

MINUTES - Southeastern Region (SER) Meeting, July 12-13, 2024, Brevard, North Carolina.

On Friday, July 12, 2024, at the Burt Alumni House of Brevard's Music Center, the South Carolina Federation welcomed the SER of NFMF to its Annual Summer Meeting with a reception on the porch from 4- 5:30. Then SER VP Joel Adams, greeted everyone inside. An invocation was given by Karen Herndon followed by Marcia Chaplin introducing honored guests: Deborah Freeman - NFMF President, Sara Kellar - SER Meeting Hostess Chair, Beth Kramer of Brevard's Music School and Jason Posnack ,Brevard's CEO who welcomed us to their campus. Dinner honoring Deborah Freeman was served after which NFMF President, Deborah Freeman gave a presentation how "Nature Inspires Music". A piano concerto program was presented at Brevard's Whittington-Pfohl Auditorium.

On Saturday, July 13, 2024, the SER Business Meeting was called to order at 9:30 am by VP Adams. The music team of Dale Clark and Lana Bailey led in singing the Federation Hymn. Claudia Sandifer shared a devotional. Margarita Harvey lead NFMF's collect. The pledge of Allegiance was led by Brenda Dean followed by the National Anthem. The minutes of the SER's meeting at the NFMF 2024 Conference in Iowa were read by Secretary Debra Hughes and were approved as submitted. Treasurer Kim Harvey submitted the treasurer's report which was approved.

Ruth Morrow, Chair of the SER Summer Fellows Committee, introduced and presented the Summer Fellows medals and pins to the inaugural Fellows. This program directly will fund the summer scholarship program.

VP Adams appointed Dale Clark as SER's liaison to Brevard to expedite communication to one person rather than a committee.

Lana Bailey made a motion "to establish a Summer Music Festival Award Fund with \$100,000 goal to be divided equally between the Eastern Music Festival and Sewanee Summer Music Festival. The time to divide the fund into two equal award accounts and to initiate award presentation is to be determined." The motion was approved.

Treasurer Harvey made a motion "to increase the Beth McAuley Award to a Brevard Music Center student from \$2000 to \$2500 annually beginning in 2025." with the explanation that the accounts can well bear this additional amount. Motion was approved.

Treasurer Harvey moved "that SER implement an annual dues of \$50 per each active SER state, due by 6/30 of each year, beginning in 2025." to fund the SER's online fees and other official business. The motion was approved.

Nancy Eckert moved that “Southeastern Region hold live summer meetings only in even years with an annual Regional luncheon meeting at the NFMC Convention/conferences with the option of virtual meetings when needed to begin in the summer of 2026.” The motion was defeated.

A reminder was mentioned that all motions are to be written out and sent to SER officers before the meetings on an approved motion template.

The Advisory Committee is working on inconsistencies of verbiage in the SER by-laws and standing rules. Discussion about the new proposal of asking for \$5 for 5 years from senior members of SER ensued.

Student scholarship winners of Brevard performed:

1. Bassoonist Samuel Lee – NFMC scholarship, age 16 from Maryland
2. Pianist Lian Leine - NFMC scholarship, age 19, from New York
3. Cellist Arowyn Almeida - SER scholarship, age 19, from Virginia
4. Pianist Daniel Huang – NFMC scholarship age 16 from South Carolina

The report of attendance are as follows: Alabama- 0, Florida-1, Georgia -2, Kentucky – 0, Louisiana -4, Mississippi – 0, North Carolina – 2, South Carolina – 20, Tennessee – 2 and Virginia - 4. A very appreciative thanks was given to all of the meeting’s planners/workers from the 2024 host state of South Carolina. Next year’s summer meeting host state is Alabama. The song team then led everyone in the NFMC Benediction after which the meeting was adjourned.

Respectfully submitted,
Debra S. Hughes, SER Secretary