

AVA Summer Board Meeting Minutes
June 1-3, 2020
Virtual Meeting amidst the CV19

The meeting of the AVA Governing Board was called to order by President Randall Fields at 1:03 p.m. In attendance were: Randall Fields, Meg Jones, Margaret Heron, Carl Davis, Hilen Wilson, Kate Dupuis, Alice LaGrone, Cameron Weiler, Chris Brown, Holly Luke, Zachary Banks, Marla Jenkins and Amanda Slay. Introductions were made and schedule (sent via email) for the meeting was reviewed.

MINUTES AND REPORTS

Margaret Heron read the minutes from the All-State 2020 Board Meeting. Minutes were approved.

Financial Report: Carl Davis read the financial report, which was discussed. All-State did not lose money this year, despite the change to BJCC. However, AVA took a huge loss in profit from this event, which will effect how the Board manages other events in the future. Since the All-State participants increased last year and the registration fee increased by \$10/student, Carl will need to look back over the profit for the A-S Festival. Overall, the year was about \$20,000 in the red and Carl suggested we discuss ways to raise income or consider the Web Master and Executive Secretary positions be altered, since these are non-funded positions.

Carl also suggested that we have a person to look over the books/finances on a consistent basis so that the Executive Secretary is not the only person with knowledge of the financial picture. The board discussed possibilities of a person to be assigned to this duty. Carl will email Garry Taylor and David Rainey and see how AMEA and the band divisions handle this. Randall suggested the possibility that we hire an outside auditor to look at our books yearly to make sure all of the numbers are legitimate. Discussion will resume once Carl hears information from AMEA.

Carl accidentally refunded District 7 for S&E even though the event occurred prior the quarantine. So, the current balance will be around \$3000 more when those checks are returned.

Discussion was continued regarding a board member to look over the finances and also an annual auditor for the books to present in May to the membership. Board decided to table this until the face-to-face meeting for discussion.

Bids and Contracts

Carl received a bid from Matt Curtis – he will give us \$1000 if we give him some advertisement with provided logos. Pepper is providing \$500 for a scholarship and \$300 for a teacher lunch. PepWear has not submitted a bid yet but Meg suggested we use a different vendor but doesn't know options. Meg asked the board of any suggestions of vendors for T-shirts & plaques at All-State. Wayne Broom was suggested as the band uses them currently. Carl said that when he was president, he

moved to PepWear because they gave AVA a percentage of sales, whereas Broom did not. Meg suggested we get prices from both and then we can decide. Carl will contact them both to revisit when those proposals arrive.

Carl asked if we should try someone different from Pepper. Randall said they have been accommodating thus far. Meg mentioned that they have had serious service issues nationwide, but we should perhaps try them one more year. Carl reminded that Pepper gives us free booklets at Fall Workshop—whatever the clinicians request. Beethoven and Company might be another option and Carl will contact them to see if they can do the same.

Randall asked if the Matt Curtis All-State recordings are listed as “endorsed by AVA” on the website, since there are often mistakes. Hilen suggested to list it as “suggested options” on the website to prevent teacher frustration during auditions. Carl said the adjudicators do not use the Matt Curtis tracks, so they might be different at auditions.

Motion was made to file the financial report for audit with the changes Carl mentioned. Motion was seconded and will be filed for audit.

Tim Batt

\$15/school and \$10/copy for flash drive for All-State recordings--bid was submitted.

Zach Banks moved that we accept the bid from Tim Batt, seconded by Hilen Wilson. Board approved.

VIRTUAL LEARNING TASK FORCE

Randall explained that he asked Chris Brown to be on this committee to service our state regarding resources for online learning

Chris Brown informed the board that the membership (and outside the state) was extremely grateful for the resources that were compiled at the beginning of the shut-down. Hilen suggested we continue this committee through the Fall, as there might be some online learning remaining. This task force tried to sift through the mountains of resources to find those that really worked.

ASSC

Randall discussed the history of this event and see if we need to continue doing ASSC since the participation has not increased through the years. Meg Jones said she heard nothing but positive feedback from this year’s event. Cameron Weiler discussed the details that made this year more successful but asked that there be a 2-year “probation” to make a decision to keep this event or not, due to the stress and consequences of the CV19. Amanda Slay agreed that this is not the year to make major decisions for the state. She also discussed the positive aspects of this venue

for kids who are looking for that milieu. Cameron purported that she will recruit and encourage directors to be involved.

- Vocal clinician: Mark Myers / Choreographer: Shane Coe
- Board reviewed the repertoire and approved
 - ✓ *Dancin' Fool*, arr. Kirby Shaw
 - ✓ *Happier*, arr. Narverud
 - ✓ *Light*, arr. DeSpain
 - ✓ *You'll Be Mine*, arr. Eric Van Cleave
- The Board took time to listen to and look over the music individually. Upon return, Meg and Cameron discussed vocal divisions and cue notes. Meg will report these instructions to Matthew Curtis. The packet was discussed and accepted by the board.

