

## DRAFT

### NER-AMTA General Membership Meeting

Zoom

Monday, October 18, 2021

President Brian Jantz called the meeting to order at 8:03 p.m.

#### 1. Welcome & Introductions

Brian thanked attendees for joining the virtual space for this meeting. He pointed out that closed captioning is available within Zoom.

Brian provided an introductory context about what has been happening with the American Music Therapy Association. In the AMTA business meeting this last Friday, there was a call for a symbolic vote: asking the membership and board members whether they feel fit to serve, whether they are acknowledging the current harmful processes and each of our parts in it, and whether the current board members and those on the ballot for the next election are reflecting fitness regarding diversity, equity, inclusion, and justice to serve on the board at this time. If they do not feel fit to serve, those members should resign. The minutes from the AMTA business meeting will be posted when they are available.

Brian pointed out that the AMTA voting period begins today and remains open until October 27. He thought about what we can do right now on our board right now and invited the current executive board, assembly, extended board to ask and reflect, are we fit to serve? Are we committed to do the work necessary to understand our own privilege and biases? Are we committed to serving in a way that values inclusivity for all of our members to have opportunities to contribute? Are we committed to making NER-AMTA an organization where all of us feel safe, heard, and valued?

Brian shared slides via Zoom that included names of the executive board, delegates, and non-voting members of the board. He pointed out several openings. Please email Brian at [president@neramta.org](mailto:president@neramta.org) if you are interested.

#### 2. Approval of Meeting Minutes

Kathlynn Sell motioned to approve the April 17, 2021 NER Day general membership meeting minutes. Wendy Krueger seconded the motion. With no discussion, the motion passed with a vote of approval, and the minutes were accepted as presented.

#### 3. Strategic Plan

Every year we have a strategic plan based on the board's goals for the year. The new plan will be put in place and shared by the end of this year. It will begin in January of 2022. Here is the strategic plan that we had in place this past year:

##### **Membership**

1. The NER will continue to address improved engagement with members and the music therapy community by:
  - a. More fully integrating and utilizing the website, social media platforms, and email as a means of communicating with members and related communities.

## **DRAFT**

- b. Encouraging greater interest in service to the profession through board, committee, and task force membership.
2. The NER will continue to actively increase membership on both the professional and student levels.
3. The NER will more fully implement its members support programs, including conference scholarship, dues assistance, and educational opportunities.

### **Financial**

1. The NER will continue to be financially solvent.
  - a. NER will continue fundraising efforts
  - b. NER will continue to hold financially responsible regional conferences.
2. The NER will explore opportunities to receive community/foundation/organizational grants that promote the work of the NER.
  - a. The NER will explore opportunities to offer clinical grants to members for program development and research.

### **Professional Issues**

1. Support state task forces.
2. The NER will provide leadership and guidance in promoting diversity and inclusion, including board membership.
3. The NER will develop a plan to provide disaster recovery check-in and practical support for music therapists who have been impacted by natural or human-made disasters.

## **4. Financial Update**

Treasurer Kari O'Briant presented the following report:

*NER Checking:* \$10,458.14

*NER Savings:* \$55,310.07

*NER-AMTAS checking:* \$1,947.84

Students continue doing incredible work managing their finances!

## **5. Membership & NER Initiates**

Mark Fuller talked about the membership support initiative. Applications open on Monday, October 25. He talked about different installment options for membership.

Please email Mark at [membership@musictherapynewengland.org](mailto:membership@musictherapynewengland.org) with any questions.

## **6. NER-AMTAS/SAAB Update**

NER-AMTAS president Toby Rodriguez presented the following report:

1. NER-AMTAS 2020-2021 regional project hosted three remote guest speakers to present on topics related to transformative justice, aligning with the theme for Passages. Each guest speaker was gifted with monetary honorariums sent to their home address.

## DRAFT

The attendance of each speaker's presentation received between seven to eighteen participants from the NE region and one other.

