

FINAL

Mountain View Grand Resort and Spa
Whitefield, New Hampshire
General Membership Business Luncheon/Meeting
April 17, 2015

Heather began the meeting at 12:20 pm.

1. Welcome-Heather Wagner welcomed all and introduced members of the Executive Board, Conference Chairs, Delegates and Extended Board members.
2. Committee Representatives-Heather Wagner reviewed the National Committee members and chairs as well as the NER National Service Committee members.
3. Approval of Minutes- Heather Wagner reminded the members that the minutes from the General Membership meeting from Nov. 2014 are posted on the website. Jean Nemeth made a motion to approve the minutes and Cassandra Mulcahy seconded the motion. The motion passed and the minutes were approved as written.
4. Slate of Officers-Eve Montague presented the Slate of Officers for the Executive Board. A vote was taken and each of the members on the slate were accepted as the new Executive Board of the New England Region for Music Therapy.
 - President- Jennifer Sokira
 - President-Elect- Judy Engel
 - Vice President- Meg Capen
 - Vice President Elect- Courtney Biddle
 - Treasurer- Bekah DeMieri
 - Secretary- Dorothy Stapleton

Linda Bosse made a motion to approve the Slate of Officers and Christine Routhier seconded the motion. The motion was passed.

5. Presidential Address- AMTA President Amy Furman- Amy shared about AMTA and the work they are doing: Making Connections, The Mission of AMTA, Recognizing the Students, Past and Present Board Members, National Office Staff, Research, Advocacy Connections, AMTA & CBMT State Task Force Project, Communication with Therapeutic Physicians, Scope of Music Therapy Practice, Expanding our Presence with Job Development, Protection and Advocacy, National Office making Communications and Connections, "Alive Inside" & Music and Memory: AMTA and You Respond, Master's Level Entry Subcommittee Report, AMTA E- Courses, AMTA Publications, 2015 Membership in AMTA, and the 2015 National Conference in Kansas City, Missouri. We thank President Amy Furman for joining us this weekend.

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6. Proposed By-Laws Change-Eve Montague, Past President-NER, presented the proposed By-Laws change in the absence of Jennifer Sokira.

Proposed By Laws Change- (Article 2sec 4, sec 14 and Article 3 sec 1)- Reviewing the role of the Past-President: Option #1(the proposed change) would allow the Past President to continue to serve as Assembly Delegate while holding the position for the two year term. Option #2 would allow for the Past President to serve only if the NER has 5 or more delegates and maintain that we always have three elected delegates that are not in another voting board position.

Eve called upon members from the region to voice their opinions on the Proposed By-Laws change:

Opposing points included: Concern that the Past President would automatically fill a delegate spot; Concern that it would take away a vote from the membership at large; Concern that the votes should be voted in and not appointed; There is a need for more people to serve in these positions and accepting the proposed By-Laws change continues to limit the number of people who can serve in this capacity.

In-favor points included: It would allow for continuity; there was a confirmed recognition of the need for continuity.

Eve asked for a vote –The membership voted in favor of Option #2. The proposed By-Laws change was not accepted. Option #2 will be followed.

7. Proposed ballots for the Assembly of Delegates- Eve Montague presented the ballots for the Assembly of Delegates. It is as follows: Julie Andring, Emily Bevelaqua, Adrienne, Flight, Eve Montague, Meredith Pizzi, Annette Whitehead- Pleaux, Carylbeth Thomas. Tom Hayden was nominated from the floor. The NER membership was asked to complete their ballots. The tally was completed.

Later in the meeting, the 2016-2017 Assembly of Delegates was announced as follows:
Assembly of Delegates- Emily Bevelaqua, Eve Montague, Annette Whitehead-Pleaux,
Carylbeth Thomas

The Alternates for Assembly were also announced.

