

General Membership Meeting Minutes, August 14th 2012

Those present were: Robert King, Linda Lee Friend, Kimberly McLemore, Gerald Patton, Stella McKnight, Doug Parks, David Collins, Sandy Elliott, Elizabeth Evans, Lorna Pyka, Alexis Yatizis-Derryberry, Gina Kelly, Judy Yeaworth, Valerie DeHoff, David Winton, Jenny Bastoky, Wendy Payne, Brian Russell, Lisa Zimdars, Kennda Ross, Greg Herring, Crystal Juechter, Ashlee Sexton, Suzanne Craig, Elizabeth Harrell, Stephanie Nolan, Natalie Pratt, Terri Godfrey, Missy Cook, Matthew Smyth, Nancy Turner, Julie Cox, Elizabeth Evans, Brenda Jewell, Cindy Fehrman, Margaret Campbelle-Holman, Brenda Gregory, Grant Farmer, Gary Wilson, Kirk Averitt, Seth Jones, Will Hester, Mary Lee Atenhan, Mindy Hoover and Charlie Mason.

Lia Holland called the meeting to order and recognized Sandy Elliott who has done a considerable amount for our organization. She also recognized Dirk DeYoung from Music for America who provided refreshments for everyone. He spoke to the group and offered his services for school trips. Lia recognized Robert and Lipscomb Academy for allowing us to have the meeting at their school.

Jeanette MacCullum gave the treasurer's report. She pointed out that some schools have a credit. She asked that those schools would deduct their credit from any registrations due to MTVA. There is also a receivable from TMEA from over paid All-State fees. She pointed out that this year's Profit and Loss was in a negative balance. This was partly due to the new piece of equipment that we had to purchase for the audition process. It was also pointed out that the expenses are up for our events, partly due to the rising cost of travel. The question was asked if there were any discussion on cost cutting. The possibility was discussed of using local clinicians. There was also discussion concerning the cost of hospitality, meals and entertainment for Mid-State. A question was raised concerning the possibility of doing away with hospitality for Mid-State. There was an informal vote and several raised their hands in favor of doing away with hospitality.

Jeanette also discussed that there are two fees that you must pay before registering for an event. You must pay a personal membership fee of \$25 and a school activity fee of \$50 is also due. She recommended that teachers mail their own payments and not rely on others to get it in the mail so that you do not run the risk of getting a late fee. Do not wait until the day of an event to register. There might be a technology glitch and the possibility of a late fee. Special requests should be submitted with your registration. Any special requests that are sent in separately also have a fee assessed.

Sandy Elliott asked if we might be able to have a fees page on our website. A question was asked how directors who teach at multiple schools should register. Jeanette would check with Terri on how this would be handled.

Brenda Gregory brought up that her bookkeeper needs an invoice. A suggestion was given to print the registration. However, the \$50 is not on the page. Jeanette said she would be glad to submit an invoice to you. She has a new email, treasurer@mtva.org

Alexis Yatuzis-Derryberry gave a report on the TMEA Council. She provided emails of all board members of the TMEA. These items were discussed at the meeting: NAFME added an in-service conference that will be in Nashville at Opryland. The National Honors Ensemble will take place during this week and it is

based upon their All-State scores. TMEA was not consulted for this conference and there were some concerns. NAFME is also considering have a deadline for joining their organization. This would be a change from the current policy where members may join at any time and their renewal date is dependent on the month they joined. Student Eligibility was discussed concerning what defines a school. We are encouraging TMEA to develop a policy that defines what is a "school".

Alexis gave the membership information on the TN Treble Choir which will perform at the opening of the TMEA conference on Thursday, April 11th. She announced that Gretchen Harrison would be the conductor for this year's group. Rollo Dillworth will be the conductor for 2015.

She also announced that we will meet at O'Charley's for the next meeting at Hickory Hollow. That will be on Tuesday, September 11th.

Lia reminded everyone that special requests will still only have a limited number of options. You will be given the choice of the day and either early or late. No specific time requests will be honored.

Lorna Pyka gave a report on the Middle School Mass Event. The date for the event is 9/25 and the deadline to register is 9/7. There is a \$5 per student fee for this event. The clinicians will be Angelina Tipps, Brian Russell and JJ Ebelhar. The music is approved and ready to go with Pepper. You can now order your music. The repertoire is available on-line at www.mtva.org.

