

# THE COLLEGE MUSIC SOCIETY

## Meeting of the Board of Directors

November 8, 2015

Room 107

J.W. Marriott Hotel

Indianapolis, Indiana

### I. **Call to Order:**

President Younker called the meeting to order at 8:32 a.m. Members present: Betty Anne Younker (President), Jennifer Sterling Snodgrass (Vice President), Laurence Kaptain (Treasurer), Nancy Barry (Secretary), Daniel Adams (Board Member for Composition), Constance Cook Glen (Board Member for Music in General Studies), Cathy Benedict (Board Member for Music Education), Craig Parker (Board Member for Musicology), Juan Chattah (Board Member for Music Theory), Sharon Poulson Graf (Board Member for Ethnomusicology), Deborah Nemko (Board Member for Performance), David Myers (At-Large Board Member), and Robby D. Gunstream (Executive Director).

### II. **Welcome:**

President Younker welcomed board members. She noted the success of our 58<sup>th</sup> National Conference and thanked all involved. Younker acknowledged the outstanding efforts of the 2015 planning committee, chaired by Maud Hickey.

### III. **Approval of the Agenda:**

The Agenda for this meeting was *Moved and Approved* (Chattah/Nemko).

### IV. **Minutes from Previous Board Meetings:**

Minutes from the November, 2014; and virtual meetings in April, 2015; September, 2015; and October, 2015 were reviewed and accepted with one correction: add Constance Cook Glen to the list of those present for the 2015 virtual meetings in April and September.  
*Moved and Approved* (Snodgrass/Chattah).

### V. **Executive Director Succession: Blueprint Committee Report**

President Younker presented a Draft Report on The CMS Blueprint Committee. She noted that the Blueprint Committee was designed to canvass a large population associated with all disciplines of music within CMS and beyond and expressed thanks to the Blueprint Committee for their work.

The Board accepted the Blueprint Committee Draft Report as an internal document from which text may be used (a) for the job description for the search and (b) for discussion with the Society at large. *Moved and Approved* (Younker/Adams).

### VI. **Nominations Committee Report:**

(NOTE: This Agenda item was deferred to 1:30 p.m. so that Nomination Committee Chair, Kristin Wendland could participate virtually.) Candidates were discussed and recommendations for the following offices were approved: Vice President, Board Member for Ethnomusicology, Board Member for Music Theory, and Board Member for Musicology. Online elections will be held in March/ April of 2016.

**VII. Membership Report:**

Statistics and Charts reflecting CMS membership as of December 31, 2014 were presented. A pattern of decreasing membership was noted. The board discussed implications of this trend and considered a number of possible strategies and innovations for recruiting CMS members across diverse areas of college music, ranging from students through retirees. The importance of accessibility and relevance for self-employed musicians and adjunct faculty as well as full-time faculty was noted. Executive Director Gunstream reported that the Membership Committee is diversifying its approach, moving from a one-size-fits all approach toward more diverse, focused targeting for different factions of College Music Teaching. Discussion included harnessing technology to increase public access to CMS. Another recommendation was to develop sliding membership fees according to salary level so that CMS membership could be more affordable to part-time faculty.

**VIII. Treasurer's Report:**

Treasurer Lawrence Kaptain reported that during the 2014-2015 fiscal year the Society had income of \$1,264,584 and expenses of \$1,326,067, resulting in a net operating loss of \$61,484. CMS financial data indicate that current deficit trends are related to declining membership patterns discussed previously. Expenditures have remained fairly stable and recently some steps have been taken to decrease expenses (such as holding more virtual board and committee meetings). However, since the primary revenue stream for CMS is membership dues, decreases in membership are having a significant impact on CMS funds. Kaptain noted that the CMS International Conference and Symposia were break even events. The board discussed possible strategies for increasing revenues, proactive cost cutting measures, and more efficient use of funds to avoid ending another fiscal year with a budget deficit.

**IX. CMS National Topic for 2017**

Possible topics/ themes for the 2017 national conference were discussed. The consensus of the board was that **Reflect - Celebrate - Innovate** would be an appropriate theme for the 60<sup>th</sup> National Meeting.

**X. Proposed Amendment to the Bylaws**

Amendment under consideration: *Commencing in 2016, The College Music Society national conferences will only be held in states that have enacted laws prohibiting discrimination.* This proposed amendment to the CMS Bylaws was discussed. Agreement was expressed with the goals of the amendment, but the consensus was that some revision in wording was needed. The board approved developing a policy to hold national conferences in cities and communities that have clear policies against discrimination. *Moved and Approved (Myers/Chattah).* President Younker appointed Cathy Benedict to develop a formal statement-incorporated in the Society's *Handbook of Policies and Procedures*. The following statement is now part of the Society's National Conference planning:

Commencing in 2017, The College Music Society will make every effort to hold national conferences in those cities and communities who have clear policies prohibiting discrimination against, or permitting the refusal of service, facilities, accommodations, or goods to, any individual on the basis of race, religion, color, gender, sex, national origin, immigration status, ancestry, LGBTQI2-S status, spousal affiliations, or health or disabilities.

