

Tahoma Chapter of NATS
Executive Board Meeting Minutes
October 19, 2015, 7PM
Home of Dawn Padula, Tacoma, WA

Attendees

Denise Daverso, Dawn Padula, Linda Ellingson, and Ryan Bede (via FaceTime)

Call to Order

President Denise Daverso called the meeting to order at 7:21PM.

Approval of Minutes

The minutes from the August 26, 2015 Board Meeting were approved as submitted.

Approval of Agenda

The Agenda for the meeting was approved as submitted.

Approval of Treasurer's Report

Paul Brassey's Treasurer's Report was read in his absence.

Daverso noted that the total cost of the Kenneth Bozeman Workshop on September 19, 2015 totaled \$1,433.28, which included Bozeman's stipend, airfare, meals, refreshments, and printed materials. She then reported that the total cost to the chapter was \$515.08.

Daverso also pointed out ongoing issues with PayPal—namely changing out the account from former Treasurer Kerstin O'Shields to current Treasurer Paul Brassey. Brassey and Daverso will continue to troubleshoot the problem so that things are in place in time for Auditions registration.

Following discussion, and with the addition of discretionary funds to the total amount, the Treasurer's Report was approved.

OLD BUSINESS

A. Board Vacancies: President-Elect

Daverso presented a list of current members who have not been on a committee recently and who do not currently hold a Board position in the hopes of identifying potential President-Elects. Daverso also mentioned that current Board members could move into the President-Elect position and then other members could perhaps step onto the Board. It was discussed that the Board may need to get by without a President-Elect for this year. The position, then, would be voted upon along with the new the slate of officers for the next year during the Spring Fling in May.

B. Student Auditions (Ryan Bede, Vice-President of Auditions)

Ryan Bede is still looking for a Judges Coordinator position. A few names were suggested, and Bede will follow up on these.

Daverso outlined specific duties for the Judges Coordinator. They 1.) are to be the main contact for judges; 2.) must be very familiar with new Auditions rules, rubrics and forms, and must have the capacity to explain these items clearly; 3.) will assemble the list of judges – Bede will provide the contact information for those who have entered students; 4.) will need to secure monitors for the day (and could elect to have someone help them in this capacity); 5.) may need to contact teachers outside of the Tahoma Chapters—non NATS member industry professionals can be approached for this purpose. Daverso noted that the time commitment for the Judges Coordinator position would be roughly December 15 through January 23. Bede will continue to reach out to specific members in the hopes of filling this position.

Regarding payment of outside judges, Bede reported that the consensus from the last discussion of the Auditions Rules Committee was that outside judges should be paid. Daverso suggested that we come up with a full-day and half-day figure. At the moment, our chapter has the money to experiment with doing this, so Daverso will give approval to pay judges for the 2016 Auditions on a trial basis. Linda Ellingson added that we should remain mindful that the scholarship fund remains at a healthy balance (i.e, that there is always at least \$500 in the fund).

Bede noted that as long as teachers who enter students also judge, then we should theoretically have enough judges. The required fee for electing not to judge will also help to cover outside judging costs.

Motion: Bede moved that the chapter will pay outside NATS members and non-NATS industry professionals the fees of \$150 plus mileage for expenses for the half day and \$250 plus mileage for the full day of adjudicating. Daverso added that the maximum mileage expense shall not exceed \$25. The motion was approved as presented.

The discussion continued and it was noted that the judges meeting should allow time for everyone to watch the Adjudicator Video sent out by National NATS. There was also discussion about Hospitality for the day and who would provide that service. Names of members were suggested and Bede will reach out in this regard.

Further discussion was had about logistics for the day. One item of discussion focused around clarification of the process involved with handling copyright infringement issues or issues with repertoire (either repertoire that does not fit with rules and regulations, or presenting repertoire that does not match with the repertoire submitted in the application). Bede said that such actions would cause the student to be ineligible for prizes, and they would then compete for ‘comment-only.’

There was also a discussion about what a contingency plan would be if our chapter is unable to identify a Judges Coordinator. Daverso mentioned that we may have to forego Auditions this

year if we cannot find a member to take on this responsibility. The discussion closed with Bede stating that he will continue to reinforce the word about the changes this year to the membership, and that he and other Board members will continue to reach out to the membership to identify a Judges Coordinator and a Hospitality person.

C. 2016 Scholarship Awards Auditions (Linda Ellingson for Janine Dodd)

The Scholarship Auditions this year will take place on Monday, February 22, 2016, 7PM, at Highline Community College. The Spring Fling, where the winners of the Scholarship Winners are required to perform, is May 7, 2016, 1-4PM, also at Highline Community College. Janine Dodd will post information on the Tahoma NATS website on or around November 1.

Motion: Noting that there is over \$3,000 in the budget for the tenth anniversary of the NATS Scholarship Awards, the committee moved that this year, the chapter offer up to three scholarships at \$500/each. In addition, it was moved that there should also be a first and second alternate in the case that the winners cannot perform at the Spring Fling. The motion was approved.

Ellingson announced that she will be looking for judges. The Board is hoping to secure a “celebrity judge” to help commemorate the tenth year anniversary.

Tenth Year Anniversary celebration: The Scholarship Committee submits that the Spring Fling would be the best time to commemorate this event. Everyone could wear silver and blue (the colors for a tenth anniversary), and that there would be a sing-a-long of the *24 Italian Songs and Arias*, and/or of legit pieces from the Musical Theatre repertoire. Daverso said a possibility would be to reach out to past winners to see if they might like to perform. Another idea would be to figure out how much money the chapter has given out over the past 10 years in scholarships (perhaps Paul Brassey could help with this). The committee also said that there should be some sort of hospitality event such as a pot-luck. The suggested structure of the day would be to have the Spring Fling recital, the chapter meeting, and then a celebration.

E. Membership Liaison (Linda Ellingson): Ellingson will continue to reach out to new members. Daverso suggested that we reach out to choral directors who teach voice, as well. Several names were given as suggestions of new members. The Board suggested that potential new members be invited as guest judges for Student Auditions. Ellingson noted that she will compose an e-mail to be sent out to in regard to new members.

NEW BUSINESS:

A. Changes to Bylaws

Suggested changes to the Bylaws are contained in the document entitled “Bylaws Changes – As of October 19 2015.” These will be provided for review by the entire chapter and shall be voted upon at the next meeting of the General Membership during Student Auditions on January 23, 2016.

B. Spring Fling Recital: Volunteer Needed

Daverso mentioned that we need a volunteer to take care of and to manage the Spring Fling Recital. Since the date has been set, the volunteer would only need to provide refreshments, put together a program, and handle recital registration. The invites and call for registration would be sent out to members by Daverso. A few names were suggested and either Dodd, Ellingson or Daverso will reach out to them.

C. Next Meeting

The next Executive Board Meeting is set for Wednesday, January 13, 2015 at 9AM via *Go To Meeting*.

D. Auditing the Books

An Internal audit of the books is required. It was suggested that Bede be the one to take care of this at some point in the future before June 30 (end of the next fiscal year). Bede agreed to this.

Adjournment

Daverso adjourned the meeting at 9:25PM.

Respectfully Submitted,

Dawn Padula, DMA
NATS Executive Board Secretary
October 19, 2015