGE**

Clarity and consistency

---

## **CURRENT WORDING**

### **Article IV - Duties of Appointed Officers**

**Section 1.** The Recording Secretary shall: send out meeting announcements; prepare the Executive Board Book for all Executive Board Business Meetings; assist the President in preparing and distributing agendas; keep minutes of all meetings of the Executive Board and the general membership; tally and record all votes in the Executive Board files, notify the President of the outcome, and include the results in their report to the Executive Board; and assure that corporate minutes are maintained. The Recording Secretary shall submit copies of all minutes to the Executive Board, the Archivist, and the webmaster for posting on the Regional website. The Recording Secretary shall also: communicate with, advise, and guide the corresponding student officer; establish and/or maintain a handbook outlining job responsibilities; and carry out such other duties as may be assigned by the President or the Executive Board.

### PROPOSED WORDING

**Section 1.** The Recording Secretary shall: send out meeting announcements; prepare the Executive Board Book for all Executive Board Business Meetings; assist the President in preparing and distributing agendas; ~~keep take~~ minutes, including all motions and votes of all meetings of the Executive Board and the general membership; ~~tally and record all votes in the Executive Board files notify the President of the outcome, and~~ include the results in their report to the Executive Board; and assure that corporate minutes are maintained. The Recording Secretary shall submit copies of minutes to the Executive Board, for approval, and shall submit approved minutes to the Archivist; and the webmaster for posting on the Regional website. The Recording Secretary shall also: communicate with, advise, and guide the corresponding student officer; establish and/or maintain a handbook outlining job responsibilities; and carry out such other duties as may be assigned by the President or the Executive Board.

### RATIONALE FOR PROPOSED CHANGE

Clarity

---

### CURRENT WORDING

#### Article VI - Elections, Terms of Office, and Vacancies

**Section 9.** The President and President-Elect may not hold the same office for more than one (1) consecutive term.

### PROPOSED WORDING

**Section 9.** ~~The President and President-Elect may not hold the same office for more than one (1) consecutive term.~~ A member who has served in the position of President Elect, Government Relations Chair-Elect, VP for Conference Planning-Elect, or Treasurer-Elect may run for this position again, following the passage of at least one full election cycle after fulfilling the entire service commitment associated with that position.

### RATIONALE FOR PROPOSED CHANGE

Clarity and transparency

---

#### Article VII - Assembly of Delegates: Section 2, Section 4, Section 6

### CURRENT WORDING

#### Article VII - Assembly of Delegates

**Section 2.** Delegates and Alternates shall commit themselves to attendance at all regional business meetings, as well as regional and national conferences during their

term of office. If a Delegate cannot attend a national conference, they shall inform the Assembly Chair at least one (1) month prior to the conference so that the Assembly Chair may ensure that an Alternate attend in the Delegate's place. The Assembly Chair may at the time of the annual Assembly of Delegates substitute an active Mid-Atlantic member for an absentee Delegate or Alternate.

### **PROPOSED WORDING**

**Section 2.** Delegates and Alternates shall commit themselves to attendance at all regional business meetings, as well as regional and national conferences during their term of office. If a Delegate cannot attend a national conference, they shall inform the Assembly Chair at least one (1) month prior to the conference so that the Assembly Chair may ensure that an Alternate attend in the Delegate's place. The Assembly Chair may ~~at the time of the annual Assembly of Delegates~~ substitute an active Mid-Atlantic member for an absentee Delegate or Alternate **at any meeting of the Assembly of Delegates.**

### **RATIONALE FOR PROPOSED CHANGE**

Reflecting current practice

---

### **CURRENT WORDING**

#### **Article VII - Assembly of Delegates (continued)**

**Section 4.** The Assembly Chair shall: serve as a liaison among the Executive Board, Assembly Delegates and Alternates and the general membership; serve on the Constitution and Bylaws Revision Committee; attend Regional Executive Board meetings; disseminate information related to issues expected to come before the Assembly to the general membership; solicit feedback from the membership on issues that are to come before the Assembly; submit a written report for publication in the newsletter following the annual Assembly of Delegates meeting; work with the President and the Delegates and Alternates to ensure attendance and participation in Assembly meetings at each national conference; schedule periodic meetings of the regional delegation throughout the year, some to include the general membership; insure concurrent session and meeting time at the regional conference; and carry out such other duties as may be assigned by the President or the Executive Board.

### **PROPOSED WORDING**

**Section 4.** The Assembly Chair shall: serve as a liaison among the Executive Board, Assembly Delegates and Alternates and the general membership; serve on the Constitution and Bylaws Revision Committee; attend Regional Executive Board meetings; disseminate information related to issues expected to come before the

Assembly to the general membership; solicit feedback from the membership on issues that are to come before the Assembly; submit a written report for publication in the newsletter following the annual Assembly of Delegates meeting work with the President and the Delegates and Alternates to ensure attendance and participation in Assembly meetings at each national conference; schedule periodic meetings of the regional delegation throughout the year, some to include the general membership; **ensure concurrent session and meeting time at the regional conference** and carry out such other duties as may be assigned by the President or the Executive Board.

