

Suzuki Association of Indiana 2016 Secretarial Report

February 7, 2016 Board Meeting Those in attendance: Jillian, Liz, Dawn, Joyce, Emilie, Sarah, Maria

Association Fees: It was proposed that studios pay a studio group rate to cover all their students so they could automatically be members of SAI. This would increase associate memberships but create less revenue. U of E is unable to add this group rate to their tuition fee. Jillian agreed to research the idea. Here is a summary of her report:

I have emailed or talked with every affiliate chapter except South Carolina and Washington

I had hoped to find the wheel already invented, so to speak, in regards to associate membership recruitment and monies. Instead, I found that most affiliate chapters struggle with or are not currently focused on associate memberships. The associate membership numbers are generally low across the board. There were, however, a variety of ways in which each affiliate collected the membership fees.

The question that ALWAYS came up was, "What are we offering the Associate Member so that they are getting value for their membership dollars spent?" I believe we need to develop this thought. There was another reoccurring theme and that was Graduation Recitals. This seemed to be a big draw for the associate memberships.

I believe it may be a good idea to ask our studio families what they want from SAI. From there we can see how we can serve them and how we can become valuable to them as future associate members.

The importance of having association memberships was discussed. Having associate members helps us to connect with the families we teach and provide a larger Suzuki community for them. Their membership is also a way to show their support for their teacher and SAI's efforts in providing community. It was decided we need to make SAI more family friendly, inviting them to the 2nd part of the annual meeting.

It was proposed to send SAI president-elect to the **leadership retreat**. This is expensive, perhaps we can help with costs. Emily Thompson was voted in as **new board member**

Annual meeting date was determined with Emilie Grondin as our host.

By-laws need to be clearly understood for election process (this was accomplished)

Website needs to be better. SAI newsletter should not be on it as that is a part our membership. This topic is fully discussed in the June 2015 minutes, so please review those minutes.

October Board meeting

Those in attendance were: Liz, Dawn, Jillian, Sarah, Emilie

By-laws – We voted to have a **president elect** and that the outgoing president not be on the board for one year. It was voted that both **secretary and treasurer may serve two consecutive terms** (a term being 2 years). We agreed to have **3** board meetings a year. It was agreed to vote on (1) **Honorary members** may be nominated and voted on by the board and (2) that they have **voting rights**.

T-shirts were ordered and sold in rainbow colors with our logo and the words Suzuki Association of Indiana.

Fall Play-ins: Liz and Jillian led the central play-in with help from other teachers. Southern Indiana met at a family's home for a meal and cake. Northern Indiana struggled with Notre Dame football & fall break and did not hold a play-in.

Possible **group associate memberships** for studios/academies was proposed by Liz, saying the goal is not to limit but expand. It will also save SAI coordination efforts with contacts and money. However, it was recognized that this will reduce income which is needed to fund activities. (We recently, with Emily's expertise, have acquired a google account so co-ordination efforts will be simpler.

Finance Committee: Liz, Emilie & Diana

It was discussed to have a **member highlight** (Linda Kummernuss was highlighted)

Honorary Board Members responsibilities/expectations 1. To share ideas 2 to provide input 3. Attend a board meeting once a year.