

# **Governing Board Mtg. September 10, 2016 First United Methodist, Montgomery**

**The meeting was called to order at 6:45.**

Members present were: Ginny Coleman, Meg Jones, Carl Davis, Cathy Spence, Jane Powell, Stacy Owens, Hilan Powell, Ben Cook, Nichole Hill, Cara Thomas, Randall Fields, Jerry Cunningham, Christie Breland, and Rebekah Stevens.

Ginny distributed to the board the All-State pieces to be added to our packet.

Minutes were read by Cathy Spence, and approved with corrections.

## **Financial Report**

Rebekah shared the financial report from the 2015-2016 year end report.

Year End balances were:	Checking: \$79,467.02
	Savings: \$11,633.22
	Total Assets: \$91,100.24
Current balances were:	Checking: \$75,599.09
	Savings: \$11,634.64
	Total: \$87,233.73

The financial report was approved and filed for audit.

## **Fall Workshop**

Ginny reviewed the Fall Workshop schedule and discussed assignments for each board member, and instructed the board members to be at the church by 7:30 am.

Ginny noted the Past Presidents who will be present at the Workshop and asked District Chairmen to introduce them to the new teachers in their district. This would be helpful in fostering possible mentoring opportunities.

## **ASSC Auditions**

Jane and Ginny will adjudicate the auditions, Carl will run registration. Meg and Cathy will be there to observe the process.

## **ASSC Festival**

Jane reported on flight information from the clinicians. Because the clinicians prefer to fly out of Burbank instead of LAX, the flights to Birmingham are proving to be a scheduling challenge. They are very expensive and have very late arrival times. As a result, the clinicians may not be able to arrive in time to schedule a Wednesday night rehearsal.

## **All-State Auditions**

Ginny updated the adjudicator list for the choirs:

Ginny Coleman:	HS SATB
Carl Davis:	HS SSA
Paul Edmondson:	HS TTBB
Meg Jones:	MS Mixed
Cathy Spence:	MS Treble

Matthew Curtis has recorded the selections by district. A couple of issues have come up questioning whether or not the correct part had been recorded. Directors need to preview the tracks carefully for their students.

An instruction sheet has been included in each director's Fall Workshop packet.

Audition dates were reviewed to make sure each District Chairman could be present and coordinate auditions on these dates. Ginny instructed the District Chairmen to look at page 33 of the Board Handbook to see how to set up the audition areas.

At the conclusion of auditions, a list of students who made the all-state choirs will be sent to Rebekah to post on the AVA website.

Ginny reminded the board that the current audition process is being discussed and possibly will be revised in the future. She will mention this in the general membership meeting.

### **AMEA**

J.D Frizzell will be our guest clinician at AMEA. Several choirs have submitted recordings for performance, including jazz choirs.

Ginny discussed board members' responsibilities at AMEA, particularly at the group performances, and the performance issues have been addressed. (Board members will serve as guides for performing choirs.)

She also stated that we did not accept Box 5's bid for recordings.

### **SCPA**

There have been some concerns raised over not having seven different weeks for SCPA. A desire to have a festival in February has been expressed. District Chairmen reported that they have not heard of any complaints with the dates.

Adjudicators and recording personnel should be contracted by AVA. They will be paid the same rate as adjudicators (minus hotel and mileage) by AVA. Hopefully, this will increase participation.

### **All-State Festival**

Ginny stated that Kenny was pleased with All-State 2016. However, she felt that earlier communication will allow things to run more smoothly.

The possibility of Samford providing meals for students is being currently discussed.

Randall brought up the issue of contracting an exclusive vendor and how this will be communicated to past vendors who will no longer be used.

### **On-line Registration**

Ginny told District Chairmen to remind directors early and often, and to help them with this process if needed. They may refer directors to Rebekah if there are problems. NAFME registration needs to be renewed early.

### **New AVA Logo**

Two possibilities:

- 1) "Buy" AMEA's proposed logo (\$350)
- 2) Use our current logo on the website but revise to coordinate with AMEA's logo

The logo would be used on the AVA website, letterhead, flyers, plaques, certificates, etc.

Ginny asked for individual board member's opinions.

Carl suggested to archive the past AVA logos on the website.

The majority wanted to keep the current logo and combine with AMEA's logo.

Carl and Christie suggested to archive the past AVA logos and post on the website with a brief history of AVA.

### **Board Handbook**

Thank you to Carl, Rebekah, and Jane for developing this. Rebekah is sending board members a link to access the handbook. District Chairmen should refer to page 33 for all-state auditions.

### **Initiatives**

Two initiatives were discussed for possible future implementation:

- 1) Should we allow directors to register one choir free at SCPA if they have not attended in the last 3 years? This would be a limited time offer, for this year only.
- 2) Should we allow directors to “opt-out” of sight reading for 1 year only? This would only apply to new teachers, or teachers in a new program, etc. They would attend for comments only, and be allowed to observe a veteran teacher in the sight reading room.

Ginny opened the floor for discussion and allowed the board to express their views on these two issues.

As to the first initiative, it was decided that this would apply to *schools* that have had not any choir to participate in the last 3 years.

Concerning the second, this would apply only to brand new, first year teachers. District Chairmen would arrange for the director to observe a veteran teacher in the sight reading room. Ben suggested making videos of teachers and choirs in a successful sight reading situation. These videos could be posted on the AVA website as a resource. District Chairmen will work on this with their choirs and contact Rebekah as to how best to post for directors to access. Stacy suggested giving these teachers the opportunity to sight read a lower level of difficulty than their performance repertoire.

### **Miscellaneous items**

Ginny discussed the items we may or may not need to have the general membership vote on, (Bylaws) and a ballot was put together to hand out at the Workshop.

AVA will partner with ACDA and compile a list of every school in Alabama which has choral programs, but is not active with either organization. District Chairmen will contact these directors to encourage them to become involved.

**Meeting was adjourned at 9:22 pm.**