2. NER-AMTAS 2021-2022 regional project: NER-AMTAS presents “Stars Shine at Night” which is a 3-day weekend helping music therapy students and professionals to express their creative skills on an online platform. Each night will represent different themes. The first night is “Songwriting Night,” which will consist of original music written by those within the field. Night two represents “Solo Night,” where students and professionals perform cover music as a solo act. Lastly, night three will consist of “Ensemble Night” where students cover music as an ensemble act. Board members will reach out to music therapy professionals to ask for donations, including music therapy resource giveaway bundles. Participants will be entered into a raffle each night for a chance to receive a bundle.

### **Additions from Spring Report:**

1. NER-AMTAS held weekly and biweekly nomination meetings for students to have a chance to join the board. From May to July, new board members filled six board positions, such as the Anna Maria, Berklee, and Lesley Vice President positions, Secretary, Chair of Advocacy, and Parliamentarian were filled.
2. NER-AMTAS welcomes two new music therapy programs at Westfield State University and the University of Rhode Island. The NER-AMTAS board will host an information session about AMTA and encourage students to join the NER-AMTAS executive board. Due to the student’s schedules, the program advisors will email the board with possible dates for the information session.
3. The theme for Fall Passages 2021 is “Building Resilience: A Path Towards Unity,” which focuses on rebuilding, reconnecting, and rekindling the light throughout the music therapy community, and how we can help our clients create their own light within music.

Meredith Pizzi complemented Toby and her presentation at the Student Affairs Advisory Committee during the AMTA conference.

### **7. Regional Conference Update**

Vice President Kathlynn Sell and Vice President-Elect Mary Reinsch presented the current state of the regional conference. Currently, the NER conference is scheduled for April 7-9, 2022 in Stowe, Vermont. We have picked up the conference that was originally supposed to take place in 2020 and placed it in 2022. The call for papers and committee presentations are due on December 10.

There is currently much discussion whether the should remain as an in-person event or whether we should postpone the Stowe conference until 2023. We all want to be together in person, but there are a lot of concerns and unknowns related to the continued health crisis. These are conversations happening behind the scenes with NER board members and with AMTA. Kathlynn put a survey link into the Zoom chat for meeting attendees. Recognizing that it is very difficult to answer for the future, she asked attendees to gauge how they feel right now about having an in-person conference

## **DRAFT**

You can email Kathlynn and Mary at [neramtaconference@gmail.com](mailto:neramtaconference@gmail.com) if you have any questions or concerns.

### **8. DEI Committee Update**

Mark Fuller discussed a survey sent to membership in order to understand the current climate of our region, to understand what the role of diversity, equity, and inclusion plays within our region, and how we can work better to improve the task at hand. Mark shared results of the survey which included 36 responses, the majority being professional music therapists. Half of the respondents had been part of the region for over 12 years. Based on the results of the survey, which asked questions about the cultural competence of NER-AMTA and whether respondents have a sense of belonging in NER-ATMA, there is work that we need to put in to improve our NER-AMTA events.

The DEI Committee met and tried to figure out the next steps. How do we keep the individual voices in our community heard? What is creating a barrier for the people who are not members? How do we support our community, and how do we reach those who do not feel that there is a space to engage? Mark talked about the creation of a community advisory panel. The hope is that from this panel, they will expand the reach of NER-AMTA, identify the needs of the region, and create a strategic plan to bring to leadership.

DEI Committee is hopeful for feedback and dialogue. This is a foundation that we can build upon. If you are interested in joining the Community Advisory Panel or learning more, please email [diversityequityinclusion@neramta.org](mailto:diversityequityinclusion@neramta.org). The aim is to include all levels of music therapy students and professionals.

President Elect Wendy Kreuger spoke about the low survey number, and Michele Forinash asked for clarification about the membership/how we can get more engagement in survey participation. Wendy reported that NER-AMTA has 175 student and professional members. Therefore, 20% of the membership replied to the survey. Not only would we like to get engagement in the membership, but also people who are not currently members. The idea behind the Advisory Panel is that we are reaching into all the different areas of our region and engaging all people as much as possible. The goal is that the DEI Committee would not be deciding things on its own, but it will gather input from the voices from members and non-members to increase engagement.

