

MFMC 107th Convention

May 16, 2025

Italian American Cultural Society & Banquet Center

Clinton, Twp. MI

Meeting Minutes

Call to Order - 9:45am

Alisha Snyder, MFMC President

Roll Call

Sharon Gomulka, Recording Secretary

Attendees:

Alisha Snyder, Sharon Gomulka, Barb Davis, Steven Mastrogiacomo, Marcia Nobel, Anne Frank, Mary Jane Timmer, Kaye Rittinger, Gail Mitchell, Diane Tomiuk, Beatrice Wassenberg, Sandy McNeely, Cheryl Littleton, Karen Annable, Barb Palmer, Rebecca Biber, Jan Hintz, Katie Florian, Helene Roberts, Gordon Brenner, Nancy Dahla, Alisha Johnson, Daniel Forbes, Karla Schytte, Jonathan Shotts, Michele Armstrong, Penny Draper, Bill Draper, Anne Greenstein, Arlene Anger, Sara Aylesworth, Tom Lackey, Ann Liska, Connie Poepppe, Susan Allen, Brenda Braidwood, Laura Stebbins

Approval of the Agenda

Alisha Snyder

- ***The agenda was approved as presented.***

Pledge of Allegiance

Jackie Livesay, MFMC First Vice President

The Star-Spangled Banner

Bea Wassenberg, MFMC Awards Chair

The NFMC Collect

Steven Mastrogiacomo, MFMC Second Vice President

We praise and thank Thee, Father, for the gift of music. Through us, as channels of Thy grace, may this blessed legacy be shared with all mankind. Grant that we may exemplify in our own lives the harmony of Thy great purpose for us.

Give us magnitude of soul, and such understanding hearts that we who make music may be as players upon rightly tuned instruments responding to Thy leading.

Let us with renewed consecration dedicate ourselves to the purpose of our Federation, to bring the spiritualizing force of music to the inner life of our nation. Open our minds that divine knowledge and wisdom may teach us how best to execute our pledge.

Inspiration

Marcia Nobel, MFMC Chaplain

Convention Welcome and Introductions Alisha Snyder

Reading of the Convention Standing Rules Barb Davis, Parliamentarian

- ***The standing rules were read without objection.***

Presentation of Convention Program Steven Mastrogiacomo, Jackie Livesay

Report from 2024 Readers Sharon Gomulka, Recording Secretary

- ***The Minutes of the 2024 MFMC Annual Convention were approved.***

Reports of MFMC Members Serving NFMC

Junior Division Chair Laurie M. Marshall - no report

MFMC Representative to NFMC Mary Jane Timmer

- Oral Report given.

NFMC Festival Cup Chair Mary Jane Timmer -

- Cup prices will not increase but the shipping price will increase.

NFMC Choral Chair Penny Draper

- Oral report about incentive awards. Reports are encouraged to be submitted.

NE Region Festival Committee Arlene Anger

- Manual northeastern states tabulations are done by Arlene. She will continue doing this for two more years in hope that Vivace reporting will be updated to do this reporting step.

Reports of MFMC Officers

President Alisha Snyder

- Expressed appreciation to everyone who has worked behind the scenes, including those who volunteered to run 16 festivals, and the positive impact.

First Vice President Jackie Livesay

- Has compiled names of everyone who has served 25 and 50 years.

Second Vice President Steven Mastrogiacomo

- Expressed appreciation to collegiate chapters.

Treasurer Thomas Nobel

- Treasurer's report was given by Alisha.

Asst. Treasurer for Membership Arlene Anger

- Thanked everyone for their timely membership submissions.
- 14 Senior clubs; 694 senior members; 164 individuals Junior clubs; 4 Club sponsored Junior Clubs; 2,703 Junior club members

Immediate Past President Arlene Anger

- Served as Nominating Committee chair and announced this years' Slate.

Reports of Standing Committees

Executive Alisha Snyder, MFMC President

- Treasurer role and responsibilities are changing.
- An accounting firm has been hired.
- MFMC Bylaws have been updated to reflect changes.

Finance Laurie M. Marshall, Chair - no report

Awards Beatrice Wassenberg, Chair

- Encouraged more participation for awards and on the Awards Committee.

Festivals Mary Jane Timmer, Chair

- in process of gathering festival numbers/data

Communications Kaye Rittinger, Chair

- Refer to *Profiles* to stay aware of club activities.
- Soliciting members feedback regarding *Counterpoint* publication.

Bylaws Laurie M. Marshall, Chair - no report

Honorary Advisory Council Mary Irvine, Chair

- A card of encouragement was signed by convention attendees and sent to Mary.