Terri Godfrey gave her report for Mid-State. The audition repertoire has changed. Please make sure you check the website for the current pieces. Mid-State will be on 11/8 and the deadline to register is 9/7. Clinicians and repertoire have been approved.

Gerald gave his report on Freshman Honors. Auditions are 9/28 & 29 and the event is on 11/8. Clinicians and repertoire have been approved. Mid-State and Freshman Honors will be held at The Christ Church in Brentwood, TN.

Ashlee Sexton gave her report for Elementary Honors. Michelle Paynter will be the clinician. She is still in need for an accompanist. Please contact her if you are interested.

Crystal Juechter gave her report for Middle School Honors. Elementary and Middle School Honors auditions will be on the same day of 11/10. 10/19 is the deadline to register. James Wells will be the clinician. The location is still to be determined.

Cindy Ferhman will give her report on the Choral Festival at the next meeting. However, the dates for this event are on-line.

Shawn Frazier gave his report on Solo and Ensemble. Last year's event was very successful. The accompanists were exceptional and he was very grateful to them. There was a registration error due to the on-line registration process. The budget was still met and it has been corrected for the next time. The event may be at MTCS this year. They may also join with the other two regions to make the event larger. The deadline is 4/5. The event is 5/4. There is more allowance in the genre of music for this event in comparison to choral festival.

Craig Zamer will be doing some professional development hopefully in November.

There were two motions that were presented to the body. They are both changes to the constitution. Article 4 section 6, adding a deadline for the membership fee to join MTVA. This creates a problem with having a list of exactly who are members. This motion comes from the board that there will be a deadline of 9/1 for membership fees to MTVA. This is just the director fee and not the school fee.

There was a concern of the date being too early. However, the first event deadline is 9/7. There was discussion that placing it in effect for this year would be too early. The opinion was that it would be the first event deadline of each year. Robert King made the motion to make the deadline 10/1 for this year and then 9/1 for hereafter. Crystal Juechter made a motion to amend the constitution to 9/7. Valerie DeHoff seconded the motion. It was called for a vote and the motion to amend did pass. The registration deadline will be 9/7. Charlie seconded the motion to amend the constitution from 7/1 to 9/7. Lia called for a vote on the amended motion to the constitution. The motion passed and the new deadline will be 9/7.

The next motion from the board was presented by Jeanette. The motion was to amend Article 12 Section 3. Student fee would remain of \$5 for audition. There would now be a \$10 student participation fee for those who would participate in the Freshman Honors and Mid-State Choir. This motion was brought by the board to meet the higher expenses that are currently incurred by this event. The board proposes for this year that this \$10 fee would cover your music cost for your students. A question was raised that if directors had the music in their library, would that affect this fee. It would not affect this fee. This is a participation fee, not necessarily a music fee. This would also help cover the cost of travel for clinicians. Brenda Gregory discussed that this would enable us to get those clinicians that are further away and would help to raise the level and quality of this event. Robert King questioned why we need to purchase music for directors and why it wouldn't be their responsibility. Jeanette discussed that it is easier for Pepper to meet the demand with a bulk order instead of small orders from individual directors. Lia mentioned that we would also have Pepper mail the music packets directly to individual schools. She also mentioned that when ordering in bulk there are perks from Pepper like shipping and discounts. This also eliminates the possibility of students showing up without music. Lia called for a vote on the motion of \$10 Student participation fee. The motion passed.

The final motion was to vote on the Elementary Honor Chair. Chris Gregory was elected in the February meeting but he declined. Ashlee Sexton was appointed by the board. Lia called for a vote on Ashlee Sexton as Elementary Honor Chair. That motion passed.

Sandy Elliott gave a report on student eligibility as far as what constitutes a "school". There is going to be a ruling from a state level, so TMEA has asked for our opinions. She asked for our input on who is allowed to bring students to MTVA sponsored events. Sandy is going to put the other criteria from the other two regions on our website and allow members to give their opinions on the wording. "What constitutes a participating school in our organization."

Lia called for new business. Gary Wilkes announced a Mid-State Workshop 9/15 at Lipscomb. He also announced a 9/18 Cantus Concert at Lipscomb. He would like for any male students to join them for the day. They will rehearse together during the day and Cantus will give a concert that evening.

Robert King made a motion to adjourn to caucuses and Stella seconded the motion. The membership adjourned to caucus.