### **9. DEI Committee of AMTA**

Shannon Kiley gave a report about the AMTA DEI Committee. The committee was asked to rate conference submissions and to create a DEI resource page on the AMTA website. They are working on bylaws revisions in a subcommittee to ensure that the bylaws are multiculturally sensitive and representative. There is also a subcommittee working on regional assistance to try to make sure that each region's DEI Committee is supported and has a place to come for questions. They will also be helping regions that do not yet have regional committees start them.

The DEI Committee meeting was hosted on Zoom on February 11, 2021. The report from that meeting has not yet been approved to be posted on the DEI page. They also requested

## **DRAFT**

but have not yet received approval to have a social media page. They were asked by the board of directors to review and edit the existing fact sheets for various populations on the AMTA website through a DEI lens. The chair position is currently open after previous chair, Dr. Melita Belgrave, resigned.

There is currently an allegation of plagiarism against a person on the board of directors and a few other people in AMTA. The board of directors was attempting to craft an apology letter and brought Dr. Belgrave into the letter-writing without letting her know what it was about. This was part of what led her to resign.

Last year, we voted to put a DEI seat on the board of directors to have a DEI perspective that would be a voting position on the board. It is very important that we have a DEI voice in the planning, but it feels wrong to members on the committee that anyone would step up and take over Dr. Belgrave's seat without resolving any of the issues that led to her resignation. One of the things the committee is hoping to propose is that the strategic planning be placed on hold while the membership votes on the next DEI Chair. The concern is currently the position can be filled by presidential appointment rather than by membership vote.

Michele Forinash voiced her concerns during the meeting, talking about the fight to obtain a DEI position as a voting position. She called for us as a region and as a profession to step up and stop supporting white supremacy systems that don't allow for change. There is an Assembly meeting on Wednesday. The more people we have present reiterating the importance of this point, the better. We need a voice to address this.

Joy Allen asked if it would help to have a strong statement from our region and the executive board that the DEI Chair needs to be determined by vote rather than presidential appointment.

Meredith Pizzi posed a clarification statement and question, reporting that it was voted on by the membership last year and is written in the bylaws that the DEI Chair is a voting position. She asked for clarification about the current vacant seat. Shannon reported that this position was written is an appointed position, but the committee feels strongly that it should be an elected position so the president does not select someone specifically who will simply uphold the status quo problem is a distinct reality. There are two issues at hand: making sure that the position remains a voting seat but also that it is a position filled by vote rather than by appointment.

## **10. Assembly, Standing Committee, and State Task Force Updates**

### **Assembly**

Meredith Pizzi gave an assembly report which was followed by extended discussion with meeting attendees.

She began by sharing a statement, on behalf of all the regional assembly delegates, alternates, and delegate elect members, they have taken their responsibility very seriously as they represent their regional members. She provided more context regarding what happened at

## DRAFT

the assembly meeting last Tuesday during the AMTA conference. They learned during the assembly meeting that Dr. Belgrave had resigned. Drs. Natasha Thomas and Marisol Norris and stepped down from the social justice special issue of the *Journal of Music Therapy*. AMTA President Deborah Benkovitz Williams (hereafter Deb) made hurtful statements during the meeting. When given the opportunity to apologize, she did not take responsibility for her words. She announced that at the end of her term, she would not continue on for the next two years as immediate Past-President. This position will therefore be filled via appointment. There has been a lot of communication between regional delegates across the country. If you have thoughts concerns questions, assembly members want to hear from you. You can email [assemblydelegates@musictherapynewengland.org](mailto:assemblydelegates@musictherapynewengland.org) with any of your thoughts. The assembly delegates do want to hear from you and make sure they are representing members' voices.

Meredith reported that the election is currently happening for the next AMTA board. Meredith shared links via the Zoom chat about candidate profiles.

Meredith shared that AMTA CEO Adonia Calhoun Coates is maintaining that our bylaws are in gross need of revision. We are struggling because of the systems that we have in place. Her direction is that we form a strategic plan that allows us to rewrite the bylaws to get us to a place where we can completely overhaul our governing structure. Adonia requested this year to get a sense of what was going on and try to get to know the association. Adonia has made it clear that strategic planning must happen first and then it is a governance issue. It has become clear to many that the AMTA does not have a clear mission.

