

Music Club Austin

Minutes April 2, 2025

First Unitarian Universalist Church

Austin, Texas

President Elisabeth Moreno called the meeting to order at 10 am and welcomed the 25 members in attendance. Following the invocation Beth turned the meeting over to the program leader, Pat YIngst. The rest of the program, which proceeded without changes, can be seen at the end of the minutes.

After a final round of applause for the performers, the business meeting was called to order and the minutes of the March meeting approved. The revised version of the updated by-laws were also adopted which now include wording that gives the club greater latitude (Section 1, Article IX) in scheduling meetings and establishing a quorum. They will be posted on the club's website.

Beth reminded members about the upcoming Spring Luncheon on May 14th, featuring the winners of the Wilcox Maurer competition. A letter going out on April 16th will remind members to make their reservations by May 7.

Katharine Shields, treasurer, was out of town but asked that the club begin to deliberate on whether it wanted to renew its contract with the Austin Woman's Club for future luncheons. The club operates now primarily as a rental venue with catering arranged separately by the client. Rental cost, even with a non-profit discount is close to \$600 for a weekday lunchtime slot. Catering costs will start at \$35 a head and increase depending on menu, servers, etc.

For the spring awards luncheon, Wilcox Maurer funds from the Maria Putter bequest can be used to help cover costs. The fall event, however, will need to be covered in the yearly budget. A favorable return rate on a large CD will make that possible this year but possibly not in the future. Dwindling membership number, increased TFMC/NFMC dues and general inflationary pressures will begin to strain the budget.

A discussion followed in which most members expressed a preference for staying with the Austin Woman's Club but perhaps exploring other caterers. There was strong sentiment about the social value of the luncheons and the fact that Music Club Austin shares an association with the Austin Woman's Club going back quite some time. Regarding alternative venues, Kathryn Govier reminded us that the First Unitarian Church's Fellowship Hall would be available but it was not immediately clear if they allowed outside caterers. Taking members' input into account, Katharine and the Hospitality Committee will continue to explore options.

The final business item dealt with the upcoming NFMC Convention in Austin, June 10-14. Lynn McNew, the state organizer, is looking for volunteers to help assemble goodie bags, greet registrants, set up table decorations, etc. Beth directed members to some copies of the convention schedule available on the table in the lobby. The most significant entertainment features of the convention would seem to be the Invoke Concert on Wednesday evening; Mela

Dailey's vocal performance Thursday evening; and the formal banquet with performances by Young Artists on Friday night. Beth encouraged members to go to the website and familiarize themselves with the schedule: www.nfmc-music.org Deadline for purchasing any meal ticket is June 1.

Beth asked for announcements and Elise reminded members about the upcoming Tapestry Singers' performance, advertised in the events calendar of the April Noteworthy. Also a joint concert of Mosaic Women's Ensemble and Austin Girls' Choir will be held on Sunday, April 27, at 4 p.m. in the chapel of The Seminary of the Southwest at 501 E. 32nd, 78705.

Program

Program Leader: **Pat Yingst**

Song Leader: **Susan Ashworth** Accompanist: **Kathryn Govier**

Song: "The Spacious Firmament on High" (sheet music)

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Solveig's Song from "Peer Gynt" by Edward Grieg (1843-1907)

La Pastorella (The Shepherd Maid), Lieder D 528 by Franz Schubert (1797-1828)

La Danza (Tarantella Napoletana) by Gioachino Rossini (1792-1868)

Performed by **Elise Ragland**, soprano, and **Brian Grothues**, pianist

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Allegro con brio from "Sonata in C Major, Op.53 ("Waldstein")" by Ludwig van Beethoven (1770-1827)

Performed by **Melanie Richards**, pianist

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I Moderato and *II Vivace* from "Sonata for Piano" by Aaron Copland (1900-1990)

Performed by **Tim Woolsey**, pianist

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IV Allegro mosso from "Sonata for Cello and Piano in G Minor, Op. 19" by Sergei Rachmaninoff (1873 – 1945)

Performed by **Terri Freeland**, cellist, and **Brian Grothues**, pianist