ALL-STATE

- **MS Mixed:** Victor Johnson → All repertoire approved
 - I Will Lift My Voice & Sing*, V. Johnson
 - This is the Day the Lord Has Made*, Handel/Hopson
 - The Turtle Dove*, arr. Spevacek
 - Babethandaza*, arr. Johnson
 - Do Not Stand and Weep*, Gilpin
 - Everlasting Melody*, Dilworth
- **HS TTBB:** Jaclyn Normandie-Johnson → All repertoire approved with the Stacey Gibbs piece replacement, "I Go to the Rock" replaced by "Great Day". The board voiced concern for the language-heavy nature of the program but decided the boys would enjoy the music.
 - Canite Tuba*, Handl (CPDL)
 - Ave Maria*, Biebl (skip final repeat of A section)
 - Dulaman*, arr. McGlynn
 - Hakuna Mungu*, Kama Wewe/arr. McKee
 - Love Song*, R. Burchard
 - Great Day*, arr. Gibbs
- **HS SATB:** Brady Allred → All repertoire approved
 - Sing a New Song*, Staheli
 - Ave Maria*, Bruckner (CPDL)
 - Ceciliada*, Wawruk (manuscript from composer, permission to copy)
 - If Music Be the Food of Love*, Dickau
 - Let All the World in Every Corner Sing*, Murphy
 - He Never Failed Me Yet*, R. Ray
- **HS SSAA:** Jami Rhodes → All repertoire approved ("Flight" replaced with "The Look" due to publication issues)
 - Laudate Pueri*, Mendelssohn/ed. Klein
 - Father William from Three Choruses*, I. Fine
 - Makedonska Humoreska*, Skalovski/arr. Rodde
 - Lineage*, Ramsey

The Look, Chydenius

My God is a Rock, arr. Kallman

- **MS Treble:** G. Phillip Shoultz III → The board discussed “Do Lord” in concern of stylistic questions but was accepted with the other pieces in the program.

Hands are Knockin’, Pederson

Swing Low: A Spiritual Medley, arr. R. Powell

Pon Pon Piyangaw, arr. Vizconde-Roldan

Lady of the Evening Star, Lim

Do Lord, arr. Ramsey

Dona Nobis Pacem, Bach/arr. Wheeler

*Discussion ensued regarding a QR code for attendance at All-State rehearsals. Carl is going to check with AMEA and see what technology is available. Also, Carl will have to find the no-show list to discuss in July at the meeting.

VIRTUAL AUDITIONS

*Ginny Coleman reported that we have been discussing online auditions for many years and it is now a good year to go to the online audition format. Two years of ASSC has been very successful online as well as the trial with *Alabama* for All-State.

“**Submittable**” -- gave a demo for what they can offer earlier in the year for Hilen, Ginny, and Meg. Ginny said it is comparable to *Accept’d* but at a significantly cheaper price. Also, they are competing with *Accept’d* so they will be more customer minded. Furthermore, it is around the same cost as the board traveling to do auditions in person.

DISCUSSION POINTS:

- ✓ We will lose the “personal” experience for the kids, but it is not worth it to make 5 full-time choral directors miss school for over a week to do these auditions.
- ✓ If there are tech concerns/needs, the district chairs can provide a site to assist those teachers or students who have issues
- ✓ There will be more time to adjudicate with a recording.
- ✓ Since schools might not be allowed to do field trips, we need an online platform.
- ✓ There should be 5 reviewers this year, but more could be added in the future if deemed necessary
- ✓ Carl will try to have *Submittable* to come to Fall Workshop and give a demo(or make tutorial video if this is online).

→Randall asked about a schedule for district “windows” for those students who cannot access proper tech for All-State submission.

→Timeframes were discussed and it was decided it would take a week to adjudicate and that the Nov 2-10 week for auditions would be the same.

→Tentatively, DCs will run on-site *Submittable* stations on Saturday, Nov 7

→ Amanda Slay and Cameron Weiler will work on a plan for the All-State Saturday audition days and report to the Board tomorrow.

→ After meeting, Amanda and Cameron reported that, after discussion, the Saturday will be needed for very few schools. So, there needs to be something on the registration form signifying that they will need technology help. Rebekah will set up the website so that any teacher who “clicks” that they need technical help will be forwarded to the DC so they can personally work out a solution. This will be explained at Fall Workshop.

FALL WORKSHOP

- Huntingdon will not allow conferences to be held in the Fall, so the need for virtual workshop was discussed.
- Hilan Wilson will be in charge of reading sessions
- Randall will work on a “tentative” schedule of the virtual schedule which we can work on and bring to the table at the July meeting

HONOR CHOIR

- The board members discussed the experience of their students and the feedback was very positive from the students.
- Participation has steadily decreased for over a decade of this event
- Registration was too late this year, so it will need to be sooner
→ This event needs to be discussed further at a future board meeting.

AMEA

- September 4th is the new deadline for submissions of performances.
- Randall will be going to the AMEA Board meeting on June 11 and will know more about the conference.

GENERAL

*Randall read an email received regarding future AVA services that will help serve our teachers and students. Advocacy and resources were the main topics. The DCs discussed ways to locate choral programs throughout the state in order to reach out to schools who do not participate in AVA events. It was decided that Randall will appoint Khristi Motley to serve as an Advocacy Chair to reach out to teachers and schools that do not participate in AVA events. She will serve for two years under Randall's presidency.

*Randall suggested to the board that we make the wording in our handbook to be more gender-inclusive and revise the language to be more so. This will be discussed in more detail in July. Hilan asked the board to do a little research into Nafme and ACDA and see how they are handling this issue before the meeting in July.

*Randall suggested we have a 2-day face-to-face meeting in B'ham on July 8-10.

**Virtual meeting was adjourned at 3:50pm on Wednesday, June 3, 2020.*