



Music Publishers' Association of the United States

Minutes of the Officers & Board of Directors Meeting
September 25, 2007 at the Harry Fox Agency Offices

Brittain Ashford (Administrator)	Present
Marco Berrocal	Present
Craig Cornwall	Present
Steve Culbertson	Present
Daniel Dorff	Absent
Louis Fifer	Absent
Kathy Fernandes	Present
Lauren Keiser (President)	Present
James Kendrick Esq., (Counsel)	Absent
Steve Manus	Absent
Kathleen Marsh	Present
Roger McClean	Present
Dave Olsen	Present
Marc Ostrow	Present
Norman Ryan	Present
Lynn Sengstack (Treasurer)	Absent
Todd Vunderink	Present

Committee Chairs

Arnold Broido, Finance Chair	Absent
Brian Hill, Membership Chair	Present

Call to order and announcements (Keiser) - 10:00 am

Approval of Minutes for June 8, 2007 Meeting

Approved as submitted.

Treasurer's Report. Approved as submitted.

Old Business. None

New Business

NMPA/guitar tab site take-downs: Guitar Tab websites continue to be contacted and shut down. The NMPA is asking the MPA for a monthly contribution toward the legal expense involved in shutting down guitar tab websites. It was decided that Lauren will ask the NMPA to give the MPA a breakdown of those expenses to verify that they are really attributable to guitar tab shutdowns. There was a general feeling among Board members that the request was too high. A motion was made to that effect by Marc Ostrow and seconded by Dave Olsen. The motion passed with a unanimous vote.

ICMP: Lauren Keiser announced that Arnold Broido is stepping down from the ICMP Board. Lauren has been asked to take his place and asked the MPA board members to authorize an expense account to cover the cost of attending three meetings per year. The Board agreed that representation on the ICMP Board was important and authorized the funds to cover the expenses related to sending Lauren to the meetings. A motion was made to that effect by Marc Ostrow and seconded by Dave Olsen. The motion passed with a unanimous vote.

Website: Lauren Keiser brought up a request from a member that the website should contain a bulletin board for members that could list job postings, news, and other informational items related to print music publishing. A discussion ensued and the conclusion was that an open forum allowing non-members to post news items would be problematic, but a news/job board for members only made sense. This issue was tabled for further discussion.

Agenda for the 2007/2008 MPA Year: Lauren Keiser asked the Board to discuss Board priorities for the coming year. A discussion took place that highlighted the difficulties in legally licensing music and the possibility that the MPA could provide more information to individuals and organizations, leading them to the appropriate source of the license. It was brought up that licensing information was available from various sources, and readily available. A suggestion was made that the MPA database could provide more detailed information about how to obtain licenses for music. This issue was tabled for further discussion.

Lifetime Achievement Awards: Lauren Keiser suggested to the Board that the MPA establish a new category of award to honor the achievements of individuals who have made a significant and permanent contribution to the sheet music industry. He nominated two individuals to be recipients of this award, Sandy Feldstein and Arnold Broido. The Board was in agreement that the MPA should continue this lifetime achievement category as a permanent addition to our Paul Revere Awards and announce the new winner at the annual meeting. A motion was made to that effect by Marc Ostrow and seconded by Dave Olsen. The motion passed with a unanimous vote.

Gary Churgin, CEO, The Harry Fox Agency

Gary Churgin welcomed the Board to the new headquarters of HFA. He talked about the new direction that HFA is taking in the area of licensing new uses and providing new streams of income for music publishers and stated that the HFA will continue to support the efforts and agenda of the MPA.

Committee Reports

ACDA – Lou Fifer. No Report.

Annual Meeting – Lauren Keiser announced that The Princeton Club has been booked for the 2008 MPA annual meeting on Friday, June 6. He asked for suggestions from the Board regarding panels and the Keynote Speaker. He stated that he would prefer a motivational speaker to address the group.

Archive – Lauren Keiser. No report

Finance/Audit – Arnold Broido. No report.

Awards and Production – Paul Sadowski. No report.

Contribution – Roger McClain and Todd Vunderink. It was noted that the American Music Center had drafted a proposal for a copyright awareness initiative in colleges. Todd Vunderink is continuing the discussion with AMC.

Copyright and Licensing – Marc Ostrow. Dave Olsen volunteered to join Marc as a member of the copyright and licensing committee. Marc accepted him onto the committee.

Educations Contact and Trade Relations – Lauren Keiser. No report.

Engraving/Production – Dan Dorff, Arnold Broido, Paul Sadowski. No Report

Finance/Audit – Arnold Broido. It was announced that no audit will take place this year.

International Contacts – Arnold Broido. No report.

Membership Report – Brian Hill. A new membership brochure was distributed for review. Samples of music from four new companies, Piano Press, Lovrien Music, Broude Bros and William Grant Still Music were distributed to the Board. The Board voted unanimously to accept their application for membership.

MLA/MOLA/MPA – No Report.

Performance – Norman Ryan. The Chamber Music America annual conference, Jan. 4-7 in New York City, will include a publisher in a session regarding commissioning. Publisher sessions at the Opera America and the Orchestra League conferences were well received.

Press/PR/Pub – Kathy Fernandez/Kathleen Marsh. No report.

Educations Contact and Trade Relations – Lauren Keiser. No Report.

Research/Development/New Technology – Steve Manus, Steve Culbertson. No Report.

Respectfully submitted,
Kathleen Marsh, Secretary

The meeting was adjourned at 12:00 pm.