

**Alabama Vocal Association
Governing Board Meeting
Samford University, Birmingham
March 1, 2017**

Ginny called the meeting to order at 10:32. Members present were: Ginny Coleman, Meg Jones, Carl Davis, Cathy Spence, Jane Powell, Stacey Owens, Hilen Powell, Nichole Hill, Ben Cook, Cara Thomas, Randall Fields, Jerry Cunningham, and Christie Breland. Cathy Spence read the minutes and they were approved as read.

Rebekah shared the financial report. Balances were:

Checking:	109,737.51
Savings:	11,636.52
Total:	121,374.03

There were no questions or corrections, and the report was filed for audit.

Ginny reviewed the All-State schedule with the board.

ASSC AUDITIONS AND FESTIVAL

Brett Carroll was asked to reimburse AVA for the cost of his airline ticket. There has been no word from him as of yet.

Randy Sage will not be coming back next year, as Burbank High School is very involved with Show Choir competition during that time of year. Jane is contacting Paul Gulsvig as a possible clinician.

Nicole suggested having an AVA Show Choir camp in August as a possibility to increase the interest and involvement of students, especially from students without show choir experience. The proceeds from this could be used to fund clinicians. Jane mentioned that Dale Kincaid could be a possible resource for this event.

Jane has put together a survey to send to the membership. The link to this survey will be sent out during the general membership meeting.

Ginny will inform the membership that the Executive Board has recommended allowing 9th graders to audition during 2017-2018, and no handbook change will be necessary since this is only for a trial period.

She will also send out the new logo proposals in order for the membership to select their preference.

ALL-STATE AUDITIONS

2017-2018 auditions will follow the same format as previous years. At summer board, we will formulate a plan to hold simultaneous recorded auditions in order to anticipate any issues that may arise with the new process. Auditions will be November 10-17, 2017

AMEA

Ginny shared that things seemed to go very smoothly, especially the procedures for escorting choirs in and out of performance venues.

Carl recommended keeping the same procedures in place next year, especially with the change of venues..

Dianne Johnson will be working with Ginny to look for appropriate off sight venues within walking distances for choral performances.

SCPA/S&E

Ginny reminded the District Chairmen to review pages 37-41 of the board handbook in preparation for these events and she will be sending the sight reading to them by US mail. Copies of the new sight reading proposal was distributed to the board and Ginny asked for ideas and feedback regarding this. Several suggestions were mentioned:

Nicole recommended adding an "advanced" category.

Discussion was held about monitoring the integrity of all directors.

There was a concern that more SR pieces would need to be written.

Jane mentioned a free website that we might possibly use for sight reading samples.

Christie mentioned trying a pass/fail system for scoring.

Jane suggested allowing directors of inexperienced students to choose a level lower than their performance voicing for their sight reading.

ALL-STATE FESTIVAL

Meg assigned various board members to be a contact person for each choir.

She then reviewed the OCS adjudication process with District Chairmen. They were instructed to read and score the resumes after our meeting is adjourned.

Rebekah gave District Chairmen instructions for the director registration, reminding them to ask directors to put their duty time on their registration sheet. Also they should pull the certificates and medals of the no-show students, reminding directors that documentation is needed for the no-shows.

Ginny will ask Kenny about having people to hand out programs at the concert. District Chairmen may need to help with this and then sit down front to be introduced.

She also asked that they check out each rehearsal site for sound, temperature, etc. prior to the first rehearsal.

MISCELLANEOUS

Ginny reported that Sigrid Johnson has cancelled as clinician for the HS SSA choir because of a severe case of the flu. Andrew Minear has agreed to fill in as clinician.

Summer board dates are June 4-7, 2017 in Tuscaloosa.

Logo- The board felt that the membership should be included in the vote for the new logo. Three choices would be given and we will begin using this new logo next Summer.

Rebekah stated that a link to the password protected board page is now available on the AVA website.

Ginny suggested that someone make a proposal for the election vs. appointment of board members.

Ginny shared several cases where late registration excuses were given. The absolute deadline/late fee proposal needs to be addressed. She presented to the board her proposal to do away with not allowing students to participate because of problems with registration. There are always extenuating circumstances and the “punishment doesn’t always fit the crime.”

Alternative suggestions:

- Early registration with a payment discount (6 weeks for district events, 8 weeks for state events)

- an accumulative late fee of \$25 per day. There was much discussion of how these fees will be billed and collected.

- With an accumulating late fee, the circumstances will not be an issue. An absolute deadline is still needed and directors may not register after this deadline.

Ginny asked each board member individually about their opinions concerning modifying the registration/late fee.

Nicole suggested including administration and bookkeepers in the billing. This would make them aware of the extra cost involved.

Ginny stated that she would inform the membership of registration/late fee revision at Summer board.

NEW BUSINESS

Christie is having trouble finding a sound engineer. She suggested purchasing recording equipment for \$200 for each district. This would alleviate having AVA pay each year, however it could present problems with set up, monitoring, etc. Ginny stated that this may be something to look at in the future.

Stacy asked about dates for next year in order to work around Band and Orchestra All-State, etc. Ginny said this would be addressed at Friday’s board meeting.

Meeting was adjourned at 1:04 pm