#### **RATIONALE FOR PROPOSED CHANGE**

Reflecting current practice

---

#### **CURRENT WORDING**

##### **Article VII - Assembly of Delegates (continued)**

**Section 6.** Should the Assembly Chair resign, a special election of the remaining Delegates shall be organized within two (2) weeks by the President to fill the vacancy. This election shall occur electronically and include any current Delegates who agree to run. In the event that no Delegates agree to run, the President shall assume the duties of the Assembly Chair until such time that the Assembly-Elect is seated in the fall and elects a new Chair.

#### **PROPOSED WORDING**

**Section 6.** Should the Assembly Chair resign, a special election of the remaining Delegates shall be organized within two (2) weeks by the **Immediate Past President** ~~President~~ to fill the vacancy. This election shall occur electronically and include any current Delegates who agree to run. In the event that no Delegates agree to run, the President shall assume the duties of the Assembly Chair until ~~such time that the~~ **next** Assembly-Elect is seated and elects a new Chair.

#### **RATIONALE FOR PROPOSED CHANGE**

Reflecting current practice, clarity, consistency

---

*The following four (4) proposed revisions to the MAR-AMTA Bylaws (from this point until the end of the document) are grouped together because they all address replacing the word “field” with the word “profession” or “area” in order to align with current publications and definitions of music therapy.*

## **CURRENT WORDING**

### **Article VI - Elections, Terms of Office, and Vacancies**

**Section 1.** A Nominating Committee shall be appointed by the President with the approval of the Executive Board. The Nominating Committee shall be chaired by the Immediate Past-President and include the President-Elect and five (5) professional regional members that reflect the diverse perspectives and identities of the music therapy field. The representatives to the Nominating Committee shall be appointed for a two (2) year term, commencing during the fall business meeting in even-numbered years.

## **PROPOSED WORDING**

**Section 1.** A Nominating Committee shall be appointed by the President with the approval of the Executive Board. The Nominating Committee shall be chaired by the Immediate Past-President and include the President-Elect and five (5) professional regional members that reflect the diverse perspectives and identities of the music therapy **field-profession**. The representatives to the Nominating Committee shall be appointed for a two (2) year term, commencing during the fall business meeting in even-numbered years.

## **RATIONALE FOR PROPOSED CHANGE**

Alignment with current publications and definitions of music therapy

---

## **CURRENT WORDING**

### **Article X - Special Interest Groups and State Associations**

**Section 1.** Members of the Mid-Atlantic Region may petition the Executive Board for recognition as a Special Interest Group for reasons of professional development in specialized areas of clinical practice. Members desiring to form a Special Interest Group (SIG) must present a request in writing from five (5) members stating the specialty area involved, the need for the SIG, and the educational and professional goals for the SIG. SIGs may request special programming for the annual conference and/or offer workshops and symposia in their field of specialization with the approval of the Executive Board.

## **PROPOSED WORDING**

**Section 1.** Members of the Mid-Atlantic Region may petition the Executive Board for recognition as a Special Interest Group for reasons of professional development in specialized areas of clinical practice. Members desiring to form a Special Interest Group (SIG) must present a request in writing from five (5) members stating the specialty area

involved, the need for the SIG, and the educational and professional goals for the SIG. SIGs may request special programming for the annual conference and/or offer workshops and symposia in their **field-area** of specialization with the approval of the Executive Board.

---

### **CURRENT WORDING**

#### **Article X - Special Interest Groups and State Associations**

**Section 3.** SIGs and State Associations may request special programming or meetings for the annual conference and/or offer workshops and symposia in their field of specialization with the approval of the Executive Board. Recognition is contingent upon an affirmative majority vote of the Executive Board.

### **PROPOSED WORDING**

**Section 3.** SIGs and State Associations may request special programming or meetings for the annual conference and/or offer workshops and symposia in their **field-area** of specialization with the approval of the Executive Board. Recognition is contingent upon an affirmative majority vote of the Executive Board.

### **RATIONALE FOR PROPOSED CHANGE**

Alignment with current publications and definitions of music therapy

---

### **CURRENT WORDING**

#### **Article XI - MAR Advocacy Award**

An annual award may be presented to one or more individuals who are not music therapists who have made an outstanding contribution to either the Mid-Atlantic Region or the field of music therapy.

### **PROPOSED WORDING**

An annual award may be presented to one or more individuals who are not music therapists who have made an outstanding contribution to either the Mid-Atlantic Region or the **field-profession** of music therapy.

### **RATIONALE FOR PROPOSED CHANGE**

Alignment with current publications and definitions of music therapy