Michele talked the need to have somebody who is marginalized in order to have a perspective. Shannon K. reported that among the many alarming things that Deb said during the meeting, Deb expressed that she felt that the board was qualified to carry a DEI perspective throughout the strategic planning. This speaks to the discrepancy between where the board actually is and where the board thinks that they are.

Brian shared a statement from Eve Montague, calling for transparency and a need for clear and timely communication as well as trust built on mutual respect. We are working towards the same or similar goals and we need to respect our differences, celebrating that we can be different and still achieve.

Joy highlighted that we need to make sure voices are being heard. We still have AMTA-approved schools that openly discriminate against students and faculty, and it continues to clearly violate ethics. There is not trust.

Michele added that we have to acknowledge the systemic racism that we are facing, and we must dismantle it. The New England Region must step up at the upcoming meeting on Wednesday. We need to step up and say to that we will not support racist ideas about how we run as an organization.

Sarah Pitts brought up the *Music Therapy Perspectives* special social justice issue and asked what we are doing to make sure that those editors, Drs. Sangeeta Swamy and Adenike Webb,

## DRAFT

are being supported in the ways that the JMT editors were not. Shannon K. reported that the DEI committee is working on an open letter to the board of directors expressing why an intentional pause is necessary. The goal is for this letter is to be put out before Wednesday's assembly meeting.

At this juncture, Brian asked for a motion to extend the meeting by 20 minutes. Kathlynn motioned to extend the meeting. Adrienne seconded the motion. The motion passed after a successful vote.

Tim Honig talked about the editorial board issues. His sense is that the conversation is being held until the results are made public from an ad hoc committee that was put together by the publisher.

Shannon asked whether any of the accused parties have said anything publicly. Meredith responded that AMTA President-Elect Lori Gooding stated her remarks and spoke clearly about the allegations regarding her knowledge that is an accusation of plagiarism against an article for which she was a co-author. Lori stated that it has been investigated by the University of Minnesota and it was found there was not plagiarism. However, there were written communications between the author and another scholar. The author claimed they would be citing the ideas of the other scholar, and those ideas were not ultimately cited. This was the first time that Meredith was aware of that this plagiarism issue was publicly addressed.

Tim added that Michael Silverman and Olivia Yinger have both stepped down from their roles on the editorial boards.

Meredith opened up the following questions for discussion in the meeting: should Deb step down now rather than waiting until December 31 and Should Lori Gooding step down due to the erosion of trust and the lack of transparency around all of these issues. Discussion ensued about the fitness of the leaders in our organization. Michele voiced that she feels that as a region we should send a letter demanding that Deb step down now as she has done nothing but resist any attempts to discuss racism and power in her year and eight months as being president. She feels less clear about her opinion regarding Lori.

Tim added for people who weren't in the meeting being discussed, it was important to include Adonia's comments. Adonia stated that she needs a strong board for strategic planning and that we can't have resignations for that strategic planning to go forward. Meredith offered that we advocate strongly in the letter for Deb to resign and that strategic planning should move forward without Deb and with a focus on DEI representation.

Joy asked why we are talking about resignation rather than removal. Meredith clarified that the way the bylaws are written make it complicated to talk about immediate removal.

At this juncture, Sarah motioned to extend the meeting for 30 minutes. Kathlynn seconded the motion. The motion carried and the meeting was extended.

## DRAFT

Brian spoke about the letters from regions asking Deb and potentially Lori to resign. There is also a separate, unified letter of support from all the regions to Adonia, explaining that we support her efforts and understand the position and challenges she faces. Meredith talked about expressing that we expect more communication from our national association.