They are (in this order): Meredith Pizzi, Adrienne Flight, Julie Andring, and Tom Hayden

8. NER Communications- Heather Wagner, Eve Montague, Jennifer Sokira and Judy Engel met with Bill Hogan to continue working on Strategic Planning for the future. A large focus has been communication within the region. Region Communication Update: The Communications Sub-Committee has selected Jennifer Debedout- as the NER Social Media Coordinator, and Kari O'Briant- Digital Music Coordinator.
9. Opportunities in NER- Heather Wagner again encouraged all members of NER to take an active role in the leadership of the region.

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10. Committee Representative Positions- Heather announced the following appointee to the following committee: Adrienne Flight- new appointment for the Standards of Clinical Practice. There are still vacancies on the following 4 national committees: Affiliate Relations, Membership, Research and Reimbursement Committees.
11. Future Conference Needs Survey for NER- AMTA- Judy Engel presented target points that will be included in a future Conference Needs Survey related to things that the membership values for conferences. This will be distributed in the next few weeks.
12. NER- AMTAS Christine Routhier (SAAB)- Christine introduced the current Student Association Officers- President- Dalita Getzoyan, President Elect- Philip Didlake, Anna Maria- VP- Julia Archambault, Berklee VP- Kevin Leong Wai Kit, Lesley VP- Joe Spilsbury, Treasurer-Emily Interrante, Secretary- Amanda Fava, NISPC-Eleanor Foster, Public Relations- Erin Rosen.
13. Student Awards- Christine Routhier asked each academic site representative to present the Student Scholarship Awards.

Lisa Kynvi presented the Anna Maria College awards to:

- Julie Archambeault- Senior- Professional Membership Award
- Laura Cabral- Returning Student-Student Membership Award

Becky Zarate presented the Lesley University awards to:

- Roger Cagnon- Senior- Professional Membership Award
- Dalita Getzoyan- Returning Student- Student Membership Award

Karen Wacks presented the Berklee College awards to:

- Forest Paquin- Senior- Professional Membership Award
- Jonathon Tang- Returning Student- Student Membership Award

14. Conference Scholarships- Heather announced the Conference Scholarships that were given by NER this year. They were recently posted on the NER website. They are:

- Marissa Ruffini
- Janna Frelich
- Linda LaSalle

Congratulations to you!!!

Thank you to all who applied!

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15. Professional Awards- Heather presented the following awards:

- Presidential Advocacy Award-

Beth Hemingway, M.Ed., nominated by Jennifere Debedout, MT-BC

-Presidential Service Award-

Cassandra Mulcahy, MMT, MT-BC, nominated by the 2015 Conference Committee

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- Special Recognition- Lifetime of Service Award-

Linda Bosse, MT- BC; Thank you, Linda, for all you have done for our region over the
MANY years!!

As Linda commented: "You're never too old to volunteer!"

16. Notes-Conference Evaluations will be available online on the Facebook page, www.therapynnewsengland.org and on the mobile app.; Cabaret Sign up (please see Kimberly Khare); Remember the upcoming presentation here at the conference: Bob Bloom's Drum Ride; Cabaret will be here in Ballroom and will only be amplified until 11:00 p.m.; Flutists for cabaret will meet later- please see Christine Routhier; Other raffle prizes were given out; Other announcements: Please see Annette Whitehead-Pleaux to make a short video blurb of why it is important to be a member of AMTA; Eve Montague thanked Heather Wagner for serving as our NER President; Thank you to Nancy Perkins, Conference Site "Maven", for locating this particular site for conference and all of her work in locating and negotiating conferences sites for us; Thank you to Conference Coordinators- Alden Murphy and Meg Capen; Thank you to the Conference Committee.

Heather asked for a motion to adjourn the meeting. Carylbeth Thomas made a motion to adjourn the meeting and Linda Bosse seconded the motion to adjourn. The motion carried.

The meeting adjourned at 2:05 pm.

Respectfully Submitted,
Dorothy Stapleton, MT- BC
Secretary, NER