

## **GENERAL MEMBERSHIP MEETING MINUTES**

### **AMEA Conference, Renaissance Montgomery**

**January 25, 2014**

The meeting was called to order at 8:04 am by President, Jody Powell.

Minutes of the previous meeting were read and approved with corrections.

Financial report was given with the following assets:

- checking-\$113,758.56, savings-\$11,628.13, for a total of \$125,386.69.
- Pat stated that we won't know the impact of raised fees for a while yet, and asked members to express our thanks to those organizations/businesses assisting us with waived fees, and free services (JW Pepper, Starbucks, UA, UAB).
- Moira Smiley monitored alavocal to get numbers for her music, and pursued possible problems on her own. Becky Rockhill asked if we could turn down pieces like this to avoid these kinds of problems. Jody shared that we did try.
- Megan Rudolph stated that more problems like these are likely to happen because composers are doing their own publishing, and JW Pepper has a self-publishing how-to on their website. With no further questions, the report was filed for audit.

Jody shared that AVA has had a lean year, but we hope to recoup the funds. Please remember to use current forms and fees - \$50 school fee, \$2 per student for SCPA, \$7 per student for AS auditions. Lots of registration/fees are still due for AS – drop dead date is March 6!!!

### **AMEA**

- We will be close to breaking even for this conference since we have Honor Choir. And FYI – Fall Workshop cleared \$1900 and OCS/OA/ME will clear almost \$1500.
- Jody expressed pride in AVA's function within the parent organization.
- Jeannie Bubbett asked that we share our AS audition procedure with band directors, as they are looking for a way for theirs to be more student-centered.
- Jody expressed thanks to all directors who assisted with HC screenings.
- AVA NAFME membership is solid, which speaks of your professionalism.
- Jerry Cunningham praised the Huntsville MS boy's silent self-discipline off stage during their concert!

- Brent Coleman asked that Jody propose to the AMEA board to look to programming and warmup time onstage as well as a warmup room for groups next year, and that choirs NOT be asked to sing at 8 am!
- Directors asked that more time be allowed for sessions, but Jody stated that time was determined by the number of submissions and performing groups.
- Sherry Smith asked about students in ASSC or HC not being allowed to miss rehearsals in order to perform with their own schools on the AMEA program. This rule has been in place all along.
- Please use the comment form and let AMEA know how the Guidebook App worked for you.
- Pat is now serving on the AMEA strategic planning committee. WIFI was complimentary at Renaissance thanks to AMEA, and a change of management here.

#### **FALL WORKSHOP**

- Thanks to Marvin Latimer and UA for hosting us free of charge. We had great sessions, and Carl Hancock will be sharing his session with several other state organizations as well as posting on You Tube.

#### **ALL STATE SHOW CHOIR**

- Thanks to Jane for her work in coordinating this event. Clinicians have been great.
- Thanks to Jerry Cunningham for ALL his work/effort in set up.
- Becky Rockhill expressed thanks to the entire board for the level of instruction provided to our students at these events, and encouraged more directors to have students participate.
- Jody asked for help with break down after the Honor Choir concert.

#### **ALL STATE**

- We had LOTS of auditioners! SSA especially! If you have more ideas for a way for more students to be able to participate, please pass that along in writing to the board. We are limited to the number of singers our current rehearsal/performance site will allow. Samford is THE largest concert hall in our state.
- Tim Banks has been made Professor Emeritus at Samford and will be helping with AS logistics
- Due to several problems, MEALS WILL NOT BE ON CAMPUS THIS YEAR! Time will be added to the schedule to accommodate travel. Megan Rudolph suggested several options for added dining possibilities. Jody stated that we hope to have more organized police presence.
- Numbers for this year's choirs are: SATB-317, SSA-222, TTBB-166, MSM-178,

### MST-212.

- Jane asked that middle school directors check tenors/basses and make sure on voice changes – YOU MUST LET PAT KNOW IF CHANGES ARE NECESSARY SO SEATING CAN BE CORRECT.
- Parking will be a problem on Thursday evening due to a Samford event – ALL PARKING CLOSE TO WRIGHT CENTER WILL BE CLOSED TO AVA THAT NIGHT.

### OCS/OA/ME

- Lots of auditionees!
- Our State ME is Shelby Morgan from Bob Jones High School. She will be presented on Friday's concert, but awards will be given at All State.
- Directors were reminded that a new rubric is in place for these events for better consistency in judging.

### HONOR CHOIR

- Thanks to Jerry for set up!
- What an amazing concert! Christopher Aspaas was outstanding! There were absolutely no discipline problems because of the student's focus on him in rehearsal. Lana Cornutt stated that directors were just as impressed with his attention to the students!
- Carl expressed thanks to all who assisted in rehearsals, and shared that Aspaas wanted to know our audition process (for All State as well). Debbie Petipas stated that there were band directors impressed with the focus of the rehearsal.
- Carl shared that there were 212 in this choir, and reminded directors of the importance of double checking forms/lists, because what directors send in is what is used for all other printed materials! We "lost" a child due to a communication breakdown.
- Please remember that an underclassman who was a NO SHOW for this event cannot attend in 2016.

### SCPA

- Please remember warmup is NOT the time to learn your music.
- Drop dead date was this past Thursday. You may attend multiple events if you like, and go to other district sites. Know your registration deadlines!
- Sightreading – by Ed Robertson, very accessible. There are multiple examples of SR material within most voicings – you may choose the example you wish to use for your group, but remember if you have several groups of like voicing, each one must read a different example.
- Cathy Spence stated that you must use the same voicing as you performed on stage, but beginning groups may choose to drop 1 voice part for SR.

- Gina Garmon asked that the board clarify in our handbook, for middle school groups, if they perform SAB and SATB onstage, may they SR SAB? Jody stated that this would be done at summer board.
- Pat stated that groups who bring 6-12 performing groups must SR high school material.

Jody shared that new teacher, Kaylor Gilley, had offered to serve as AVA photographer. Directors please feel free to jump in and serve!

Kathy Hughes has sent letters of invitation to ALL superintendents with students in ASSC, and would like to do the same for AS. Please email her with your superintendent's name and email address!

Jody expressed thanks to the entire AVA board for their work with this event, and to all directors in preparing students. Please remember ALL registration goes to PAT now. Pat stated that if you don't get receipts quickly from her, please email or call and double check with bookkeepers – IT IS YOUR RESPONSIBILITY FOR FORMS AND FEES TO GET TO HER, NOT YOUR BOOKKEEPER!

Directors were encouraged to pick up extra/leftover materials/music from sessions.

#### **NEW BUSINESS**

- Paul Edmondson stated that TTBB numbers are dropping (near 50% of those registered to audition cancelled!!). Please make sure students are prepared, and directors are encouraged NOT to send students who are unprepared!
- ALL STATE 2015 – April 9-11 at Samford with OCS/OA on April 8.
- Megan Rudolph shared that group buses are being organized to attend ACDA in Jacksonville, FL, just ask for info if interested. Incentive for 1st timers – ACDA membership will be provided for you if you attend Summer Celebration.
- Carl expressed appreciation for the way the situation with Randolph School was handled – ANOTHER reason for ALL directors to make sure you attend every event with your students!

There being no further business, the meeting was adjourned at 9:05 am.

Respectfully submitted, Susan McCall, Recording Secretary