Brian recapped what needs to occur with input from meeting attendees:

- Letter asking for the necessary and immediate resignation of the current AMTA president
- Concerns about the president-elect
- Informing the region and members who are not present at tonight's meeting about things that are happening
- DEI lens for strategic planning
- DEI Chair being an elected position, making any bylaws changes to make that happen
- DEI Committee feels the need to pause of the work of the committee in solidarity with Drs. Belgrave, Norris, and Thomas
- Apologize for the harm we have caused as a region
- Acknowledging our own connections for the call for reflection

### **Standards of Clinical Practice Committee**

Shannon Laine presented the following committee report:

The Standards of Clinical Practice Committee has an important update. In 2016, the SoCP questioned how to best update the standards document to ensure it represented the entire music therapy profession, not limiting it to the seven committee members' scope and experience. Another question arose as to how these standards are upheld for AMTA members, and how the Standards document can pertain to music therapy professionals who are not members of AMTA, as the document indicates that it pertains to all professional music therapists.

About the same time, the SoCP committee was charged with revising the Standards yet again, and began to research in preparation for this undertaking. The committee looked closely at the CBMT Board Certification Domains (BCDs) and found many content similarities between this document and the Standards of Clinical Practice. In 2018, a CBMT representative met with the SoCP committee and expressed concern with the Standards following BCD language, given that it is a CBMT document and would require the Standards to be updated every five years, just like the BCDs. While the SoCP committee supported the five year language renewal, the AMTA Board of Directors did not and requested that the committee hold on updating the Standards document until further notice.

After the 2018 conference meeting, the SoCP committee reviewed the AMTA and CBMT mission statements to look at how the Standards document aligned with the larger music therapy professional picture. Based on these mission statements, the committee began to research other disciplines' professional documents to see which professional body housed their standards document. In 2019, a spreadsheet was created and submitted to the AMTA board of directors. With no reply from the board, the committee was at a standstill.

## DRAFT

During the November 2020 meeting, the SoCP committee discussed the previous work and expressed the need to determine the role of how the Standards of Clinical Practice document and committee fit within the structure of AMTA. Realizing that the original SoCP document was written prior to the establishment of CBMT and unification, the committee felt strongly that a Standards document would be more properly aligned with the mission of CBMT, not AMTA. In a letter addressed to the AMTA board of directors, the SoCP questioned the role of the Standards within the AMTA structure as well as the accountability piece.

AMTA's reply came recently, in the form of an invitation to attend a portion of the strategic planning meetings in November to discuss the role of the Standards. In discussing this new update at our meeting last week (October, 2021), the SoCP committee decided that it would be best to present the AMTA board of directors with a concrete plan at this meeting. The committee felt strongly that opening up our recommendation to the greater music therapy community was important, and we all agreed to present our recommendation to the Assembly of Delegates prior to the strategic planning meeting.

The recommendation being put forth this Wednesday at the Assembly of Delegates meeting is this:

The motion is for the Assembly of Delegates to recommend to the board of directors for the dissolution of the Standards of Clinical Practice Committee, effective immediately, and the removal of the Standards of Clinical Practice document from the American Music Therapy Association website.

The intention is to open a wider conversation about *all* of the documents that represent the field of music therapy that both AMTA and CBMT publish, discuss the role and goal of these documents (both for music therapists as well as advocacy tools for the general public), and determine which organization is responsible for which documents. Given that CBMT reports over 9,000 certificates while AMTA has only 2,169 professional members, a verified Standards of Clinical Practice document would be better served for the entire music therapy profession, instead of a small portion.

There is every chance that the SoCP committee will be redefined, renamed, or reformed in some capacity, as part of a larger restructuring, and our recommendation to the greater Assembly of Delegates is the first step in this direction.

### **Continuing Education Committee**

Julie Andring reported that there are no current issues. The AMTA conference courses are online and available for another six months for registrants.

### **Academic Program Approval Committee**

Wendy presented Heather Wagner's APAC talking points:

1. APAC has, as a primary task, to approve new programs and re-approve existing academic programs:
  - At the moment there are 96 approved programs in music therapy

## **DRAFT**

- To date, in 2021, two new bachelor's degrees have been approved: BM, Austin Peay State University, TN; Biola University, CA. Three new master's programs have been approved: Duquesne University, Western Illinois University, University of Georgia
  - One new bachelor's programs and one new master's programs are under review
  - Seven reapprovals are in process
  - Overall, for the year, APAC has reviewed 15 program applications for approval or reapproval
2. Our committee work is year-round, so we have adapted our meeting schedule and processes to better address ongoing needs.
  3. Guidelines for University Affiliated Internship Guidelines have been approved. There will be a webinar available on the AMTA- APAC committee webpage. The purpose of these Guidelines is to support program directors in knowing what structures to implement and support, to clarify roles for supervisors, and to provide clarity and protections for students.

