



**National Board Meeting Summary
October 2018**

The Handbell Musicians of America National Board held its fall meeting in Bloomington, Minnesota on October 18-20, 2018. Members present were President P.L. Grove; President-Elect Jill Fedon; and Members-at-Large Bill Mathis, Linda Minnotte, Derek Nance, Jennifer Vangolen and Kyle Webber. Also present were Board Secretary Karen Eggert and Executive Director Jennifer Cauhorn. As is standard practice, the Handbell Musicians of America mission, values, and vision statements were read at the commencement of the meeting, and the minutes of the previous conference call meeting were approved.

The Consent Agenda is the Executive Director's opportunity to inform the Board about the activities of the national staff and volunteer committees she oversees. The following items were discussed as part of the Executive Director's Consent Agenda:

Events

The Executive Director gave a status report on National events, including changes to Distinctly Bronze East due to Hurricane Florence, plans for National Seminar for 2019 through 2021, the College Ring-in, Virtual Bell Academy, Back to Bells, and progress to date on Events in a Box.

Fall Area Leadership Meeting

The Executive Director gave an update on the fall Area Leadership meeting, which will focus on accreditation for faculty for the Certification Program.

Fundraising

Annual fundraising will again include a year-end campaign as well as a general fundraising appeal with membership renewals.

Music Publishing

AGEHR Publishing will begin using an online promotion system in place of postcards, mailers, mini-scores and CDs. There was additional discussion about the future of handbell music publishing.

Membership

Staff are working on creating policies for renewing membership or joining the Guild outside of a renewal period.

The following items were discussed during the general portion of the meeting:

Monitoring Report

The Executive Director provided the Executive Limitations report, year-end financial projections and the 2018-19 budget, which were reviewed and discussed by the Board. There was additional discussion about how to make the organization attractive to new members.

Model Bylaws Review

The Model Bylaws Review Committee submitted preliminary results from several meetings. Further modifications are planned for the document, and additional questions will be prepared to submit to the attorney. A final version will be resubmitted to the Board for review once all the revisions have been completed. Further discussion regarding bylaws led to the formation of a Bylaws Review Committee to review future Area bylaws before final approval by the Board.

The following items were discussed as part of the perpetual agenda:

Member Linkages

The Board discussed various linkages with the members, HIC, and the Areas, including proposed Board attendance at some of the Area conferences in 2019.

Executive Session

The Board met in Executive Session twice during the meeting to discuss the Executive Director's Executive Limitation report and annual review.

Bylaws Review

The Board reviewed the Area 2 bylaws, made suggested changes and referred them back to Area 2 for further review and approval.

Committee Updates

The Board received an update from the Development Committee, which included its pending formation, appointment of a chair, and review of potential projects (Sustaining Partners, Legacy Society organization and securing grants). The Board also discussed the Honorary Life timeline.

Legacy Society/Heritage Fund Updates

The Board discussed organization of the Legacy Society and its events at National Seminar and received a report regarding the status of the Heritage Fund, which currently has donations of \$161,662 and an investment value of \$196,541.

Other Reports/Discussion

The Board discussed the formation of the Nominating Committee, held a follow-up and future discussion of the International Handbell Symposium, and discussed ways to increase membership, marketing and fund sources.

Visioning

The Board had a preliminary visioning discussion, which included a review of the member survey, a discussion of bells in school programs, a possible restructuring of the Regional Membership Coordinators (to focus around topics of community, education and church), and how the organization can be the best voice for various constituencies.

Policy Governance

The Board made changes to the Policy Governance document in order to move the Executive Director's Ends monitoring to the Fall Board meeting. The report will be given from Ends completed the previous fiscal year. A copy of the revised Policy Governance document can be found on the Handbell Musicians of America website.

Future meetings of the Board in 2019 will be via conference call on January 18, February 22, April 12, May 10, and June 21 at 4 p.m. Eastern time. The Board will hold its biannual meeting in the spring on March 20-23, 2019. In addition, quarterly chats with the National Board will be available via webinar on January 12 (12 pm Eastern time), March 23 (12 pm Eastern time), July 20 (12:30 pm Eastern time), and October 26 (11 am Eastern time).