

LRMTA Minutes, January 9th 2017, Long and McQuade

Christine called the meeting to order at Long and McQuade. There were 5 members present: Christine Rogers, Linda Dickey, Betty Jo Radley, Marilyn Sinclair and Lorrie Wittke.

The agenda was approved by Linda with Betty Jo seconding. The November minutes were approved as circulated by Marilyn, seconded by Linda.

Christine gave the Treasurer's report in Karen's absence. Our current operating balance is \$696.21. Our projected awards account balance once all cheques have cleared is \$2012.33. Christine and Karen will be meeting to update the books this coming week. Cheques will be written for the AAC renewal fee of \$75, the Kiwanis Festival awards \$100 contribution, and reimbursements for copies and the website domain renewal through HostGator. The report was moved by Christine and seconded by Linda.

Official notice of the motion to change our fiscal year to August 1st to July 31st at our Annual General Meeting in April was sent out by email.

Christine gave the ARMTA report prepared by Karen in her absence. A decision regarding SOCAN has been made. We will wait for further information to see how this will affect our branch. ARMTA will celebrate Canada's 150th Birthday and ARMTA's 85th anniversary by commissioning six works for students referencing Canadian Folk Songs. ARMTA will make a one-time \$3000 donation to fill the gap for the CFMTA Piano Competition resulting from the withdrawal of the support of the insurance company who previously sponsored these awards.

Tentative plans are set for the workshop with Magda Adamek on Monday, May 8th, 2017 from 10:00 a.m. to 12:00 noon. The U of L Conservatory will provide Stephure Hall at Casa free of charge. We will combine the workshop date with our monthly RMT meeting time. We will have a short RMT business meeting at 9:30 a.m. before the workshop starts at 10:00 a.m. Other teachers from the community will be invited to the workshop. From 10:00 to 11:00, Magda will present her first topic in a lecture/demonstration format: developing a sense and awareness of piano tone in young players. From 11:00 to 12:00, the second topic—collaborative piano playing. If we can get 2 performer groups (piano duos, piano/voice, piano/violin, or other combinations) with students who would be able to get out of school, Magda will present this second topic in a masterclass format. **If you have piano duos (or trios!) that might be available for this, please check into it and let Christine know!** Magda has also offered to do private lessons after lunch at the charge of \$60 an hour. Stephure at Casa is available. Christine will continue with finalizing arrangements and keep teachers posted. ARMTA has granted us a \$250 continuing education grant.

We will have the upstairs Public Library Showcase available for our Branch Display in September 2017. The bookings are offered by the Library and arranged by the Allied Arts Council.

Our next coffee and conversation is set for Thursday, January 19th, at 9:30 a.m. at Linda Davies' home at 1260-5th Ave. S. (Not 5A). Please call Betty Jo at 329-1655 or Linda at 328-6085 to let them know if you will be attending.

Christine has renewed the website domain through HostGator for another year.

Check out the website for updates and information regarding upcoming events and meetings at www.lrmta.com

After discussion, Betty Jo moved that we move forward with an ad in the Kiwanis Festival program to attract new teachers to LRMTA. Seconded by Linda. Carried. The ad will cost \$125 and there will be a

\$25 fee for Stephanie Shank to finalize the design for us. Christine will make arrangements. Christine will also look into having our logo enhanced for display on a retractable banner. She will bring back details to the members.

Our next recital will be Saturday, March 18th at 2:30 p.m. in the Library Theatre Gallery. Lorrie Wittke will be convenor. We still need another convenor. Please contact Christine if you are available. A discussion followed regarding a possible student guest artist. Linda Dickey has an ARCT student that she will check with.

Keys to Piano is scheduled for Friday and Saturday, March 3rd and 4th, 2017 at Casa. Clinicians will be Deanna Oye and Krzysztof Jablonski. Save the date and support our organization! Details and registration form on the Conservatory Website: <http://www.uleth.ca/music-conservatory/keys-piano-workshop>

Christine will distribute hard copy brochures when available. Fees have been reduced and there will be more supplemental activities. Also, a new quarter-day option for students 10 and under is available—great for students attending for the first time. The workshop is sponsored by both APTA and ARMTA.

We will be running our Practise-a-thon February 6th-11th, 2017 for our Awards Program. Please plan to support our efforts. Christine will make materials available to those teachers not at the meeting. We will be finalizing and collecting our prizes over the next few weeks. iTunes cards were suggested as additional prizes. We will confirm this at our February meeting. A discussion followed regarding the feasibility of continuing the Practise-a-thon. Ideas suggested included having an opt-out fee for those teachers who do not participate or that we discontinue the Practise-a-thon altogether and replace it with an additional \$50 added to our annual branch fee.

Christine read an email from Ryan Kolodziej a former U of L student who has replaced Jesse Plessis as the new director of the Centric Festival. He is asking for our support as a community partner so that he can apply for City of Lethbridge funding. After reviewing his request and confirming that there will be no financial liability, Betty Jo moved and Linda seconded that we agree to Ryan's proposal. Christine will contact him and let him know.

Christine passed around recent Herald articles from the Michele Wheatley-Brown workshop and the Annual Award Winners. Linda brought thank you cards for awards from her students. Christine will open them and circulate them at the next meeting.

Betty Jo will check with RC Rep, Monica Baczuk to arrange lunch with the RC examiner.

Marilyn Sinclair still has 3 boxes of Joan Milton's music at her home. She and Christine will make arrangements to have it at the February meeting. Please call Marilyn at 329-9188 to arrange a time if you still wish to look through it before then. Donations will be gratefully received. A decision will be made at the February meeting as to how we will use the money to honor Joan's memory.

CFMTA Branching Out 2017 will be an initiative celebrating Canada's 150th Birthday. \$100 is available to each branch in Canada over the next 2-year period. Members liked the idea of using the money for an award for the student receiving the highest mark on a Canadian piece in a practical exam for next year's 2017 branch awards.

Our next meeting will be February 6th at 10:00 a.m. at Long and McQuade.

Everyone is most welcome to attend.