### **Workforce Development and Retention Committee**

Sarah Gagnon presented the following report:

WDR committee is scheduled to meet 10/23/2021. WDR continues to work on ongoing tasks and created three subcommittees this fall for tasks. Updates to be reported upon completion of meeting.

WDR hosted a virtual session for prospective students on 10/16/2021 at 3pm, "insight into the Music therapy Profession." Special thanks to panelists: Brianne Weaver, Dawn Thompson, Shayna Eagle, and Wiley Smith. The recording can be found at <https://fb.watch/8JD9tTcX1I/>

The WDRC survey can be found and continuously accessed here: [https://www.musictherapy.org/invitation to wdrc survey/](https://www.musictherapy.org/invitation%20to%20wdrc%20survey/)

### **Professional Advocacy Committee**

Maggie Connors submitted the following talking points:

The committee continues to evaluate representations of music therapy in various media and the public. The committee compiles and maintains a resource file of various instances of misrepresentation and advocacy support provided to members. To assist us in collecting this data, we encourage members to reach out to us through our advocacy email that can be found on the AMTA website ([amtaprofessionaladvocacy@gmail.com](mailto:amtaprofessionaladvocacy@gmail.com)), or through our Facebook page. You can also reach out to your regional representative to receive consultation about education and advocacy issues.

The committee has a private Facebook group that has a variety of advocacy resources, including recorded presentations, readings, and blogs that help educate on advocacy. One of our current initiatives is a bi-weekly engagement with members on our Facebook page

## **DRAFT**

providing guidance for advocacy issues including burnout, practicing growth mindedness, and strategies for interacting with the public.

The committee has provided several regional and national advocacy related presentations to disseminate committee information and on gaining public support of music therapy.

We have recently had several members transition off the committee and we would like to acknowledge the work of Kalani Das, Jessica DeVillers, and Sharon Graham. We would like to thank them for their service to the organization and wish them well in their future endeavors. We welcome Kaitlin Ridgway from GLR and we continue to have openings in the Western and South-Eastern Regions. If you have interest in serving on our committee, please reach out to the president of your region for more information.

### **Government Relations Committee**

Nicole O'Malley submitted the following report:

#### **Summary:**

State task force groups/chairs remain diligent in their efforts to support state specific efforts. Covid-19 continues to impact legislation based on statewide priority and areas of need. All states remain active in advocacy efforts and have maintained exemplary leadership and navigation during Covid. Active legislation and/or discussion of next steps for active legislation encompassing music therapy has occurred in EVERY STATE in New England this legislative session.

As additional states in New England engage in and pass legislation, Hill Days and Legislative recognition ceremonies become of increasing importance. Determining an assumable process for follow up with legislation and Hill Days (potentially that correspond with regional conferences) will be essential in maintaining momentum in all states. Support from other regions and national team will be helpful in determining next steps as our region moves forward with these initiatives.

#### **Connecticut:**

Inclusion in telehealth legislation and will explore additional opportunities.

#### **Maine:**

ME is exploring legislative options specific to music therapy in education.

#### **Massachusetts:**

National team is communicating with all MA MT-BCs to offer advocacy opportunities and help strategize next steps for the MA State Task Force. Increased interest in Massachusetts!

#### **New Hampshire:**

Music therapy was included as a part of an omnibus bill for occupational licensure in the senate. Bill was voted down after a lengthy discussion about music therapy increasing awareness of MT in New Hampshire! Reasons included:

1. "music therapists already have a certification with regulations to follow - I don't see a need for a license"

## DRAFT

2. "music therapists no doubt provide valuable therapy but I have a hard time seeing how they could do any harm and it's our job to protect the public from harm"
3. "there's just no real need for it."

