



ECMMA General Meeting Minutes

Secretary: Linda Marie Codier

Date: 6/23/14

Time: 9:45 AM EST – 10:30 AM EST

Place: Simpsonwood Conference Center, Norcross, GA

I. Call to Order: President Judy Panning called the meeting to order at 9:47 AM EST

II. Parliamentarian Introduction: Judy Panning introduced member Molly Beiningen as our parliamentarian for this meeting.

III. The minutes from the 8/7/12 General Meeting was read aloud by the secretary, Diana Greene. Judy reported that they do not need to be approved as they have been published on the website for two years.

IV. Treasurer's Report – Tami Biggerstaff

The balance sheet for the fiscal year that ended on December 31st, 2013 showed that we have total assets of \$12,771.12. The checking account had \$7,538.65, and the Money Market had \$4,749.48. The Fixed Assets in Furniture and Equipment was \$482.99, Liabilities and Equity showed retained earnings of \$8,626.24 and an Income of \$4,144.88. The 2013 Budget allowed for an income of only \$280.00, our actual net income was \$2,986.80.

For the first five months of 2014 ending on Mat 31st shows we are operating on a 6% increase in income over the budgeted amount. We had to change our fiscal year dates, at the end of 2011 we ended the fiscal year on December 31st, so we started separate operating budgets for every event. We raised membership fees and Perspectives fees two years ago and that has allowed us to operate within this operating budget, so your dues have been well used and we have maintained the ability to operate within our budget.

We are looking forward to increased growth in our membership and in attendance at each conference in 2015. Judy panning stated that in the near future we will be looking at bringing in an auditing process.

V. President's Report – Judy Panning read her report (also linked).

At the beginning of my term, ECMMA had been held together by a few dedicated people for many years. The primary goal for my term was to move ECMMA to the next tier of service to our members, allowing us to take on projects beyond our conferences, conventions and publications.

We set out to build leadership, complete the Strategic Plan, add continuity for planning events, and build the website. My hope was to empower committees to set goals and so accomplish specific work and encourage volunteerism by setting up job descriptions that prospective Board members would find instructive and easy to commit to. The plan was to pass on the knowledge acquired from planning events so that new event organizers didn't reinvent the process every year.

The model that's developing is a leadership sequence with a long commitment but a varied job description so that goals can be accomplished over 6 years and events can be overseen by someone with a long-term view of the process. There is a business manager to oversee details and an office manager to help handle the paperwork and the people. At this convention we will write action goals for our Strategic Plan so that every committee will walk away with clear goals and specific tasks. Job descriptions are in place, though they could probably be posted in a more prominent place. The website is growing and will continue to become a more productive tool for management and communication.

To be clear, all of these things occurred during the last four years, but I didn't actually do most of this work. Many hands pitched in to accomplish these goals, and many thanks are due! In the past quarter I really haven't done much beyond helping to facilitate the convention planning when asked and working with Julie Goodro to prepare for the 2016 convention.

Respectfully submitted,
Judy Panning
President 2010-14

VI. Recognition of 2012 – 2014 Board and Staff – Judy Panning

Officers:

- • Jan Vidrik – Past President
- • Diana Greene – Secretary
- • Tami Biggerstaff – Treasurer
- • Sharon Mello – VP Website
- • Steve Elmore – VP Membership
- • Diana Dansereau – VP Editorial

Regional Representatives:

- • Amoriza Gunnink – NW
- • Linda Marie Codier – SW
- • Beth Marshal – NC
- • Suzanne Surris – SE

Adjunct Positions:

- • Julie Goodro – Certification Chair
- • Dorothy Denton – Music Therapy Association Liaison
- • Judy Sullivan – CEU Coordinator

Support Staff:

- • Tori Stratton – Office Administrator
- • Rick Townsend – Managing Director
- • Tami Biggerstaff – Business Manager
- • Heath Benedon – Webmaster

- • Angela Barker – Perspectives Editor
- • Karen Greer – Graphic Designer

VII. New President – Jennie Mulqueen

Jennie addressed the members and introduced the ECMMA Strategic Plan. The board will be walking away from the convention with actionable items, and those are feeding into some initiatives that we are defining and will really cement after this convention. This includes looking at our website and building our reserves, have and provide resources for members and to reach out to the broader community of all who are invested in the work that we do.

VIII. Introduction of 2014 – 2016 Board and Staff - Jennie Mulqueen

Officers:

- • Judy Panning – Past President
- • Diana Greene – President-Elect
- • Diana Dansereau – VP Editorial
- • Sharon Mello – VP Website
- • Secretary – Linda Marie Codier
- • Tami Biggerstaff – Treasurer/Managing Director
- • Steve Elmore – VP Membership

Regional Representatives:

- • in absentia, Holly Hykawy – NW
- • Lianne Brewer – SW
- • in absentia, Rekka Rejan – NC
- • in absentia, Lisa Simmelink - SC
- • Elizabeth Etopio - NE
- • Suzanne Surris – SE

IX. Nominations Report – Jennie Mulqueen

We will be refining the nominations process, and carefully defining each board position. She thanked the Nominations Committee Jan Vidrik and Linda Marie Codier, and thanked those who volunteered to serve.

