



Minutes of the Officers & Board of Directors Meeting
Thursday, September 23, 2010 at the offices of BMI

Brittain Ashford (Administrator)	Present
Katie Baron (Legal Counsel)	Present
Marco Berrocal	Absent
Bryan Bradley	Absent
Carl Bornmann	Present
Eugene Caprioglio	Absent
Steve Culbertson	Present
Daniel Dorff	Present
Kathy Fernandes	Present
Sean Flahaven	Present
Lauren Keiser (President)	Present
Jim Kendrick. (Legal Counsel)	Absent
Sonya Kim	Absent
Kristin Lancino	Absent
Kathleen Marsh	Present
Zizi Mueller	Absent
Norman Ryan	Present
Jeff Schroedl	Present
John Shorney	Absent
Todd Vunderink	Present

Call to order and announcements (Keiser) – 10:07 AM; Lauren announced that Carl Bornmann has left Music Together. While the MPA by-laws state that one must be associated with a publisher to serve on the Board, Lauren asked that Carl be allowed to serve until December 31 to give him some time to relocate. In the interim, Daniel Dorff offered to house MPA financial records at Carl Fischer that had been at Music Together.

Approval of Minutes – Approved as submitted.

Treasurer's Report – Approved as submitted.

Old Business

MENC Scholarship: Brittain announced that all scholarship money had been distributed to MENC so that they could disburse to the scholarship winners.

Grants: Brittain announced that all grants awarded at the annual meeting had been posted for payment as of the meeting.

The Board discussed how money should be spent and exactly how much money should be distributed. Dan Dorff suggested that the mission statements of the organizations we fund be in alignment with the mission of the MPA. Lauren mentioned that in October there will be a presentation from i-Safe regarding a Copyright Curriculum program. If the Board were to approve the program, this alone would run around \$100K.

There was some discussion about the best way to spend grant money. Keiser suggested that we send out letters so that people can apply for these grants. Sean Flahaven mentioned that a budget was necessary to decide these things. Lauren asked all Committee Chairs to send a budget to Brittain and Carl so that the Board could get a general feeling of projections and obligations for the year.

New Business

E-Newsletter: Lauren would like to see a newsletter go out to our membership and affiliates. Brittain would like to have the Board contribute to this project. Lauren referenced the MPA Twitter and Facebook pages, Brittain suggested that if the Board had news or information of interest to pass it along so that it may be posted to these feeds.

The Power of the Committee: Lauren suggested that everyone get on a committee and participate, as the committee concept within the organization is very powerful.

Library of Congress/ISMN: guests Susan Vita and Daniel Boomhower joined the meeting from the Library of Congress in DC. The Library of Congress, at the behest of the International ISMN Agency in Berlin, is investigating the costs and benefits of serving as the US agent for the International Standard Music Number. In this the Library hopes to engage US music publishers in discussions about the benefits and drawbacks of adopting the standard and about how the Library of Congress can assist in lowering barriers to adoption of the standard in the US.

There was some discussion from the Board. Some seemed to be in support, though there was concern about how to get all publishers to participate in order to make it worthwhile. There was also concern regarding schools and funding, as some school music departments are able to tap into additional funds for books, which are distinguished by an ISBN. Some board members thought that an ISMN system could put this money in jeopardy. Other concerns raised were simply the induction of a new “standard” and that the amount of time and resources required to create another numbering system.

Ms. Vita and Mr. Boomhower argued that the ISMN would help with distribution channels such as Amazon and would vastly improve the general organizational system of printed music.

Committee Reports

Annual Meeting: Lauren Keiser- Lauren announced that the MPA would once again host at the Harvard club. The Board approved unanimously. Lauren suggested that the Board begin to think of suggestions as far as speakers and nominations for awards.

Contribution: Todd Vunderink- Todd presented detailed reports from the AMC: how they have spent money given and a request for the coming fiscal year. While the Board did not have time to review the request, they will discuss at the next meeting.

