

MUSIC LIBRARY ASSOCIATION

Minutes of the meeting of the Board of Directors in Detroit, June 30, 1970

Belcrest Hotel, 10:05 am. Walter Gerboth presiding.

Present: Frank Campbell, Dominique De Lerma, Dena Epstein, Walter Gerboth, Ruth Hilton, Bill McClellan, Beverley Procter, Jim Pruett, Harold Samuel, Mary Wallace, Bill Weichlein.

I. Secretary's report

The minutes of the previous meeting were approved as distributed, with the following corrections:-

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| p. 1, item IV, | agendas | becomes | agenda |
| p. 4, item IX, D | Library journal | becomes | American libraries |
| p. 5, item IX, D (c) | come | becomes | came |
| p. 6, item XV | summer of 1974 | becomes | summer of 1973 |

The secretary thanked Mary Wallace for taking notes during the last 25 minutes of the Board meeting (and noted that there were no errors in her notes!)

II. Treasurer's report

Ruth Hilton presented the financial report for the 2d quarter, ending June 30, showing the balance in the checking account to be \$6945.66 and in the savings account \$9272.68. "It ain't so bad", she described the overall picture, and pointed out that 40% of total income had been spent at the 6-month point this year, in comparison with a little over 37% at the same time last year.

III. Executive Secretary's report

Bill Weichlein reported a paid-up membership of 3452, a slight drop from the April figure of 3555 due to the elimination of those delinquent in payment. He said that MLA is, however, on a much more secure footing regarding paid-up members than it has ever been. He reported 375 subscriptions, so far, to the Cataloging bulletin, and an income of \$1250 on it alone in the past 6 months. The income from the Brief rules is \$157 for the same period, \$468 from the Index series, and a little less than \$350 from the Manuals. \$925 has come in from the sale of the mailing list so far this year, with about 50% of this figure being profit. Sam thought we could charge more than \$100 for sale of the list - maybe \$125 or more. He suggested AMS be questioned as to how much they charge for selling their list - he thought they charged .06 per label, which figure would make the price of MLA's list of 3,000 names come to \$180. Mary Wallace asked if there were ethical considerations to be taken into account in MLA's selling of its mailing list. Bill Weichlein said he's had about 3 complaints in 5 years on this matter; further discussion centered around the fact that on the whole fairly useful material is distributed from the sale of the mailing list.

The fact was brought up that about 1200 subscriptions to Notes are handled through agencies, to which MLA pays 20% or about \$3,000 per year. Bill Weichlein said, however, that he has "a soft, soft spot in my heart" for agencies, who charged MLA no percentage during the years 1943-67, and whose handling of the subscriptions saves the MLA office much paper work.

IV. Reports of Members-at-Large

Wiley Hitchcock sent a letter to Walter saying that Da Capo Press was still

dragging its heels regarding publication of the Earlier American music series.

V. Vice-President's report

Bill McClellan distributed a neat outline showing in table format the name, officers, committees, representatives to national MLA committees, and projected meetings, elections and activities of each MLA chapter. It was agreed that copies be run off for distribution to the entire conference the following day, and that in future such an outline be distributed semi-annually, at MLA conferences.

The creation of a new chapter, the Pacific Northwest, which held its inaugural meeting in May, was noted. Discussion centered around the only one of the 7 MLA chapters to be linked with an AMS chapter - the Washington-Baltimore chapter of MLA, which meets with the Greater Washington chapter of AMS. Some felt it would be a much healthier state of affairs if the chapter disassociated itself from its AMS connection, and that it should be told by the Board to do so. Walter felt, however, that chapters should be autonomous; he doesn't want them receiving dictations from the Board. It was agreed that chapters simply be warned that AMS members tend to dominate joint MLA-AMS meetings.

VI. President's report

- A. Walter announced that Hans Lennenberg is chairman of the new Committee on Bibliographic Description, and that work is being done on an ALA glossary of musical terms.
- B. Walter and a committee consisting of Mary Wallace, Jean Geil, Betty Birdsey and Barbara Greener are working with the editor of Books for college libraries on revision of the music section for the forthcoming new edition.
- C. Guy Marco will not be attending the conference in Moscow of the International Federation of Library Associations on behalf of MLA because one has to pay a membership fee of \$50 to be eligible to attend.
- D. The Chairman of the Committee for the Compilation of Reference Questions wants his committee disbanded. It was agreed that the scope of their work was infinite, and that the committee would be allowed to die if there were no volunteers.

VII. Notes

Sam reported that selling of ads is going well this year, and that a letter and Notes brochure have been sent in response to 238 requests so far this year.

VIII. Other Publications

Jim Pruett announced the following numbering for the Index series:

- no. 9. Index to Das Chorwerk, compiled by Michael Ochs.
- no. 10. Speculum, an index of musically related articles and book reviews.
- no. 11. Renaissance news index, compiled by Barbara Greener.
- no. 12. Bach aria index, compiled by Miriam Whaples.

