



NOTES

The Official Newsletter of the Vermont Music and Arts Association, Inc.

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Theme and Variations

Once again, your dedicated VMAA Board members - 100% of them - plus our Music Director traveled from far and wide to improve our VMAC experience.

Barbara Jaffe, our new Music Director, has not only survived her first year as MD but has done so with flying colors. She is a true devotee of the VMAC culture and is only looking for ways to improve rather than change VMAC. Thank you, Barbara.

To this end, we studied your evaluations and deliberated on ways to implement solutions to problems you raised, including access to practice rooms and help in performing WOW groups for new participants. We will be setting aside practice suites. Guidelines for all preformed groups will be clarified on our VMAA website. At sign-in, there will be a new procedure to encourage returning participants to play with newcomers. Also, there will be improvements to the "buddy system." We are again looking into purchasing an electronic keyboard.

Murray Kidd, who was on leave last season, has resigned as vocal coach. He is a tough act to follow, but we will find a suitable replacement.

Best wishes for happy music making and happy holidays,



VMAA Board of Directors

Lois Tepfer, president
Joan Lusk, vice president
Barbara Lakota, secretary
Diana Cole, treasurer
Virginia Fitzgerald
Carol Louik
Helene Resky, Notes editor
Jeff Stewart, VMAC coordinator
Becky Whitmeyer

www.vermontmusicandarts.org

*Please share this with a friend
who might like to come to
wonderful VMAC!*

VMAC 2018: July 8 – 29

2017 VMAA Annual Meeting Minutes

VMAA's Annual Meeting comprises the three meetings held on the Thursday evening of each week of VMAC. Weeks 2 and 3 constitute a continuation of the one preceding it until the conclusion of the third meeting, at which time the annual meeting is adjourned. The weekly meetings were called to order at 9:30 pm on July 13 and 20 by Lois Tepfer, President, and on July 27 by Joan Lusk, Vice President. During each meeting, a decision was made to dispense with the reading of the minutes previously published in *Notes*, and a brief description of the organization structure was presented for the benefit of new attendees. Also, the purpose of the meeting was provided: to describe the structure of the organization, to disseminate information, to provide a forum for ideas and discussion, and to prepare for the formation of the Board.



Trustees Present

July 13: Jinny Fitzgerald, Joan Lusk, Helene Resky, Jeff Stewart, Lois Tepfer

July 20: Lincoln Brown, Diana Cole, Barbara Lakota, Carol Louik, Joan Lusk, Jeff Stewart, Lois Tepfer

July 27: Carol Louik, Joan Lusk, Jeff Stewart

Structure of the Organization and Trustee Elections

The sole job of VMAA, the corporation, is to run VMAC, the workshop. VMAA is run by a board of 9 members who serve for 3 years each. Three are elected each year. The Board members present at each meeting were introduced.

This year's Board members up for reelection were Barbara Lakota, Lois Tepfer, and Lincoln Brown. Lincoln decided not to run again. Diana Cole agreed to be Treasurer. Nominations for Board members were made from the floor or later by giving them to a trustee by the end of the workshop on July 30. Becky Whitmeyer (week 1) was nominated. A member can only nominate someone if they have checked with the nominee, and they are willing to serve. Voting online was described by Joan Lusk. The ballot was sent by e-mail in August or by US mail if a voter did not have e-mail. All votes were due by September 15.

At each meeting, Lois or Joan called for reports.

Treasurer's Report: On July 20, Lincoln said that income from enrollment is down by \$5,000, as are participant numbers from last year. The Board anticipated this possibility and budgeted less for this year while being able to avoid raising the enrollment fee. Lincoln said our investments are doing well and that we have sufficient money in the reserve fund to cover losses. He encouraged members to consider ways to increase enrollment.

Music Director's Report: Barbara Jaffe said that the summer had gone extremely well. She especially thanked the coaches.

Library: Gael Abbasi said that the library was running smoothly and reminded people to return any borrowed music. Joan Lusk said that she orders music and creates and manages a database, and she would like someone to volunteer to take over these tasks. She also invited people to volunteer to manage VMAC's Facebook page and website.



Check-out Procedures: Our manager, Sarah Borgatti, spoke about check-out procedures for Sunday. As in the previous year, evaluations this year were done online. Information with a link to the site was sent by e-mail. Carol Louik reviewed the procedure for submitting evaluations and was acknowledged for developing this procedure last year.

VMAC Online Store: Diana Cole reminded everyone that we have t-shirts and tote bags with the current, updated VMAC logo on them available and for sale onsite. She also noted that our online store is another option to buy a broader range of items that feature the VMAC logo. Contact information for the online store is on the VMAC website.



Discussion: At the July 20 meeting, Lois suggested that participants actively think about ways to increase participation. She suggested that lunchtime conversation could possibly be devoted to this topic and any ideas presented to a Board member.

She also encouraged participants to consider volunteering to do tasks such as the library database, the Facebook page, and the VMAC website. Pat McQuiddy suggested we use a social media consultant. Lois noted that handling these items would not require being a Board member. Anyone who has a bit of time and interest would be welcome to help out.

Sonia Guterman asked about the possibility of holding a midwinter reunion.

Paul Chassy asked if we had considered inviting a composer to join our staff.

Laura Langbein asked how much advertising we do and if we ask former participants why they chose not to return.

Carol Louik reminded everyone to complete their evaluations which would be e-mailed shortly. This led to some discussion about the seriousness with which the members of the Board consider the statements that are made in the evaluations.

A Note of Thanks: Barbara Lakota noted that the Mason and Hamlin baby grand piano we had this summer was generously loaned to us by Lee Story.

Meetings recessed at approximately 10:15 pm.

*Respectfully submitted, Barbara L. Lakota, Secretary.
Weeks 1 and 3 minutes taken by Joan Lusk, Acting Secretary.
Week 2 minutes taken by Barbara Lakota.
Edited for length by Helene Resky.*



2018: The Sounds of Summer

Works of the Week

String works:

Haydn String Quartet, Op.20, No. 2
Mendelssohn String Quartet in E minor, Op. 44, No. 2

Piano/String works:

Clara Schumann Piano Trio in G minor, Op. 17
Dohnányi Piano Quintet, No. 1, Op. 1

Wind works:

Nielsen Wind Quintet, Op. 43
Ewazen Roaring Fork Quintet for Wind Instruments

Piano/Wind works:

Poulenc Sextet, FP 100

Summer 2017

