

NPM CLEVELAND CHAPTER MEETING

-MINUTES-

February 28, 2010

3:00 – 5:00 p.m.

Gesu Parish, University Hts., OH

Present:

Dan Bergen

Jeff Foukes

Jason Lewis –Co Director

Charlene McElwee –Coordinator of Planning

Joe Metzinger –Coordinator of Planning

Ruth Novak –Secretary/Treasurer

Janet Noveske

Susanne Sande –Co Director

Absent:

Bob Soeder –Director of Recruitment

Exchange for Learning

Janet Noveske and Joe Metzinger

- Janet and Joe presented points of discussion from the NPM Winter Colloquium in Washington, D.C. This was a presentation by former NPM National President Virgil Funk, of the theology of music from the writings of Benedict XVI, before he became Pope.
- “Faith Becoming Music” was the focus of the Colloquium, involving Benedict XVI’s ideas on God continually revealing Himself to us and the path taken to get to that point. His ideas were controversial when he first came out with them, but are ones we are familiar with today.
- Colloquium participants came away with a renewed excitement about the role of music in church. Discerning which music puts us in a truly spiritual place; in synergy with what liturgy is supposed to do (rather than just singing for its own sake), was a take-away for further reflection and thought.

Business

Part I – Chapter Business

Jason Lewis and Susanne Sande

- ACTION: Jason is in the process of revising the membership form. Once it is done and reviewed, it will be sent via email to those we have email addresses for, and by regular mail for those without email addresses. He has already drafted the letter.
- Included in the mailing will be information on the Chapter Discount (for those who haven’t taken advantage of the Early Bird Registration). We need at least 10 participants to take advantage of that discount.
- \$5 is still the determined dues because of parish closings and the economy. (When I put the form together for Jason, I used the figures that were decided at our last officer meeting, which I thought was \$10 for an individual and \$25 for parish membership. Since I came to the meeting late on Sunday, I missed this part of the discussion. Question will be what period this dues is for – is it for 2009-2010, or calendar year of 2010? Or something else? In the past, the dues were for July to June.)

- ACTION: Susanne and Jason will be sending a letter to Bishop Lennon in March, introducing themselves and asking what role NPM Cleveland can play in supporting the educational efforts of the Office for Worship, for the new GIRM.

Part 2 – Planning

Joe Metzinger and Charlene McElwee

- Ruth suggested that offering skill building Master Classes is one way NPM Cleveland can make a valuable contribution to pastoral musicians. She asked about pricing for a Flute Master Class she is having in March, and after feedback, decided on \$15 for NPM members and \$20 for non-members.
- Topics for workshops/events were brainstormed:
 - Sing to the Lord
 - Choral Pedagogy (esp. w/ Marc Weagraff and Frank Bianchi (Marc Weagraff and Frank Bianchi were suggested as very competent local presenters))
 - Psalm Settings
 - Use of Percussion
 - Contemporary/Folk Music in the new liturgical environment
 - St. Cecilia Sing
 - Effective Use of Handbells
 - Sequences (better used as topic for Chew and Chat lunch meeting)
 - Funeral/Ritual Music (better used as topic for Chew and Chat lunch meeting)
- It is important to research what other events are being planned in the area to avoid duplication.
- Events/Meetings need to be publicized well in advance.
- Ruth suggested that if we bring in a guest artist at some point we could have the workshop at one parish/place and a concert at another, to reach more people. NOTE: any out of town guest artists need to be cleared with Bishop Lennon. (My suggestion was that if we were paying for airfare and housing for someone to come in for a weekend, that perhaps the artist might be okay with 2 concerts – at 2 different places, with workshop at one of the two places. I know that I didn't express this well, but that was my intent.)
- ACTION: Ruth is going to contact Claudia Woolard to ask if her next Music Swap can be done in conjunction with NPM Cleveland.
- The idea of a Mini-Convention “mini-convention” (like 1 or 2 days with breakout sessions) was explored and it was decided to work toward this; targeting an October date. June will be the primary planning month, with a meeting to finalize in September.
- ACTION: Susanne will contact St. Basil's Music Director to ask if it would be possible to hold the convention there.
- ACTION: Officers will contact people they think would give good breakout sessions and get an idea of what is already being planned in the area.
- Some Learning and Enrichment ideas were also presented:
 - Handling Criticism and Conflict
 - Difference between Music Ministry and Performance
 - Music Notation Software

Part 3 – Recruiting

Chapter Officers

- When publicizing the February 28th meeting, Bob had reported via email that 3 people expressed interest, but could not attend at this time.
- Bob also forwarded an inquiry from an Akron based person who wondered if they could still be part of the Cleveland NPM Chapter. This question was similar to one brought up by Dan in the past. ACTION: Susanne has been inquiring since January with the NPM National office, but has not yet received an answer. **I must have missed this question at the meeting. Anyone in the Diocese can be a member of the Cleveland Chapter. There is no longer an Akron Branch of the Cleveland Chapter, and there is only one “Chapter” in each Diocese. I think the question has been raised in the past about someone in the Youngstown Diocese being a member of Cleveland, and the answer has been YES.**
- ACTION: Bob was asked to publicize Ruth’s Flute Master Class and he sent an email blast out on 3/1/2010.
- ACTION: Dan will put a small summary about this meeting on the website and will also publish the date/time/place of the next meeting.

Part 4 – Future Meetings:

- **Wednesday, June 9th at 7 or 7:30pm, St. Monica’s Parish**, hosted by Bob Soeder
 - Focus will be on what is needed to make our Mini Convention successful in October!
- **September meeting at St. Malachi’s Parish**, hosted by Charlene McElwee
 - ACTION: Charlene –New date/time?
 - Finalize plans for October Mini Convention
 - Plan 2011 –set meetings and discuss publicizing (drafting brochure, updating website), programming, possible events.

Music Showcase

- The meeting concluded with a wonderful Prayer Service –Coordinated by Joe Metzinger/Gesu, which allowed us to experience a variety of rich hymns and psalms, interspersed with bells, prayer and readings.

Minutes submitted by: Susanne Sande and