He said that no. 9 and 12 will appear shortly, and also Black music bibliography, compiled by Dominique De Lerma. It is felt that the Pergolesi index is not worthy of publication, and although an earlier MLA Publications Committee sanctioned it, an attempt is going to be made to persuade the compiler to withdraw his work. If he does not, MLA will have to stand by its earlier commitment to publish it. Ruth Hilton's Cataloging manual for recordings is being considered for publication. It is at its 3d reader now (the 1st two readers favoured it) and will go to a 4th later. Mention of a Händel index was made - the fact that Gerry Ostrove has one at Peabody, and that Mary Wallace has one to the vocal works.

The meeting recessed for lunch at 12:30 pm. and reconvened at 2:15 pm.

IX. Committees and Representatives

A. ALA Council

Walter has received agenda - "piles of it" - for future ALA meetings, and has

informed ALA that our officer has been instructed to refrain from voting in major and/or controversial issues henceforth before consulting the Board.

- B. Church and Synagogue Library Association meeting
Colour photos of Ida Reed's portable MIA exhibit, as it appeared at the meeting of the Church and Synagogue Library Association in May, were passed around. Ida Reed said she could have sold 10-20 copies each of the Manual of music librarianship and the Rules for brief cataloging, and suggested that these and other MIA publications be made available for sale at non-MIA meetings.
- C. Special Libraries Association
The convention co-ordinator of SIA suggests that we invite guests, such as the Public Library Association, to our meetings to publicize our activities.
- D. Selection and Acquisition/Continuing Education
Walter encouraged Board members to attend the sessions to be conducted by these MIA committees during the current conference, so that a balance of MIA and AIA opinion during discussion could be achieved.
- E. Other Committees
Walter announced that
 - (i) the Advanced Notation Committee has made a request to the National Endowment for the Humanities for a grant,
 - (ii) Stephen Fry is still excited about the newly formed Publicity Committee, of which he is chairman, and
 - (iii) the Institutes Committee is to perform at the next MIA meeting, in Washington.

X. Future meetings

- A. Winter, 1972.
Walter said that a poll of the Board showed a 50-50 split in opinion as to whether the Board wanted to be free to attend the tours to be scheduled on the Wednesday preceding the general sessions. He said he has asked Elsie Phillips about the advisability of rescheduling the tours on Sunday, after the general sessions.
- B. Summer, 1973
It was decided to let MIA's conference co-ordinator, Gerry Ostrove, decide whether MIA should meet with AIA in Las Vegas then, or on its own somewhere else.
- C. Schedule of future meetings

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|--------|-----|-----------------------|
| winter | '71 | Washington |
| summer | '71 | Dallas |
| winter | '72 | Tucson |
| summer | '72 | Chicago |
| winter | '73 | Austin |
| summer | '73 | ? |
| winter | '74 | Urbana |
| summer | '74 | New York |
| winter | '75 | San Juan, Puerto Rico |

XI. Constitution and By-Laws revisions

Walter announced that he has an outline ready combining constitution and by-laws.

XII. LC's 70 drawers of music catalog cards

Copies of a letter from Virginia Cunningham to Betty Olmsted were distributed, in which Virginia said that LC employees can hold jobs during their non-LC hours and receive payment from other funds. She was suggesting that LC filers, if paid, could alphabetize the 70 drawers of catalog cards which Betty Olmsted would like to see made available. The Board decided to tell Betty of its enthusiasm, and to ask her how many filing and editing hours would be required, and how much would be paid an hour - to get an idea of the amount of money required. It was also decided that the price of publication should be verified with the proposed publisher, and that Betty, Virginia and Frank Campbell (the latter to approach Don Engel for funds) should work on the financial possibilities of getting the

work done. Ruth Hilton offered to go to LC and work for free in her Christmas holidays, and the secretary suggested that interested MLA catalogers whose institutions allow them to do so could arrive in Washington a day or two before the winter MLA meeting to pitch in and get the bulk of the work done. It was also suggested that some of the work could be distributed throughout the country to volunteers.

XIII. Survey of music-library collections

Mary Wallace distributed her sample postcard, intended to be sent to every music library one could think of. It asked questions concerning holdings and personnel. Ruth Hilton made a motion, seconded by Dominique De Lerma, that at the luncheon of chapter chairmen Bill McClellan ask that the chapter chairmen supply names, addresses and zip codes for the addressing of cards for this project, and that they go through the ALA membership directory for their region to cull out any additional institutions not already on their chapter mailing list.

XIV. MLA's financial future

Ruth Hilton expressed fears concerning a tight financial future due to the expected increase of from 20% to 40% in the cost of printing Notes. Sam said that the increase could be covered if the size of each Notes issue is reduced by 20 pages and if the cost of advertising is increased from \$105 per page to \$125 (if the printer increases his price by 20%) or to \$145 (if the printer increases his cost by 40%) He recommended that these changes be made, rather than an increase in the subscription price of Notes.

The meeting adjourned at 5:30 pm.

Respectfully submitted.

B. Procter

Beverley Procter
Recording Secretary