This bill did not move forward and next steps are being considered.

### **Rhode Island:**

Music therapy was included in legislation introduced in the house and senate that "designates physical, occupational, speech, and music therapies and behavioral health services as essential special services to be provided to students with disabilities during times of a declared emergency." RI is also continuing with RI Arts and Health Network and additional policy to aid in increasing access to MT. RI current has policy for early intervention and adult services as well as one hospital system. RI needs additional policy in education and mental health.

### **Vermont:**

Vermont has submitted an extremely comprehensive Sunrise Review and is looking at language with art therapists.

Nicole also submitted the following talking points:

- Congratulations to the IA State Task Force as music therapy title protection was signed into law on May 20, 2021. This law requires all music therapists in the state to hold the MT-BC credential.
- Congratulations to the MD State Task Force as a music therapy license was signed into law on June 2, 2021. This license will be overseen by the newly expanded Board of Audiologists, Hearing-Aid Dispensers, Speech-Language Pathologists, and Music Therapists.
- Virtual Hill Days, advocacy trainings, legislative visits, committee hearing testimony, and/or state agency meetings/outreach occurred in 23 states this year (CO, IA, IL, IN, KY, MD, ME, MO, MN, NC, NE, NH, NJ, NY, OH, OR, PA, RI, SC, TX, VT, WA, and WY).
- We anticipate at least 15 states will introduce state recognition legislation in 2022.
- The national team presented a virtual 2021 Inaugural Music Therapy Advocacy Symposium: "Advocacy from the Inside Out" on September 11, 2021 for State TF Members, GRC Members, Reimbursement Committee Members, and PAC Members.
- The national team will staff a joint AMTA and CBMT exhibit during the National Conference of State Legislators (NCSL) Conference, November 2nd – 4th.
- Allied Health Professionals Week is scheduled for November 7th – 13th. AMTA is involved in this event as a Health Professions Network (HPN) Board Member and Chair of the HPN Advocacy Committee.
- Through active membership in multiple national coalitions, AMTA continues to contribute to federal healthcare and special education policy issues raised in Congress and through federal agencies.
- The 2021 National Arts Action Summit (Arts Advocacy Day) was held virtually in April. AMTA was a national partner for this event and served on the legislative planning committee. Information about the 2022 Arts Action Summit will be posted on the AMTA website in the new year.

## DRAFT

### **Continuing Education Committee**

Amanda Roepell submitted the following talking points:

- 23 CMTE add-on courses were offered this conference
- Number of concurrent courses: More than 100!
- Spring regional conference offerings: Currently, four regions are offering virtual conferences for 2021 (this may need updating during our meeting)
  - Midwest: Virtual
  - Great Lakes: In-person, Minneapolis
  - Mid-Atlantic: In-person, Harrisburg
  - Western: In-person, Seattle
  - New England: In-person
  - Southeastern: Virtual
  - Southwestern: Unknown
- The CEC continues to address and implement solutions regarding disability accessibility of courses

### **11. Good and Welfare**

Shannon Laine: Manchester Community School is hiring. Contact her with anyone who may be interested.

Michele Forinash: Expressing hope that AMTA can pull us out of our current funk. We are in a position of transition. Hopefully if we all work together, we can move AMTA into a new future.

Shannon Kiley: Connecticut has its first music therapy program at Southern Connecticut State University. They are currently hiring a full-time professor for a Fall 2022 start.

Caryl Beth Thomas: Three weeks ago, one of the long-standing members of our music therapy community passed away very quickly: Fred Silverstone. Fred was an incredibly wonderful human being who was still working at McLean Hospital. Fred was a very foundational in our field and our region, and we honor his memory.

### **12. Adjournment**

Caryl Beth entertained a motion to adjourn the meeting. Wendy seconded the motion. With no discussion and a vote of approval, the motion passed. The meeting was adjourned at 10:29 p.m.

Respectfully submitted,  
Cecilia Burns, MMT, MT-BC  
Secretary, NER-AMTA