Copyright and Licensing: Jim Kendrick and Katie Baron- Katie gave a brief on Section 203 of the new copyright law. Kathleen Marsh asked if digital publications fell under the same laws, which Katie confirmed that they did. Detailed notes on this change are attached.

Digital Piracy: Kathleen Marsh and Jeff Schroedl- Lauren introduced the new Committee headed by Jeff and Kathleen. Lauren had a conference call with the ICMP about the MPA taking the lead in America for keeping tabs on offending sites. The MPA is currently keeping a spreadsheet of offending sites. This spreadsheet has all the information regarding the registrants and ISP locations.

Jeff mentioned that his communications with Ross Charap have not yielded the response that he had hoped for. He has been consistently sending Ross sites though he doesn't feel that there is adequate follow up. At current we pay the NMPA a \$1000 fee each month to deal with offending sites and take down notices. Lauren stated that he would schedule a meeting with David Israelite to discuss the efficiency issue as well as the rolling spreadsheet that the MPA has been keeping on illegal sites. He also asked Katie Baron to give us an estimate on what her firm would charge the MPA to take over the notice and takedown program.

Kathleen suggested that the industry needs to step up tactics as far as illegal sites. Jeff mentioned Bay TSP as a company that Hal Leonard has been using to track and send takedown notices on their behalf. While somewhat expensive (about \$3000 per month to watch 25 products) it has proven to be effective on the smaller scale.

Education Contacts and Trade Relations: Lauren Keiser- Lauren addressed the Counsel and Directors of the MENC in late June. He showed the Panda Scholarship video at a breakfast, which received great response.

Google also gave a YouTube presentation to the same group. They want to present a Teaching Award, which was of some concern to Lauren.

While at this meeting, Lauren was approached by two Directors with a question regarding state competitions: if a vocalist buys the sheet music, do they have a right to copy the sheet music for the pianist to perform? He asked Katie for some clarification on the matter.

ICMP: Lauren Keiser- Lauren reported that the ICMP is creating a database. There are several bids out to build the database, all bids are to be in by October 15. There are several companies interested in building the database. They are also currently doing a lot of footwork to get all countries on the same page regarding copyright laws.

Engraving and Production: Daniel Dorff- Dan announced that the Revere Committee will be meeting next month for a "dry run" of the Paul Revere award judging at Boosey and Hawkes.

Paul Revere Awards: Paul Sadowski- No report.

Finance/Audit, Carl Bornmann: At this time our taxes are being compiled and completed by Withum, Smith and Brown, a certified Public Accountant. All files seem to be in order; at this point the 990 forms are being reviewed by the committee and will be finalized and submitted once signed. These forms are due to the IRS October 15.

Membership: Sean Flahaven- Mel Bay submitted for Membership, the Board unanimously approved their membership. Brittain will take some photos after the meeting to feature in our upcoming Membership Campaign.

MLA/MOLA Joint Committee: Daniel Dorff- Dan announced that the committee will meet next month in New York. George Boziwick received word that at the February 2011 MLA Convention we be held in Philadelphia and that he has been approved to host the panel: *Ask the MLA/MOLA/MPA Joint Committee*. Lauren suggested that there be legal counsel present, Dan will determine if this is necessary.

Performance Committee: Norman Ryan- Norman was recently part of a Strategy Committee for Opera America New Works *Think Tank* with the Mellon Foundation. He mentioned that OPERA America is mulling over an idea to have a composer librettos program in conjunction with their other programs. They are lobbying strongly for a composer component to the program. This will be determined once the Mellon Foundation decides if they would like to contribute.

Press/Publicity: Kathy Fernandes and Kathleen Marsh- Kathy asked the Board about direction regarding the MPA budget and advertising. The Board was in full support of continued advertising and scholarship support.

Research/Development/New Technology: Kathleen Marsh, Sean Flahaven and Steve Culberston- No report.

The meeting was adjourned at 12:03 PM.

Respectfully submitted,

Kathleen Marsh, Secretary