

**AVA Governing Board Meeting
All-State Festival
March 7, 2018
Samford University, Wright Center**

Members present were: Ginny, Megan, Carl, Cathy, Rebekah, Stacy, Hilan, Ben, Nichole, Cara, Randall, Jerry, and Christie.

Ginny called the meeting to order at 10:27 am.

All-State Auditions:

Ginny reported that we plan to follow same format this next year, but we will use a small sample of students to audition with Accept'd. Each director may be required to use the process with 1 or 2 students to be eligible for auditions.

(For example, each director would be required to submit an audition video for one soprano.) Because of the start-up cost, the process would be too expensive to use with all students simply for a trial basis.

The board had much discussion as to how many student audition videos each director should be required to submit. The submission would be required, but not used for judging. AVA would be "auditioning the service" not the students. Matthew Curtis would provide a "sing-a-long" track for auditions with each part muted. Students would sing with all other parts, but not their own.

It was expressed that using this process would not be changing the validity of what we are doing.

Discussion: Stacy questioned about the login codes used. It was stated that the code would be different for every school. Every school will get a code based on how many students they will be bringing and for which choirs they will audition.

Schools would not have to have the specific names of each student. They can register a certain number of entries and later input students. We would not have student names, they would only be registered by student number.

Ginny is looking to change the rubric for these auditions. She asked that the board send her ideas for improved rubrics.

Financial report reading by Rebekah:

Rebekah reported that there was nothing of interest to note. At this time, we have not paid anything out yet.

Cara moved to skip the reading of the minutes. Motion passed.

Fall workshop:

Ginny reported that it will be held the same date, Friday after Labor Day

Location is Huntington College- Leslie Mann will be the clinician.

All State Show Choir Festival:

Will be held at Spain Park High School. Nothing has been said about this year's new dates , but we will ask the membership in a survey during All State Festival.

Jane asked if we could use Acceptd for the All State Show Choir audition, possibly for the dance portion. This would eliminate the drive time and cost. Ginny said we are looking at Accpetd to audition a sample of students this year. We need a solid dollar amount to see if we want to use it for all auditions.

AMEA:

Ginny thanked the board for their work with the conference. Performance venue was the best we have had in a long time. We are discussing having concerts in the ballroom or the concert hall.

AMEA 2019 will again be at the BJCC.

Ben stated that he prefers to use the ballroom instead of the concert hall. wants ballroom

It was decided that Honor choir and college choirs should perform in the concert hall.

Ginny reported that there were 35 responses from the survey, and the number of groups applying to perform is increasing. (We've had to turn down groups this year.)

Honor Choir

Meg reported the following issues: Students didn't know the music and a piece had to be cut. There was much discussion as to what the problem is. Ginny discussed the issue, asking why are we even having it. She explained how and why Honor Choir began:

It started as a means of funding AMEA, and an opportunity for students who were not quite ready for All-State.

Several solutions were mentioned: Possibly move to an Honor Reading choir? Currently, what we have is just like All-State, but not as good. It is typically too much music to prepare in early fall.

The question was raised if directors would participate. Carl asked if we could make the stipulation of a minimum registration of 200 students. If we did not have that, AVA would refund the registration fee. If it is a "reading choir", then directors need to choose students who can read music.

Hilen asked if we could open this opportunity to 9th graders. Cara asked if we could alternate with Middle School.

Carl suggested we present the proposal to the general membership at Friday's meeting.

The consensus was to offer a "reading choir" this next year.

SCPA

Ginny asked the board to review pp37-41 of Handbook. She stated that the SR has been emailed to District Chairmen. DC's need to check to make sure they have what they need for their festival.

Meg says we are continuing our current sight-reading process, then revisions will take place at Summer Board.

We may be able to implement some changes this year.

All-State Festival

Meg instructed the board members of their individual jobs. Ginny said to keep their phone available at all times and look at the schedule carefully.

Meg reviewed the OCS instructions. (resume review, etc.)

All-State Festival 2019 is March 7-9.

Miscellaneous

Summer board dates are June 21-24. Location TBA.

Paul Edmondson will be receiving the Francis P. Moss award and Stacy Owens will present. The ME Scholarship will be named after Pat Blackwell.

Ginny reported that Rebekah will be resigning as Executive Secretary. A search for a new ES will begin asap. Ginny will announce this in the membership meeting. The timeline for applications will continue through mid April.

Meeting was adjourned at 11:33.