Leadership Education Laurie M. Marshall, Chair

- Alisha stated: See *Counterpoint* newsletter for upcoming information (per Alisha).

Music Activities Donna Belzer, Chair

- Please send news about club activities to Donna (per Alisha).

Past Presidents Assembly Joanne Holman, Chair

- A card of encouragement was signed by convention attendees and sent to Joanne.

Convention Steven Mastrogiacomo, Jackie Livesay, Co-Chairs

- Mail-in and online registration was offered this year.
- Expressed great appreciation to those who helped make the convention a success.

Reports of District and Senior Club Presidents

Northeast District Kaye Rittinger, President

- In person meetings have resumed with success.
- The Presidents of NE district were acknowledged.

The Birmingham Musicale Bea Wassenberg, President

- Next year Birmingham Musicale's 100th anniversary will be celebrated.

Owosso Musicale Gordon Brenner & Donna Belzer, Co-Presidents

- Owosso Musicale will explore different community outreach opportunities.

The Port Huron Musicale Diane Tomiuk, President

- Musicale Hour concert series is looking for more musicians to present a 45 minute concert.

St. Cecilia Society of Flint Alesia Johnson, President

- October - May have performing concerts and a student musicale

The Tuesday Musicale of Greater Pontiac Mary Ann LaMonte, President

Northwest District Mary Jane Timmer, President

Grand Rapids Musicians' League Mary Jane Timmer, President

Southeast District Steven Mastrogiacomo, President

Ann Arbor Music Club Sandy Huang, President

Camerata Music Society Paul Wilhelm, President

Royal Oak Musicale Ann Liska, Vice President

Vivace Music Club Sara Aylesworth, President

Southwest District Michele Armstrong, President

Jackson Tuesday and Lansing Matinee Musicale sponsored a successful choral workshop last October.

Battle Creek Morning Musical Club Daniel Forbes, President

- Highlighted having two workshops and a served lunch as part of their festival to encourage students and parents to enjoy the whole day.
- Successfully moved the festival to Kellogg Community College. By adding short seminars and food they retained student festival participation throughout the day.

Jackson Tuesday Musicale Barb Palmer, President

- The chorus collaborated with a chorus at an assisted living facility in December, and was successful enough to bring students and choruses back together in May.

Lansing Matinee Musicale Laura Stebbins, President

- Shifted monthly programs to Sunday and combined it with having their Performing Art Students perform. Organized a successful organ walk.
- Spoke of their partnership with a strategic planning and marketing company to revive their club. Laura will be giving a short presentation of their activities to the convention attendees.

The meeting recessed at 11:00 am.

The convention meeting reconvened at 1:46 pm.

State/Interstate

Lake Michigan Music Club Laurie M. Marshall, President - not present

Unfinished Business - none

New Business

- Proposed Budget July 1, 2025 - June 30, 2026
 - Accounting Firm ZZZ Business Solutions was hired.
 - ***The budget was approved unanimously.***
- Proposed Bylaws - ***changes were unanimously approved as amended.***
 - Art. III - unanimously approved
 - Art. IV - unanimously approved. *Michele Armstrong asked who were the signatories. Alisha said that the financial chair and president are the signatories. (See Article IV. D. 9)*
 - Art. V - unanimously approved
 - Art. VI - unanimously approved

- Art. VII - unanimously approved
- Art. VIII - unanimously approved
- Art. IX - unanimously approved
- Art. X - no change
- Art. XI - unanimously approved
- Art. XII - unanimously approved
- Art. XIII - unanimously approved
- Art. XIV - unanimously approved
 - Michele Armstrong made a motion to amend Art. XIV line 1 to replace, “Committee, the Finance Committee, and the Investment Sub-Committees” with “and Finance Committees”. Karla Shotts seconded. - ***unanimously approved.***
 - Diane Tomiuk made a motion to amend Art. XIV line 5 to replace “Committee, Finance Committee, and/or the Investment Sub-Committees” with “and/or Finance Committees”. Kay Rittinger seconded. - ***unanimously approved.***
- Art. XV - no change
- Art. XVI - no change
- Art. XVII - no change
- Election and Installation of Officers
 - Proposed for Election
 - President - Jackie Livesay
 - First Vice President - Steven Mastrogiacomo
 - Secretary - Anne Frank
 - Treasurer - Susan Allen
 - ***The slate of officers was unanimously elected.***
 - Installation of Officers, led by Mary Jane Timmer

Announcements - none

Adjournment: 2:46 pm

Respectfully submitted,

Sharon Gomulka, Recording Secretary