X. Membership Report – Diana Greene

We are happy to announce that our membership is growing and we currently have 449 active members and 110 of those have joined since 2013. We have improved how members can join and renew online. We have a better idea of how to serve our members, and we need to remember the human connection and to incorporate that in our relationships with each other as an organization. Diana said she applauds all who attended the convention, and that it is powerful to see each other face to face. She encouraged everyone to keep in touch with each other using Skype, email, and phone.

Diana will be focusing on how the organization can support our Regional Reps, and in turn how they can support the local chapters in their regions as well as those members unfortunately not involved with a chapter. She asked for members to tell her how we can best serve members, how best to communicate with members, what motivates

members, why do members value ECMMA, and how can ECMMA serve members better? She invited members to consider serving on the board stating that as in teaching, those who serve get tons more out of the serving than put in.

XI. Advisory Board Recognition – Jennie Mulqueen

One of our goals is to re-engage with our Advisory Board, who have volunteered to lead us and give us their wisdom. The two in attendance:

- • Dr. Joyce Jordan DeCarbo
- • Kenneth Guilmartin

XII. Certification Committee Report - Lianne Brewer (Chair)

Lianne asked for a show of hands of those who had their Level I Certification, and encouraged members to pursue certification. There are three levels as well as a collegiate level. It is not a difficult process, and it is good for you personally in helping you to grow in your teaching, and helps professionally as you can add the certification to your resumé.

Cathy Mathia is the new Level I Certification Chair replacing Lianne, Ellen Johansen will be the Level II Certification Chair replacing Julie Goodro, and Dr. Joyce Jordan DeCarbo is the Level III Certification Chair.

XIII. Chapters Report – Jennie Mulqueen

Jennie asked for the Chapter Presidents in attendance to come forward to be recognized. She stated that ECMMA Chapters are our lifeline as they are the local energy source, getting everyone excited about early childhood music and movement.

- Beth Marshall – Madison Chapter
- Sharon Mello – San Diego Chapter
- Gina Lacy – Washington DC Chapter
- Linda Marie Codier – Arizona Chapter
- Rekka Rejan – Chicago Chapter

Chapters are their own entities under the umbrella of ECMMA, and they can post their chapter meetings and workshops on the website. We are looking to cultivate more local chapters, which involves members calling a few like-minded and interested people to get together and sharing ideas. We will put the steps of forming a chapter on the ECMMA website, and hope to see more chapters form over the next few years.

XIV. Editorial Report – Diana Dansereau (VP Editorial)

Dianna told us that the second issue of this year's volume of Perspectives has been published, and is available online at ECMMA.org. It has two strong content articles, Notable Notes, Research Review, Research Within Reach, and a nice memorial to Dr. Sally A. Monsour-Hall who spent much of her illustrious career working in Atlanta, GA. This issue marks the last one from our current editor Dr. Angela Barker, and we are extremely grateful for Dr. Barker's leadership over the past four years, and we are really happy that she is continuing to volunteer with ECMMA.

Our new editor, Dr. Beatriz Ilari, will edit the fourth issue of this year's Perspectives. Dr. Ilari teaches at the University of California for the School of Music and has been there since 2011. Prior to that, she taught violin, strings, and general music in schools and

community based programs in the US, the Czech Republic, and Brazil. Her main research interests lie in the intersection between music, childhood, cognition, and culture. She is currently a Research Fellow at U.S.C.'s Brain and Creativity Institute and a co-investigator on the AIRS (Advancing Interdisciplinary Research in Singing). In addition to publishing five books in Brazil, her research has appeared in the Journal of Research in Music Education, Research Studies in Music Education, Music Education Research, Applications of Research in Music Education, and Early Child Development and Care.

Dr. Ilari is currently on the Editorial Board of the Journal of Research in Music Education, Psychology of Music, and Research Studies in Music Education. She also served as Co-editor of the International Journal of Music Education, and the Research Publication of the International Society of Music Education. We are thrilled that Beatriz will be joining our team, and we are really looking forward to how she will contribute to Perspectives in the next few years. Issue four will be co-edited by Dr. Barker and Dr. Ilari and is due out in November/December, after which Dr. Ilari will take the reigns from there. Issue three is due later this summer and will feature articles based on the research that will be presented during this convention. This convention marks the first co-meeting of ECMMA and the Early Childhood Special Interest Group of the National Association for Music Education. The third issue of Perspectives will be celebrating this happy collaboration.

During the past year, ECMMA partnered with EBSCOhost - an online data based service that is an online informational resource for tens of thousands of libraries and other institutions worldwide. It is now offering Perspectives in its Education Source Collection and we're hopeful that this will bring the content of Perspectives to many thousands more people who are interested in early childhood music and movement across the world. This is an exciting time for Perspectives and members are invited to participate by submitting your writing, or volunteering as a proof reader, or in some other capacity.

Jennie stated that the ECMMA Survey that was conducted this year (198 responses) showed that Perspectives and our conferences were the two most valued member benefits.

XIV. Website Report – Sharon Mello

Sharon reports that there continues to be work on improving the website. There is an effort to increase our social media contacts, so please "like" our Facebook page as we need to get up to 2,000 "likes". She invited members who would like to set up and oversee a Twitter and/or Pinterest account, let her know. There are people at the convention looking for testimonials regarding the convention to publish in the upcoming newsletter.

XV. Move to Adjourn – Jennie Mulqueen

Jennie adjourned the meeting at 10:27 AM EST.

Proposed General Meeting Minutes respectfully submitted,

Linda Marie Codier
Board Secretary /Recording Secretary

August 18th, 2014
Date