



Suzuki Association of Indiana Board Meeting  
October 16, 2016  
Chrisman home via Skype

Those present: Liz Efroymson, president; Jillian Chrisman, secretary;  
Maria Mastropaolo, co-treasurer; Sarah Pearce, co-treasurer;  
Emilie Grondin, president elect; Emily Thompson, website and newsletter;  
Diana Hummel, and Joyce Davis

**Treasurers Report:** Since July, expenses have been \$156.35, income (membership fees) has been \$905.00. Current Balance is \$4,150.96. Savings account has \$5.00

Liz is preparing the **annual report** to send to SAA that is due at the end of October. She will include the current list of SAI teacher members (we have 34) and the annual budget. She wondered if the annual budget to SAA was to be from January to January, or by our fiscal year which is July – July. No one knew. She will contact SAA and ask them. Jillian suggested that Diana (former treasurer) send Maria and Sarah her treasurer reports dating back (to July 2015) to cover either time frame. Currently Liz and Emilie G. are working on a budget.

**Regional Play-Ins:** Liz asked the others about regional play-ins. She noted on the annual budget that \$50.00 is allotted (per region) for the pianist and \$50.00 is allotted (per region) for refreshments. It was agreed that each region, upon providing receipts, can be reimbursed up to, but not more than, \$100.00.

**Donations to SAI:** Emily T. stated that she can add a donation button on the SAI website but we'll need a Pay Pal account. Someone (?) also suggested we would need a Security Certificate. It was determined that a Security Certificate costs \$50.00 annually. Emilie G. asked Emily T. if she can work on the Security Certificate and Emily T. agreed she could. Emily T. reiterated that people can still send in cash or checks by mail if they wish. Maria and Sarah stated that this is really the way to go as this is the current way groups conduct business. All others present agreed. Sarah (?) googled the Pay Pal rate. It is 2.9% + .30 (cents) per transaction. For our \$20.00 membership the transaction fee would be .88 cents. After a brief conversation, it was agreed that .88 cents was worth the convenience of transacting business on-line and operating by snail mail (stamp, envelope, and time) probably wasn't much cheaper.

**Vote:** Jillian motioned to adopt Pay Pal and have it added to our website for donation and membership purposes. Maria seconded the motion. All answered Yea.

After further discussion it was agreed to raise our membership (both associate and teachers) by \$1.00.

**Vote:** Liz made the motion that we raise both membership fees by \$1.00. (?) seconded the motion and all others answered Yea.

**Donation to SAA:** Vote: Jillian made a motion that we donate \$100.00 to SAA. The motion was seconded by Emilie G. It was agreed by all present to send SAA a \$100.00 donation. SAA is currently running a donation drive for Dr. Suzuki's birthday. Each contributor will appear on a layer of the birthday cake pictured on SAA's email donation drive attachment. It's a very cute idea, Jillian added.

**Secretarial report:** Jillian read the minutes of the July 9, 2016 meeting (our 5<sup>th</sup> annual meeting!)

Discussions from this reading centered around the financial question as to how much we should put into the savings account and how much into the checking account. Jillian wondered what is the standard practice? Maria and Sarah googled this. Sarah read on line that it is generally good to have 3-6 months of expenses in savings. Then she found on line that charities (non-profit organizations such as SAI) should have no more than two years of operating expenses in savings. It was agreed by all present to put \$1,000.00 into the savings account.

Also, honorary member's expectations were reviewed in the minutes. It was discussed to invite our two honorary members to the annual meeting this summer since they are both in Evansville and that is to be the location of this summer's annual meeting.

**Website update:** Jillian mentioned that since the annual meeting, Emily T. has done fantastic work on developing a website and asked Emily T. to give an informal report. Liz agreed saying it looked great. Emily T. began with saying it still needs to be more visual and will start putting on photos/pics. She has sent out an email requesting photos to be sent to our association email address which is [indianasuzuki@gmail.com](mailto:indianasuzuki@gmail.com). She also requested that all event information be sent to her as soon as possible so that she can keep the website updated. The teacher listing page currently has the names of all the teachers. Eventually you'll be able to click on a name and it will take you to that teacher's personal page with the information and pictures the teacher has provided. As far as website cost, Emily T. believes that the annual cost will be less than \$150.00. Since she has shared hosting, as she has other websites, she will determine our portion of cost.

**Newsletter:** The newsletter has been handed over by Rachel Gries to Emily Thompson. Our condolences, prayers and thoughts go out to Rachel in the passing of her sister-in-law. Emily T. stated that we need to get everyone to sign the waiver for pictures to be posted. The newsletter is to go out each July, October, January and April. Because the July newsletter came out late, it was agreed that the next newsletter be sent out at the end of November.

**Leadership Retreat Fund:** Liz reiterated that she wants to help provide funds for Emilie G. to go to the leadership retreat. Maria added that such a retreat costs over \$1,000.00. Maria and Liz asked Emilie G. to check into the cost of this retreat.

Liz was pleased that we had 5 more teacher members than last year on the annual report to SAA. Jillian mentioned that she'd like to encourage teacher membership growth in the Ft. Wayne area and asked if anyone had connections there. Sarah had taught at their workshop and will consider ways to connect with them. Jillian mentioned to Liz that teacher member, Joe Kalisman, is in the Ft Wayne area and that it might be nice to connect with him as well.

Liz will send out the current teacher membership list to everyone.

Jillian mentioned that we all (including herself) need to build associate memberships and send the google application for membership to the families. Liz mentioned she would eventually like the associate membership funds be used as scholarships for the students – which should encourage membership.

Respectfully submitted,

Jillian Chrisman  
SAI Secretary