

NJNATS meeting
Saturday, April 4, 2009

Meeting called to order at 9:05 a.m. by President Susan Rheingens.

Minutes of 11/08 meeting approved.

Treasurer's report approved. Several questions were posed as relates to the Doris Lenz Fund. The DL Fund Total, as cited in the Treasurer's Report of 4/4/09, is \$1252.50. Doris Lenz chair, Marcia R. McCoy asked how much is available for scholarships. This question will be posed to the Treasurer when she returns, as she is currently out of town.

Doris Lenz Scholarships

Marcia R. McCoy will remain chair of the Doris Lenz Scholarship committee. Nora Sirbaugh, Laura Greenwald and Clarissa Anthony, who have all served for many years on this committee, are now stepping down. Doris Shippey and Marian Stieber have volunteered to now serve on this committee. If members are interested in assisting, they are encouraged to contact Marcia McCoy.

There were no applicants in 2008. Members are requested to encourage people to apply for 2009. The deadline for applications is May 15, 2009. This program is open to all eligible students who will be attending legitimate summer vocal programs.

Nora Sirbaugh passed around a list of all current members of NJNATS. Those on the list have paid their 2009 NJNATS dues. Scott McCoy asked if these chapter members were also paid up National Members as well, as this is required in order to participate in NJNATS programs. Treasurer Nancy Froysland Hoerl was not in attendance to answer this query, but will ensure that NJNATS members are National Members as well.

The membership list is at 55, considerably less than originally thought. It was recommended that officers come up with a protocol for reaching out to members whose dues have lapsed to encourage them to rejoin. Also, officers should look into contacting the National organization for a list of NATS members in NJ, with a view to encouraging them to join the local chapter as well. Members were encouraged to recruit new teachers.

The secretary and the vice president terms of office end in June 2009. A Nominating Committee needs to be established to recruit new officers for these positions. Nancy Hoerl has found a possible secretary. In addition, the President and Treasurer terms end in June 2010. Scott McCoy volunteered to serve on the Nominating Committee. Additional members should contact Susan Rheingens, President, if they are interested in assisting.

Rochelle Ellis, Governor, reviewed protocol for the Festival of Singing day. Distributed packets to member judges.

Discussed future of festivals in light of recent pressures by institutions to charge for the use of their facilities.

Doris Lenz Festival needs a venue and date. Laura Greenwald will check to see if Caldwell College will host the event. If any member has recommendations for a location, please contact President Susan Rheingens and Governor Rochelle Ellis.

The next Festival of Singing will be held at Montclair University on February 20, 2010. They have graciously offered free use of their new facilities.

Discussion concerning the need to determine how best to serve the needs of our membership. It was acknowledged that we need to recruit younger members. The membership was encouraged to reach out to younger members and find out what kinds of programs they would like to see at our festivals.

Meeting adjourned at 9:47 a.m.

Respectfully submitted,
Nora Sirbaugh,
Secretary, NJNATS