

Minutes for October 18, 2015

Suzuki Association of Indiana Board Meeting

Held at the Evans Home, Bloomington at 7:00 p.m.

Those in attendance were:

Liz Efroymsen-Brooks - president

Dawn Evans – vice president

Jillian Chrisman – secretary

Sarah Pearce (via skype)

Emilie Grondin (via skype)

Prior to the meeting Diana Hummel, treasurer, had sent an email that she was ill. Later that evening, Joyce Davis, also sent an email that she had missed the meeting due to illness.

By-Laws

At the annual meeting it was voted on and approved to have a president-elect and president and that the out-going president not be on the board for one year. Dawn led the following discussion as she had researched the SAA's by-laws.

Vacancies

Dawn mentioned that our by-laws have nothing regarding handling vacancies. SAA has a section under officers that a vacancy may be filled by a majority vote of the board of directors at the time needed. Dawn stated that we need to add this.

Consecutive terms for both secretary and treasurer

Dawn noted that the SAA Secretary can serve two consecutive terms. She recommended that we consider both the secretary and treasurer being able to serve two consecutive terms if this is agreeable to the group. Jillian said, as far as she was concerned, that either way would be fine. She'd enjoy coaching someone into the secretarial role, or enjoy a second term.

Number of Board Meetings

Dawn also noted that a specific number of board meetings is not reflected in our by-laws. Our by-laws note the annual meeting but no other meetings. We agreed that at least board 3 meetings annually should be conducted and that this be reflected in the by-laws.

Honorary Members have voting rights

Dawn mentioned two issues regarding honorary board members – (1) that honorary members may be nominated and voted on by the board and (2) that they have voting rights.

We need to vote on the above additions to the by-laws. Liz proposed we do this vote by email.

Treasurer's Report – will be given via email at a later date when Diana feels better

Suzuki T-shirts & ordering

Liz will cover the rest of t-shirt orders so we can meet the minimum of 24 shirts ordered. Jillian sent out a final email just prior to the board meeting asking everyone to order by tomorrow (Monday) at noon.

State Fall Play-Ins

North – Emilie reported that October is filled with Notre Dame football and fall breaks. Liz suggested scheduling a play-in during November – as she and Jillian noted the difficulties of October because of fall breaks. Liz mentioned that the fall play-ins are a great way to reach out and invite those who are outside our circle of consistent contact.

Central – Liz and Jillian are leading the charge with the central play-in scheduled for Nov 1st at the Artsgarden downtown. Call time is 1:30, playing starts at 2:00 p.m. Liz asked Jillian to find leaders for the violin repertoire and she agreed.

South – Sarah reported they had a picnic. We met at one of our family's home and we had a cake, sang happy 117th to Dr. Suzuki. The kids played games in the yard and parents talked in the house. They enjoyed BBQ and side dishes.

New Business

Possible Group Associate Memberships for studios/academies

The discussion of group SAI association member rates, led by Liz, for studios small and large, took place. Dawn stated that research needs to be done on this. Liz said the goal is not to limit but to expand. Studio teachers would need to be active SAI members in order to qualify for the group rate for their students. Then studio teacher disseminates SAI info to said group associate members. This saves SAI coordination efforts in regards to associate membership list, contacting and monies. The group associate rate can be considerably less. Liz and Dawn will research this idea and see what other groups are doing. Jillian stated that we do not want to shoot ourselves in the financial foot. Liz mentioned that money is not our goal. Dawn mentioned that money is needed to fund SAI activities.

Finance Committee

Finance committee needs to meet and talk about finances regarding play-ins and membership development. Finance committee members are Liz, Emilie and Diana.

Member Highlight. Liz suggested calling and interviewing a member once a month or so and do an interview. Then she could do a write up for the e-newsletter.

Process of nominating Board Members

Nominations may be made at any time. The opportunity for discussion needs to occur. A vote may be taken at a later date via email. Liz nominates Emily Thompson.

Possible New Honorary Board Member & Board Member responsibilities/expectations

Liz requested that Jillian send a newsletter to Glen Kwok and ask him to be an honorary member. Jillian responded that we need to write out the expectations of honorary board members. Jillian mentioned she is uncomfortable with asking someone if there are no expectations set. Expectations will give the potential honorary board member an idea of what he or she is signing up for and the ability to carefully consider the position. After some discussion those present agreed that an honorary board member's greatest assets are (1) to share ideas, (2) to provide input, and (3) once a year – attend a one hour board meeting in person or via skype.

SAA Affiliate paperwork

Paperwork is due at the end of this month (Oct 31) to SAA and we need to turn in our current by-laws. So we need to vote on the above additions soon.

Annual meeting for 2016

Emilie mentioned about hosting the annual meeting and possible dates. It will be either July 9th OR 16th.

Respectfully Submitted,

Jillian Chrisman
SAI Secretary