

Minutes of the Officers & Board of Directors Meeting Thursday, February 17 at the offices of Harry Fox

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**Call to order and announcements (Keiser) – 10:05 AM.** Lauren announced that there will be a luncheon after the April meeting.

**New Member** – The Board approved the application from **ORRganized Sound, Hopewell, NJ**, a sacred music publisher.

Approval of Minutes – Approved as submitted.

# Treasurer's Report – Approved as submitted.

Recommendations have been made by the MPA's tax consultants to create an investment policy that states what our operating reserves will be and sets forth our investment strategy. It has been recommended that the MPA send a letter to all grantees that states the purpose of the grant, followed by a review to assure that the stated purpose has been fulfilled. Carl advised the MPA to create a written non-profit grant policy. Lauren stated that work has already been started on this matter and that Jim Kendrick agreed that a document is necessary to create a paper trail for board members in the future. He advised that we have a 'Grant Panel'. Katie Boron said that we should add our mission statement to the document. It was agreed that we

will use the current document as a starting point and add the additional information to create a final 'Investment Policy' policy. Carl and Katie will finish the document and present it at the next Board meeting for approval.

# **Old Business**

**NMC curriculum:** Kathy Fernandes gave an update on the NMC curriculum project and recommended that the project should be targeted to music teachers and not be presented as part of a social studies curriculum. Kathy has volunteered to take a leading role in this project and has asked to be removed from the Press and Publicity Committee. Sonya Kim volunteered to take her place.

**MPA Grants:** Grant approvals will be made in November, not October as was stated in the guidelines.

ASCAP is asking the MPA to support the Deem Taylor Awards. A discussion about whether to co-brand the awards took place among the Board members. It was stated that it is questionable whether the Deems Taylor Awards can take place without the support of the MPA. There was debate about the value of the awards to the MPA and no decision was made. Jim asked about the Deems Award. ASCAP needs an indication of our interest. Jeff suggested that we match ASCAP. Until we know how much Kopinor money we get, we don't know what our budget will be. John made the point that if ASCAP cannot support the program, why should we; he is against funding. It was agreed that the Deems Taylor Awards are important. We will go back to ASCAP and then state our concerns about timing and funding. Jim is on the Board of ASCAP and will help communicate the issues.

The NSAI sent a thank you card for their MPA Grant and asked for a renewal.

**Anti-Piracy and Copyright Enforcement:** A discussion took place regarding the NMPA's possibility of suing an ISP called, 'Big Planet'. Jim Kendrick announced that it would cost at least \$100,000 for the MPA to participate. He thinks <u>www.scribd</u> is a better target. He also thinks that a suit will be thrown out if an ISP is a target.

Hadopi (France) would like to coordinate with the MPA to see what we are doing in America to reduce internet piracy. Hadopi is an official arm of the French government. Jim asked if the NMPA, ASCAP, or BMI would be involved. Lauren will get more information.

# **New Business**

**CMPA/MPA Collaboration:** John Shorney introduced the idea of the CMPA and MPA working together to further mutual goals. He told the Board that the CMPA has had success with running magazine articles about copyright education. He suggested that the MPA contact magazines about running an article about issues of interest to the MPA. Jim Kendrick said that he would work on an article that could be contributed. They will send a draft to John Shorney who will pass it on to the magazine editor.

## **Committee Reports**

**Annual Meeting:** Lauren Keiser- Lauren announced that the Annual Meeting is locked up. We will have it at the Harvard Club. David Israelite will be a keynote speaker. The speaker for the luncheon is Charles Sanders. Jim Kendrick will give the legal update. Morty Manus is the recipient of the MPA lifetime achievement award. We have not found anyone for the Arnold Broido copyright award. Patrick Leahy is the Chair of the Judiciary Committee and Jim K. thinks he would be an excellent choice; Lauren will reach out to his office.

Sean Flahaven will chair the 'online sheet music' panel. The panel will discuss new digital models, DRM, tablets and mobile applications. Andrew Keen will participate by bringing someone from the film and book publishing world to talk about the state of electronic publishing in their fields. Each group will have a presentation and then they will merge into a group discussion. The kickoff will be at 10:00 AM. The Keen panel will present at 11:00 AM and the panel will conclude its presentation at 12:15. There will be video presentations during lunch.

## Contribution: Todd Vunderink- No report.

**Copyright and Licensing:** Jim Kendrick and Katie Baron: Jim reported that we are in a time of real disruption. New ownership of EMI will take place come June. There is unrest among the major by bad rulings re: online fees in the courts. The level of spending for awards has been cut drastically and there is an atmosphere of radical cutbacks.

**Digital Piracy:** Jeff Shroedl and Kathleen Marsh strongly supported the idea that we hire our own attorney for the notice and takedown effort. Lauren will talk to David Israelite about the limited effort made on our behalf and suggest that we engage our own attorney. Jim Kendrick suggested that we put more effort into lobbying efforts and get a better result from the notice and takedown. John Shorney suggested that we solve the Ross problem. The MPA has been working with the NMPA since 2006. Jim Kendrick thinks it is still preferable to work together as they have more weight than we do. It was suggested that Brittain do the research and then forward the results to Ross.

**ICMP:** Lauren Keiser - The head of WIPO met with the ICMP. Brazil/India/South Africa introduced a concept that folklore be a national asset. For example, India wants the word 'Yoga' be copyrighted. This is very real. Brazil wishes to copyright folklore and South African rhythm. There will be an exception for visibly impaired people. The conversation was that cultural treasures are considered copyrightable.

There is a real pushback on membership dues. Universal is being the most difficult. The global database has been approved. The EU has hired Deloitte to organize it and Rights.com to be the project manager. The ownership of the copyright will be listed and the owner of the master will be identified. It is a reaction of the inability of the collection agencies to create a database. This is the biggest database project in the world. WIPO wants to get involved. We are ten years away from having a working database.

Engraving and Production: Daniel Dorff- No report.

**Paul Revere Awards**: Applications will go out April 1<sup>st</sup>, 2011. The flyer was approved for mailing.

**MLA/MOLA Joint Committee:** Danny reported that the panel discussion went well. Danny talked about the mechanics of publishing. The Marine Band Director made the statement that she wished that every composer had a publisher. They talked about the role of the publisher. MOLA is having their meeting in London but the MPA will not be present.

## Performance Committee: Norman Ryan- No Report.

**Press/Publicity**: Kathy Fernandes and Kathleen Marsh- MENC has not yet updated the form for the upcoming MPA contest. Brittain needs to send a note to the entire board when the new form goes out. The Board gave their approval to send a press release when we receive the materials from the MPA announcing the new contest.

**Research/Development/New Technology**: Kathleen Marsh, Sean Flahaven and Steve Culberson- No report.

## The meeting was adjourned at 11:55 AM.

Respectfully submitted,

Kathleen Marsh, Secretary