MTA BOARD MEETING
Saturday, June 25, 2016
University of Southern Mississippi

Approval of Minutes
Motion: Tom Hardy
Second: Bill Rester
Motion passes

Treasurer’s Report: Deborah Hardy

Executive Director’s Report: Stacy Howell
MAC Grant - $7500
Strategic Plan has been amended per committee work. Members will please proof amendments.

Long Range Goals: Stacy Howell
Members will please let Stacy know if there are any further amendments that need to be made to the LRG.

OLD BUSINESS

Theatre Workshop: MJ Etua
– Workshop will be held Oct 7 & 8 @ USM.
– MJ will send out letters to teachers and possibly an electronic flier.
– More proposals for workshops are needed by August 1.
– Workshops should be approximately 90 minutes.

*Side Discussion of starting an MTA youtube channel. Stacy to talk to our IT team and work out exactly who will man the website.

SETC Report: Lee Crouse
- SETC voting body voted to approve the acquisition of the Institute of Outdoor Theatre.
- Eastern Carolina University will pay SETC $25,000 to help begin the transition of the merger, plus an additional $75,000 later.
- Next meeting of SETC is the Friday after Labor Day in Atlanta.

Performing Arts Standards: Stacy Howell
- Members are encouraged to share ideas for the framework with Juniper or other committee members.

HB 1523: Lee Crouse
- Board reviewed the letter composed by Lee & Stacy (?) to be submitted to Gov. Bryant (pending correction of HB # typo) and agreed that it is ready to go.
- Stacy will also post the letter on the MTA website.

Middle School Division: Stacy Howell
Motion to create ad hoc committee for Middle School Division: Tim Matheny
Second: Christopher Schager
Motion passes

*Side Discussion reveals that the board agrees that there is a need for a community/youth division at MTA festival even though WINGS isn’t interested.

Dream Team: Stacy Howell
- Members should brainstorm what volunteers they could use in each division at festival. We will work ahead to have these positions in place by 2018.

Creation of a Central HS Division: Stacy Howell
- The board will continue to monitor need throughout the registration process.

NEW BUSINESS

2017 MTA Festival: Tom Hardy & Tim Matheny
  Location: Tom Hardy
  - @ USM
  - many activities centrally located in the Theatre & Dance bldg.
  - Theatre & Dance USM faculty all on board with sharing facilities
  - Secondary festival in PAC
  - Community festival in Tatum (T&D bldg.)
  - Adult Social – JORT will host at Dean Smith’s cabin
  - Youth Social – DJ playing music, food, drinks – Thad Cochran bldg.

  Adjudicators: Tim Matheny
  Chris Rich, Troy University - booked
  Emmanuel Buckley, American Blues Theatre in Chicago – tentatively booked (checking dates)
  Mike Aulick – West Liberty – tentatively booked (checking dates)
  Brian Martin – Alabama State (maybe)
  Greg Maupin – Actor’s Theatre of Louisville (maybe)
  Chris Kuss – West Alabama State
  Shannon Robert – Clemson University – has offered
  Michael Bobbitt – suggested by MJ Etua
  Yolanda Williams – suggested by Lee Crouse

2018 MTA Festival: Lee Crouse
- deadline for submissions of proposals is July 15, 2016. The University of Mississippi has already submitted; Mississippi State University & Mississippi University for Women plan to.

DIVISION REPORTS

Playwriting: Joe Frost
- Division continues to encourage submissions for adult & high school competitions.
- Darian Michael – possible judge
- Joe would appreciate other judge suggestions.

College/University: Christopher Schager
- Division requests bulletin board to post overall callbacks from auditions.

SETC Auditions: Cody Stockstill
- November (?) 19 & 20
- Chris Roebuck – possible respondent
- Cody will make students & teachers aware of new audition rules: no bookending – do one song, one monologue.

Community Theatre: Stacy Howell
- Friday & Saturday shows will be in a separate venue from the high school competition.
- Stacy will encourage members of the division to start looking for and referring after-school programs.

Professional Division: Stacy Howell
- Francine is headed to the Theatre Communications Group convention and plans to enlist them as a vendor for MTA.
- Cody suggested that Stacy contact PreSonus (Baton Rouge) as a vendor for festival.
- 4 Wall (formerly Theatrical Lighting Systems) was also suggested as a vendor for festival.

Secondary Individual Events: Bill Rester
- Bill will create a video to inform students & teachers of changes.
- Bill requested online form for teachers to fill out when registering students for IEs so he doesn’t have to type score cards by hand.
- Tim Matheny suggested asking USM faculty to display design work to inspire students & encourage student/professional dialogue.

Adult Individual Events: Kenneth McDade
- Division would like to add more information about Adult IEs to the MTA website and make the link more obvious.

Theatre for Youth: Dana Jones
- Sherrie has created Facebook group for the division.

Secondary: MJ Etua
- MJ plans to create a Facebook group for the division.
- There was much discussion over whether to offer boxed lunches.
- Division made suggestions for souvenir items to sell: flash drives, lanyards, ribbons, buttons, koozies.
- Photo-op ideas: free red carpet shots and photo booth w/props w/fee per pics.

10-Minute: Yolanda Williams
- Division requested college interns to assist with and/or present workshops.
- Division plans to get back to a more structured schedule for their portion of the festival.

Other Business – none

LUNCH

TOUR OF FACILITIES

ADJOURNMENT