



{ *Ontario Chapter* }

General Meeting:

7 May, 9:00am; Geiger Torel Room, Faculty of Music, University of Toronto, Toronto, ON

MINUTES

1. Call to Order
2. Welcome, Opening Remarks: Barbara Dunn-Prosser
3. Approval of the Minutes: submitted by Michelyn Wright – Linda Condy, Catherine Robbin, 2nd

IN ATTENDANCE:

Michelyn Wright
Barbara Dunn-Prosser
James Mclean
Shannon Coates
Kimberly Barber
Lorna MacDonald
Tannis Fast Vetter

Linda Condy
Alison Moodie
Catherine Robbin
Brooke Dufton
Sasha Tait Liebich
Amanda Brunk

4. REPORTS FROM OFFICERS

4.1 Barbara Dunn-Prosser (District Governor)

- Discussed changes for the NATS Auditions
- As regulations were in flux the executive decided not to implement these changes at the 2015 Auditions @ Wilfrid Laurier University
- Feb 27, 2016 Western University hosted the NATS Regional Auditions where the new regulations were used
- Barbara asks everyone to read the regulations:
<http://www.nats.org/nsaresources.html>
- A survey will be chimp mailed out to the membership in the summer asking whether or not we wish to adopt these new regulations or go in a different direction and choose a new “title” for our Chapter Auditions

4.15 Elizabeth McDonald (President) read by Barbara Dunn-Prosser

Presidents Report – May 7, 2016

It has been an honour and a pleasure to serve the NATS Ontario community these past three years. I am sorry I could not be with you today but as I pass the torch, I wanted to provide a brief report from the President.

2014 saw the beginning of sweeping changes brought down from the NATS National Office that included the centralization of chapter membership dues collections, the elimination of the a district round for the NATSAA competition, and changes to NATS Auditions protocol at the chapter level and beyond. All of these changes had substantive effects on our chapter and forced our executive to spend a great deal of energy managing these changes. In all of this, there was regular communication with other Canadian NATS Chapter presidents discussing the ramifications on our Canadian membership. I know that our local members have also brought forward questions and concerns. We have continued to communicate with NATS National about the need for regular discourse with the Canadian membership and hopefully as more Canadians become active on the Regional and National level, we will have better and more frequent discussions.

Because so much time and energy was spent on managing these changes, I was not able to spend any time in my terms of office on looking to the future for US – NATS Ontario. As a new president steps into this leadership role, I have begin to plan a transition day for new executive members as well as a brain storm day to start a discussion on what the future of NATS Ontario can and should be. Some of that will come from the Auditions survey that Barbara will discuss and some will come from the many emails I have received during my three years. I encourage those of you who have not reached out, to do so now. The question – what role does NATS Ontario play in the voice studios of Ontario teachers and how do we fulfill that – is the start of the conversation.

On the “day to day” business front, I have continued to use MailChimp service as the main source of communication for newsletters and announcements. This service is free and while we only have 100 members, we have over 230 people on our email list so our information is getting out there – hopefully we can continue to refine the use of this service and our website to maximize our reach to more members.

In closing, I want to extend a warm and generous thank you to Lindsay Isaac who will be stepping down from the role of website manager. Lindsay has been a wonderful steward of our website communications and I am personally so grateful for her time and energy! The website will now be managed by the President with assistance as necessary.

And finally, I want to thank all of the fabulous people who have served on the executive for the past 3 years – Alison, James, Shannon, Kimberly, Jackie, Bethany, Linda and Brooke, to our District Governor Barbara Dunn Prosser, and to our ex officio Auditions team - Michelyn and now Bethany for all your tireless work on auditions – Thank you!

4.2 Shannon Coates (VP Membership)

- Current Membership 130 as of March 31st
- 10 brand new members – WELCOME!

Lisa Cosens Brillon
Susan Gudgeon
Irena Hernandez
Nikki Loney (The Full Voice)
Marc McNamara
Katherine Napiwotzki
Erin Puttee
Breanne Rourke
Charlene Santoni
Rachel Schwarz
Amy Stevenson
Jennifer Swanson
Alison Taylor
M.J. Johnson

- 30 new members last year added, is attributed to the new central payment action
- 25 unpaid members
- Shannon will be devoting more time to the Legacy Page of our website
- Recognizing our founding members:

Henriette Asch
Bernard Diamant
Ginette Duplessis
Inna Golsband
Judy Harmsworth
Joan Heels
Jennifer Higgin
Ingemar Korjus
Paul Massel
Jean MacPhail
Lois McDonall
Jane McGall
Mary Morrison
William (Bill) Neill
Elizabeth Neufeld
Alvin Reimer
Roxolana Roslak
Helen Simmie
Tannis Fast Vetter

4.3 Brooke Dufton (Treasurer)

- Accounts review of financial statement, fully balanced
- Total Cash assets \$1700
- Investments \$110 – up \$100
- Reminder that that only 12 people gave donations to the Scholarship Fund for the Chapter Auditions
- 181 students received scholarships of \$1950
- Joan Heels Foundation donated \$1000 of that money
- Suggestion that we encourage more members to donate to the scholarship fund
- Move to approve the budget report: Linda Condy

4.4 Alison Moodie & James McLean (VP Special Projects)

- Due to illness Bernard Turgeon cancelled for this Spring Workshop
- Alison managed to secure Peggy Baroody last minute and we are very lucky and happy to have her
- After 3 terms Alison is stepping down and was Thanked heartily by the membership for her time
- Many have been questioning the fees for Workshops/Professional Development
- \$1500 for room rental
- \$20 a head for the food
- Linda Condy and Amanda Brunk felt the cost \$45 was a steal
- James said the Recruitment Fair at the Chapter Auditions changed this past fall
- U of T/Western/Laurier were represented
- Added COSI/Joan Heels: Sight Singing for Success/Plangere
- Will add more small tables next year for groups such as: Singers Theatre/Bicycle Opera/Long Reach Opera
- He asks anyone that wishes to have a table and have their group/summer program represented at Western next Fall to please get in touch with him
- There are no fees for vendors

4.5 Michelyn Wright (Auditions Report for Beth Horst)

- Very successful Chapter Auditions/Thanks to Wilfrid Laurier University and onsite Coordinator Kim Barber
- Beth Horst's first year as Auditions Coordinator was exceptionally smooth and well executed! Brava!
- 216 applicants/44 teachers/25 pianists
- Very Successful Regional Auditions/Thanks to Western University and onsite coordinators Barbara Dunn-Prosser and Beth Horst
- November 19, 2016 – Western University - Fall Chapter Auditions

4.6 SNATS Chapter Updates

Stephanie Higgins (University of Toronto SNATS)

- Annual Blood Drive in memory of Lynn Blaser was a success – Sept. 25th, 2015
- Diane Nelsen has donated her entire library of scores and texts to U. of T. SNATS
- After cataloguing this immense gift they will hold a silent auction in the fall of 2016

- Held a Benefit Concert at Timothy Eaton memorial Church with Undergraduates and Graduate students
- Are adding opera and Undergraduate liaison representatives to the executive
- Upcoming 4th Annual Vocal Health and Pedagogy Symposium – May 15, 2016
- There will be presentations from Doctorial students, interactive workshops and learn to Adjudicate workshops

Amanda Brunk (Laurier SNATS)

- 18 members
- Created a Master Class series
- 2 past executive members: Tammy Whetham & Amie Debrone gave a CCM Master Class
- Michelyn Wright gave a Children and Teenagers Master Class
- Stephanie Rottenberg gave a belt and MT Master Class
- They will host another scholarship Fund Concert in the Fall 2016
- Working on helping transitioning the SNATS members to full NATS Ontario members

Laura Duffy (Western SNATS)

- This is a brand new SNATS Chapter that started in fall 2015
- Selected an executive and helped to host the NATS Regionals
- Workshop was given by Barbara Dunn-Prosser on the differences between Adjudicating Festivals and Examining for the RCM
- Mock Jury Event was hosted to give feedback before juries

5. New Business

5.1 Barbara Dunn-Prosser (Executive Elections)

- Acclaimed positions are as follows:
- President – Shannon Coates (1st Term)
- VP Special Events – James McLean (2nd Term)
- VP Special Events – Kimberly Barber (1st Term)
- VP Membership – Amanda Brunk (1st Term)
- Treasurer – Lisa Brillion(1st Term)
- Secretary – Beth Horst(2nd Term)
- Executive at Large – Charlene Pauls(1st Term)
- Executive at Large – Marnie Kersten(1st Term)
- Executive at Large – Denise Williams(1st Term)
- Motion approved: Linda Condy, 2nd Lorna Mac Donald – none opposed
- Congratulations to our new Executive!

5.2

- Call for any other new business
- No one offered any

6. Adjournment

- Motion by Linda Condy
- Followed by Workshops with Peggy Baroody