

March 8, 2013

General Membership Meeting

Samford University, All State

The meeting was called to order at 9 am by President, Jody Powell.

Minutes of the previous meeting were approved with corrections.

The treasurer's report was given with the following assets: \$113,045.10 in checking, \$11,622.98 in savings, for a total of \$124,668.08. Pat reminded the membership that All State bills and some SCPA events have not yet been held. We again lost money at AMEA (\$5613.14) and receive no registration money from that event. Pat expressed thanks for cooperation with the lunch situation at Samford. No show numbers for All State were – 7 MST, 8 MSM, 10 SSA, 5 TTBB, 3 SATB for a total of 33. Certificates had been corrected and were available for pickup; if others are needed see Pat. The report was approved and filed for audit.

ALL STATE SHOW CHOIR – great performance!

- Dale Kincaid did an awesome job polishing the choreography. ^{Della}
- Thanks to Jane for supervising the group.
- Clinicians for 2014 are Mark Meyers-Vocal, ^{Myers} Jerad Voss-choreography. ^{Jerad}
- Auditions are October 10 in Montgomery, October 11-12 in Hanceville
- Becky Rockhill stated that the new participation rule was a success. Many other comments made concerning how this affected the work ethic and behavior of the group. Clinicians were very pleased.

AMEA – Jody expressed thanks for all who attended and asked that if conference evaluations were not done to please do so ASAP.

- Thanks to all who worked in any capacity for the event.
- Please submit recordings to perform!
- There is now criteria in place to prevent out of state performers on the concert program.
- Allen Gillespie asked if there could be any improvement in acoustics. Jody stated that many possibilities had been visited. Carl said that the AMEA board would be looking into other venues for the future.
- FAME informatio(and some other small items)were inadvertently left out of our handbook. That will be corrected over Summer Board.
- Please apply for lobby concert spots (June 1 deadline like the other submissions)!
- Megan Rudolph asked if those deadlines could be changed so those selected could be informed before school is out. Jody will forward that request to AMEA board.
- Next year's conference date is January 23-25.
- Question raised as to who pays for our clinicians at this conference – we share that expense with AMEA for some items. As of now, AMEA is ABA-driven due to their numbers and input. If we want that to change we have to take part and provide feedback!

- Jennifer Fyock asked that more exhibitors for choral/general music be secured.
- Debbie Gray asked if there was any way to help performing groups/directors with expenses due to the fact that they basically receive no benefit from the conference other than their performance time. Jody will bring that to the AMEA board.

ALL STATE – thanks to Philip Copeland, Moya Nordland, Joe Hopkins for their invaluable assistance with this year's event. Dr. Copeland expressed thanks and invited directors to encourage their students to attend the recruiting events provided by Samford on the Wednesday of All State.

- Next year's date April 3-5, 2014 with OCS/OA auditions on the 2nd. There will be major parking issues next year due to a Samford dance program in Harrison Thursday night.
- Thanks for your help with parking this year. Please remember to build time into your schedule to move from place to place! Directors are reminded AGAIN not to take students to the cafeteria until assigned times.
- Auditions for 2014 will be October 31/November 1 – Districts 1 & 5
November 2 – Florence
November 3 – District 4 (1/2 day)
November 4 – District 4
November 5 & 6 – Districts 2 & 3
November 7 – District 6
November 8 – District 7

Directors were reminded they can audition on any of these dates.

OCS/OA/ME – great participation this year, but some districts were not represented in all categories.

- Encourage kids to take part – it's a great learning experience.
- All district/state winners will receive trophies on Saturday's concert program.

SCPA – please remember deadlines are 4 weeks prior to festival! We know about the date being incorrect online. Hopefully that won't happen again.

- DIRECTORS MUST REMEMBER THAT IT IS THEIR RESPONSIBILITY TO GET REGISTRATION AND FEES IN ON TIME (AND CORRECTLY COMPLETED) – NOT YOUR SCHOOL BOOKKEEPER!!
- Late fee/drop dead dates are working, but from this point, registrations will be returned to you until late fees are included when this applies to you.
- Remember ALL registrations go to Pat – we've made her job harder, we must do ours!
- Diana Mayhall reminded members that they can fax/scan and email registrations in with a PO number and send the check later.
- Question raised of the possibility of registering online completely? Possibly, looking into it.
- Megan Rudolph asked that the board re-visit the points/comments for literature on the new adjudication forms. Members were reminded that these forms are under a 2 year trial and will be adjusted as needed then.

HONOR CHOIR AT AMEA - screenings are up to your District Chairman within this window: November 11-December 5.

- Please read handbook information on this event, as ALL directors will be taking part in the screening!
- You must participate in the screening in your own district for this event.

- Clinician will be announced ASAP.

ADVOCACY – Kathy stated that the new diploma is already in place, but the new Course of Study is being delayed.

- AVA is joining with the Arts Advocacy Coalition and other arts groups to further our cause.
- The AMEA census we were supposed to get only got to band people....hopefully this will be in our hands shortly. Please respond ASAP when received.
- Please encourage and mentor new teachers – we must fight for our existence!
- Recognition of retiring teachers: Mike Spivey, Katherine Ables, Steve Fowler.
- Susan informed members of the development of a platform and possible bill to the legislature by Whitney Curtis (Miss Alabama/America organizations). Information will be posted to the alavocal website – directors please respond!
- Time being limited, concerned directors were asked to re-convene in Wright Lobby for further discussion immediately following this meeting.

OLD BUSINESS – none

NEW BUSINESS – Carl explained a technology survey he is conducting that will begin now and end with Summer Board.

- Members are asked to complete the survey online ASAP.
- Carl will compile information and present findings at Summer Board.
- EVERY AVA member will be called if surveys are not completed.

There being no further business, the meeting was adjourned at 9:58 am.

Susan McCall, Recording Secretary

Addendum – Advocacy Meeting – Dianne Johnson stated that the new legislation gives power to the Superintendent/Principal to implement the new diploma requirements.

- Students will be required to have 3 credits in EITHER career tech/foreign language/arts, and are encouraged to take 2 consecutive years of either.
- Problems – colleges require 2 years foreign language, scheduling conflicts, PE requirement, “readiness” class requirement of freshmen, higher ed personnel are mostly unaware this is happening, business/industry driving this new diploma virtually making our future leaders culturally illiterate, this will trickle down to MS and elem.
- Pluses – we can keep students all 4 years, but have to work at it! Fine Arts Endorsement can be added to their diploma now (with 5 units over the course of their study). New appointee to State Board, Tracy Roberts from Baldwin Co.. Becky Walker (Douglas HS) will be chair of ADK fine arts board.
- WE MUST ADVOCATE FOR OUR ART – involve your parents, community, local fine arts groups, use the local news media, seek to add music production/technology to career tech offerings, have choirs perform for ALL local events possible and include school board meetings.
- MOST IMPORTANT – know your audience and personally contact anyone who can help us advocate for the choral art.
- Send ideas to Kathy@alavocal.org.