RMTA Meeting Minutes May 16, 2023

On May 16, 2023 at 10:00 A.m., the Rome Music Teachers Association held its annual spring meeting. Teachers in attendance were Jerico Vasquez, Jordan Walker, Amy Neal, Kyla Zollitsch, Sandy Yeargan, Christina Toole, Missy Schmidt, Leigh Roberson, and Shelley Reid. Christina Toole called the meeting to order at 10:07 A.M.

The minutes from the August 2022 meeting were read by Shelley. Kyla approved the minutes as read, Jordan seconded the approval.

New officers were then voted in for the coming year. The new slate of officers is

President - Shelley Reid

Vice president – Jordan Walker

Secretary – Amy Neal

Treasurer – Kyla Zollitsch

It was discussed that the secretary position will also include publicity, such as sending information to the newspaper for publication. Missy made a motion to approve the new officers and Sandy seconded the motion.

Next, Kyla read the treasurer's report. The balance in the checking account is around \$1830. The balance in the scholarship account is \$2031.39. The scholarship account earned a whole dollar in interest! Christina made a motion to allow Kyla to research banks that offer a higher interest rate. Amy seconded the motion. Jerico suggested the possibility of a CD.

Kyla made a suggestion of possibly of changing our Christmas on the Keys donation to a different charity since we no longer hold the event at Floyd Hospital. This can be discussed at the August meeting.

The calendar of events for 2023-24 was discussed.

August 27 – Membership meeting (location TBA)

September 24 – Shorter University Hymn Festival

- October 22 Fall Recital @ Shorter University 2:30 Pm. Chair: Jordan Walker/deadline Oct.9
- November 2-4 GMTA conference @ Shorter University
- November 12 Jazz/Pop Competition @ Shorter University Chairs: Leigh and Missy/deadline Oct. 30 Fee: \$20
- December 2 Christmas on the Keys @ The Spires Chairs: Kyla and Shelley/deadline Nov. 1 Fee \$20
- January 27 Junior Festival @ Berry College Chair: Gina
- January 25-27 GMEA conference
- March 24 Spring Competition/20th century music @ Shorter University Chairs: Amy and Jerico/deadline March 11 Fee: \$20
- May TBA Guild
- May TBA Spring business meeting

Next, we discussed raising the fee on the spring competition because we always spend more than we make. Jerico made a motion to raise the price to \$25. Amy seconded the motion. All agreed.

Theory tests were then discussed. Amy will chair the GMTA and Gate theory tests. The spring deadline Jan 15 and the test must be given by Feb. 26. Amy, Christina, Missy, and Jerico are interested.

Jerico is interested in local GMTA auditions. We discussed doing the auditions and the theory test on the same day. Amy will look into doing the auditions/testing on Feb. 25 and immediately sending the scores and ratings. The MTNA conference is March 16-20 in Atlanta. Several members want to carpool to the conference.

Christina reminded us that MTNA dues must be renewed by June 30.

We then discussed the GMTA conference at Shorter on November 2-4.

We need to set a budget. Since we are not having a workshop, Christina suggested that we apply our guest speaker money to the conference . GMTA will reimburse us \$125 for drinks and snacks and provide coffee and paper products. (Update: GMTA can no longer supply these products so they will reimburse us \$250 in order to cover these products.) We will have a hospitality table set up in Eubanks. Water, coffee, granola bars, individual packs of cookies/crackers. Sandy suggested writing to Kelloggs and asking for donations. It was also suggested that we ask Chic Fil A and Sam's Club for donations. We can store items in Amy's office at Shorter. We will have a sign up sheet for members to come and restock tables. We will need volunteers to pick up items. Shorter will handle the goodie bags and RMTA will handle hospitality. Homemade items are preferred for snacks. Our biggest purchase will be Swift and Finch coffee. We will ask Kathryn to handle that.

Amy and Jerico will get Shorter swag for the goodie bags. Amy will ask Pianoworks for bags. Derek, at Piano Works, usually provides post-its. Kyla will get swag from City of Rome. Shorter students will stuff the bags. We should plan for 150 goodie bags.

Christina then informed us of a piano music database of public domain music that she and some colleagues are developing. This website allows teachers to search for music based on the needs of teachers. Information can include videos, excerpts of music, and difficulty level. Teachers can't purchase music on the website, but it allows teachers to search what they need. The web address is Pianomusicdatabase.com

The meeting was adjourned at 11:02 A.m.

Leigh brough sandwiches from Honey Baked Ham for lunch