

MINUTES OF THE MEETING

South Fraser Branch of BC Registered Music Teachers' Association

Wednesday, November 18, 2015

Northwood United Church, 10am

Attendees:

Leslie Chen	Calla Strain	Debbie Boganes
Helga Murray	Natalia Pardalis	Catherine Bundt
Kevin Thompson	Esther Neufeld	Andrea Mesana
Yvonne Fawcett	Alison d'Entremont	Sandra Starek
Sylvia Leigh	Dianne Szarapka	Eva Law
Lea Tsui	Berva Warkentin	Faye Mulder
Cynthia Goddard	Geneviene Wong	Sharon Ku
Jeanie Tiede	Paulette Nielsen	Kamela Vinjau Christaki
Margaret Brew	Erika Bennedik	Colleen Branson
Debbie Nagy	Carmen Roberts	Yvette rowledge
Elaine Blatchford	Rita Thatcher	Elizabeth Gilchrist

Welcome by Helga Murray, President

New Member: Yvonne Fawcett

Minutes of the September 16 meeting are posted on our website.

Moved by Kevin Thompson and seconded by Sylvia Leigh to adopt the minutes as circulated.

Correspondence

Susan Olsen sent a card thanking us for the September meeting – the celebration of her retirement, the reception organized by Maureen, and the memory book put together by Esther and Kevin. She thanks all the branch members for their support and friendship.

Treasurer's Report: Sylvia Leigh

BCRMTA Financial Report as of November 1, 2015:

General Account	\$1,726.95
Term Deposits	\$19,231.27
Festival Account	\$5,899.29
Term Deposits	\$5,613.54

Committee Reports

1. Professional Development Workshops: Jennifer Condie – read by Helga Murray

This fall we will have hosted three events, all connected to Canadian Music. On September 25, Teresa Richart and Irene Voros presented a wide range of teaching pieces from Red Leaf Music. The playing was most colourful, and provided a taste of pieces and collections composed by: Joanne Bender, John Burge, Martha Hill Duncan, Susan Griesdale, Janet Gieck, Rebecca Maxner, Beverly Porter, and of course, Irene and Teresa. Attending teachers enjoyed the workshop, the only problem being which books to leave behind when the wish list got too long.

On October 2nd, Katya Pine gave a thoughtful and inspiring workshop on composing. She demonstrated how pieces students are currently learning can be a jumping off place for composing and improvising. She provided examples from a wide range of repertoire, including her own wonderful compositions, beautifully performed by Leslie Chen.

This coming Saturday, November 21st, our Canada Music Week recital has 30 performances from eight participating teachers, both piano and voice. It includes performances of pieces by composers from the earlier events, as well as other Canadian composers. The recital begins at 7:00 pm at Northwood United Church. All are welcome to come enjoy the recital (*no charge!*) and eat cupcakes.

If any teacher sent Jennifer an email with entries, and has not received a copy of the program draft, please phone her, as she may not have received your e-mail.

2. Junior Festival: Claudia Muir – read by Helga Murray

Plans for the Junior Festival are moving along. We have our two adjudicators booked: Marjory Purdy and Ildiko Skeldon. The dates for the festival are Feb. 29 – March 4 with the Celebration recitals to take place on March 5th. Entry forms are now available on the website and please note the deadline for these is Nov 29.

The festival committee is looking forward to another successful and fun festival, a celebration of our teachers and students.

3. Senior Festival Report: Leslie Chen

The Senior Festival will take place Feb. 22 – 27. The deadline is November 29! Teachers will need to log-in on the website in order to enter the forms.

We are doing a paper programs this year; there is an option on the online form to enter the number of programs you need – please remember to include a program for yourself! (And yes – we will still plan to put the programs online.)

4. String Festival: Harold Birston – read by Helga Murray

The String Festival will be taking place from Monday, February 15th to Wednesday, February 17th, at Mount Olive Lutheran Church, 2350 148 St.

The Celebration recital will take place on Saturday, February 20th, 7:00 p.m., at Mount Olive Lutheran Church.

We are pleased to welcome back Grant Donnellan as our adjudicator. Grant is on the faculty at Western Washington University, and has done a superb job at two previous String Festivals.

5. Honors Recital: Helga Murray

The Honors Recital is a great opportunity for community building. Please send your students! It will be held on Feb. 13 at 3pm, at the First United Church in White Rock (15385 Semiahmoo Ave), and students will play on a Steinway. The deadline to enter your students is Dec. 13. Students need at least an 80% on their practical exam. Please do submit them! It will be a lovely afternoon of excellent playing. Students must be playing repertoire from their current level of study. They must have completed their theory co-requisites by August 2015.

6. Willowbrook Mall Event: Elizabeth Gilchrist

Thank you to the teachers who have already submitted their entries. We'd really like to have a lot more students entering. This mall is good enough for string players to play without amplification. We'd love to see more string players.

There is an online form to register (on the newsletter). If you are not using the online form, please make sure you have a waiver (or if you have a waiver on file) for that student (for photographs). You can enter online, print it, get the parents to sign it, and bring the hard copy to the mall event.

It will be held on November 29, Sunday afternoon, from 12:30pm to 5:30pm. We are asking for 1 piece per student (for now). This event also goes towards community

service awards: students will get 1 hour credit for community service. The mall is providing us with a 6-foot Yamaha. Singers will get amplifiers. Please arrange for a parent to come (if you can't be there yourself) when your student is playing.

Erika Bennedik then explained that the reason there are not always many string players at these events is due to the extra costs for accompanists and extra rehearsal times.

7. Thank-you to Webmasters: Helga Murray

With Wendy Chan is stepping down as Webmaster, and Kevin Thompson having done a lot of work on our new branch website with Jerry, Kevin is going to become our new Webmaster.

Helga thanked Wendy for all the work she has done for the website, the festival, the newsletters, and everything else. Helga also thanked Kevin for his hours of work on the website, archiving and uploading everything into the Past Events section online.

8. Website Launch: Kevin Thompson

Our new branch website is here! It is much improved from the former website.

Kevin walked us through the different parts of the website, showing us how to navigate and search for keywords, find the different online functions for members, and manage our personal profiles.

Kevin raised a question to the membership regarding whether we should ask piano tuners for a fee for their names to appear on our website on the "Public" side.

Elizabeth Gilchrist made the motion to move the list of piano tuners' names to the "Public" side, with their permission, without asking them for a fee. This was seconded by Debbie Nagy.

Helga Murray moved to adjourn the meeting, seconded by Margaret Brew.

Adjournment