- XI. CMS Professional Initiatives**  
National Conference Locations for 2018, 2019, and 2020 were considered. Site possibilities include Toronto, Ontario; San Juan, Puerto Rico; Louisville, Kentucky; and cities in the Pacific Northwest. Negotiations with cities and appropriate hotels continue. Toronto was selected as the preferred venue for 2018 (*Moved and Approved*, Myers/Parker) and a city in Washington, either Seattle or Spokane, was the preferred venue for 2020 (*Moved and Approved*, Glen/Chattah). Updates and further reports will be made at the Board's next meeting.
- XII. Update: Cuba Study Tour**  
Arrangements for a CMS study tour to Cuba are in progress. The educational initiative will be limited to a relatively small study group (approximately 25 maximum).
- XIII. Robert M. Trotter Lecture—Proposed Change to the Mission Statement:**  
(NOTE: This Agenda Item was tabled until the sub- committee can draft a revised statement.)
- XIV. Robert M. Trotter Lecture—Potential Speakers:**  
The board discussed potential speakers for the Robert M. Trotter Lectures. A number of excellent candidates were recommended representing diverse areas of college music.
- XV. Election of Officers to the Board of Directors of The CMS Fund**  
The following candidates were elected to The CMS Fund Board of Directors:  
James Scott, *President (2016-2018)*, University of North Texas  
John Miller, *Treasurer (2016-2018)*, North Dakota State University  
Cynthia Crump Taggart, *Director (2016-2018)*, Michigan State University  
*Moved and Approved (Myers/Glen)*
- President Younker thanked current President of The CMS Fund Board of Directors, Tayloe Harding, for his outstanding service.
- XVI. CMS Task Forces: Consideration of Description and Procedures**  
(NOTE: This Agenda Item was tabled until a future meeting due to time constraints.)
- XVII. Followup on the 2014 Summit on Music Science and Society**  
President Younker will appoint a study group to evaluate the 2014 Conference and to draft recommendations for followup including possible future summits.
- XVIII. Idea for a Multi-Year Project to Examine Evolution of Music Curricula**  
The board discussed a draft describing: *Creating the Music Curricula of the Future: Tradition and Innovation in the 21st Century* (CMCF). CMCF plans to sponsor an international conversation concerning the future education of musicians. David Myers reported that he is looking into possible funding from donors such as the Mellon Foundation to help support this initiative.
- The *Music Change* Summer Symposium is being planned for 2018. Sharon Graf, David Myers, and Cathy Benedict agreed to review the draft and report back at the next Board Meeting
- XIX. Report of The Task Force on the Undergraduate Music Major**  
The board discussed the final document submitted by the Task Force. (This document was distributed to the board for review prior to the November meeting.) The Board

acknowledges receipt of the edited Final Report from the Task Force. That Task Force is now disbanded and the Board thanks them for their efforts. Additional dialogue is encouraged. CMS has provided an on-line forum to facilitate continuing discussion. President Younker will draft a statement placing the Task Force Report in context and clarifying CMS procedures.

XX. **Acknowledgments:**

President Younker thanked the CMS Board for their on-going service and acknowledged the fine service of Board members who are rotating off: Patricia Shehan Campbell, Immediate Past President; Laurence Kaptain, Treasurer; Cathy Benedict, Board Member for Music Education; Deborah Nemko, Board Member for Performance; and David Myers, Board Member at Large.

XXI. **Music Business-Industry:**

Discussion included the focus on Higher Education-Industry during the 2016 CMS National Conference, October 27-29, in Santa Fe, New Mexico. The Board approved forwarding this proposal to the Planning Committee for the 2016 National Meeting.

**CMS-NAMM Summer Program for Music Faculty**

As a companion to the Generation Next program for students held each January, the National Association of Music Merchants (NAMM) will host the *CMS-NAMM Summer Program for Music* in Nashville, Tennessee beginning in June 2017. The Board supports moving forward with the Summer Program but being clear that this is an educational collaboration and not a commercial endorsement.

XXII. **New Business:**

No new business

XXIII. **Adjournment:**

The meeting of the CMS Board of Directors was adjourned at 4:55 p.m.

Respectfully submitted,



Nancy H. Barry, CMS Secretary  
January 6, 2016