

NACUSAsf Meeting, September 11, 2011, 6:00 PM at Anne Baldwin's home

Attending: Dale Victorine (*President*), Joanne D. Carey (*Secretary*), Karl Schmidt (*Treasurer*), Anne Baldwin, John Beeman, Brian Holmes, Peter Deutsch and Nancy Bloomer-Deussen.

Dale called this meeting to discuss the financial status of our chapter.

TREASURER'S REPORT: Karl Schmidt

Karl prepared a financial report detailing our 2011-2012 budget and projected cash flow. We currently have a positive balance of just over \$1800 that includes a recent \$950 in members' dues from NACUSA National. Karl informed us that we are the largest chapter in U.S. with about 40 members, four of which are lifetime members who don't need to pay annual dues. We are currently in need of funds to pay for our November CPE Concert. We have been asking composers to voluntarily contribute to concerts in which their music is performed. If each composer gave \$50, we would have an additional \$400 to pay for this concert.

Karl explained some of the circumstances that have set us back recently. One is the unavailability of the PAAC while the City of Palo Alto renovates the building. Using the PAAC was cheaper than the venues we are currently using, especially for the required liability insurance that was offered through the City of Palo Alto. Prior to the recession the City of Palo Alto also supported us with an annual contribution of \$1,000.

Peter Deutsch suggested that we try to find an umbrella policy for this insurance, however this doesn't seem to be an option at the present time; we have no 'larger' organization that we can group with.

Fundraising: Dale asked Karl how we fared with the Dan Levitan harp concert. Karl said we lost money on it even though it was an excellent concert with polished performances. Karl again pointed out that we continue to be unable to draw an audience from outside of our group. Peter responded that this is common with most of the music groups that he has been involved with. Brian offered to post announcements of our concerts on the "Composers' Forum". Dale postulated that if we had a season brochure, our audience base would expand. Brian countered that the reason we don't is that we don't know our program far enough in advance.

Dale referred again to the fundraising letter he sent out to everyone, and encouraged us to request money from people we know. John Beeman expressed his opinion that we should pressure our members to seek tax-deductible donations from their friends or acquaintances.

Peter Deutsch said that he had not been aware of our budget needs until now, since he had not been attending meetings. He was surprised that the overall budget was as small as it is. He then revealed that he has access to money from his former company, Architect Software, where he was president. When he left the company, he persuaded the new president, whom he chose, to allow Peter to allocate 1% of the income from the company annually to a non-profit of his choice. He said that this year's allocation had already been made, but he would like to donate \$1000 next year. He said the company has been bringing in an annual income of 3 million dollars a year.

Peter also said he has experience with fundraising for other non-profits. He informed us that many large companies, such as HP or Google, are not interested in making small donations. It may be possible to get Apple or Google or other companies to offer to match a smaller donation goal, such

as \$1,000. Anne added that HP donated \$50,000 to the Ives Quartet for a two-year span.

Grants: Dale proposed that we form a committee and get serious about applying for some grants to support our Chapter and our concerts. He and Nancy had already agreed to participate; Brian volunteered to join them. Karl, whose work writing and organizing our last grant was gratefully acknowledged, said he may get involved, but would rather work at it on-line. Nancy said she preferred getting together at the beginning and 'hammering it out", but Brian pointed out that that may not be the most efficient use of everyone's time. Brian suggested that when you find a website on-line, the best thing to do is to call them. You get information much quicker than through e-mail or mail. His view was that you couldn't do much in one evening. Anne said that there is more competition for grants now than there was a few years ago. Dale asked for a commitment to a specific date to meet. Anne said she might get involved depending on the timing of the meeting, as she has other obligations this fall. Brian recommended getting as much information from organizations in advance before meeting.

Brian also suggested that we look into collaborations with other groups, such as dance groups. Dale said that he had some experience with a dance group in Salinas and they wanted a lot of money to work out the choreography. Anne objected that the focus of the dance group would be visual rather than aural. Brian and others expressed their opinion that this didn't matter if we had successful performances and a good audience. Anne said that the San Francisco Contemporary Players have experience with visual collaborations.

Brian then proposed an evening of movie music - presenting old silent movies with original music by our chapter. No decision was made about these new options.

Title for CPE concert in November: Dale asked everyone to try to think of a good title for our upcoming concert now that the program is set. After bouncing between "fantastical" and "insomnia" as a key theme, we settled on "Music for Insomniacs".

Motion: *John Beeman motioned that we name this concert "Music for Insomniacs". Dale seconded the motion that passed unanimously.*

Dale wrapped up the meeting by telling us a bit about the Delphi Trio that he hired for our June 2012 special group concert. He said the trio was fairly new; the performers had graduated from the San Francisco Conservatory's Master's Chamber Music Program. He said he would be sure to request one rehearsal, besides the dress rehearsal, where the composer can be present.

He announced that the next meeting would be Thursday October 6th at Joanne's house. We were informed by Anne and Nancy that they will be unavailable on this date.

Meeting Adjourned at 7:45 PM

Respectfully Submitted,
Joanne D. Carey
Secretary of NACUSAsf