

VBODA Executive Board Meeting
Wednesday, June 24, 2015 1:00 p.m.
Room 524 West Potomac High School, Alexandria, Virginia

Call to Order at 1:02

Steve Rice

This meeting is recorded to assist the secretary

Review of Voting Procedures

Allen Hall

Three types of motions:

- 1) *The Constitution and its By-Laws may be amended by a two-thirds majority of the members present at any regular general meeting. Notice of the proposed amendment shall be published in VMEA Notes prior to a mail ballot. A second vote is required by mail ballot requiring a two-thirds majority of the responders.*
- 2) *An Administrative Handbook amendment deals with structural items that significantly change an event; first vote, a simple majority; second vote, two-third mail ballot votes.*
- 3) *A Procedural Amendment deals with procedural changes; a simple majority, one vote only.*

Allen Hall (as Parliamentarian) will clarify Orchestra Director Emeritus vote.

Roll Call

Laura M. Thomas

Present: C. Finnegan, L. Gammon, A. Hall, J. Hargis, B. Hearne, S. King, D. Kosko, S. Lambert, D. Love, S. Rice, D. Schoemmell, S. Schoonover, D. Stokes, L. M. Thomas, S. Turner

Minutes from last meeting (Newport News, VA)

Laura M. Thomas

Motion to approve by S. Lambert, seconded by B. Hearne, approved

Approval of Agenda

Motion to approve by S. Lambert, seconded by B. Hearne, approved

GENERAL REPORTS

Treasurer's Report

Steve Turner

(See vboda.org for full Treasurer's Report)

15 Month CD: \$13,834.81

Checking: \$80,911.95

Savings: \$24,832.11

Total balance: \$119,578.87

Treasurer recommendations:

1. *Annually review honorariums*
2. *Establish electronic payment capability*
3. *Consider raising All-Virginia Audition Fee to \$20 per student*
4. *Formalize reimbursement policy*

Motion by S. Lambert, seconded by B. Hearne: I move to accept recommendation #1 (Honorarium recommendations):

Discussion: L. Gammon: Do we have a scale? VMEA does; honorariums are scaled to experience. **L. Gammon will work on scale proposal.** L.M. Thomas: Can we adjust titles within this Honorarium Recommendation list to reflect what is actually happening (i.e. change Manual Manager to Program Fee Manager)? Done. Also can we create job descriptions of these positions for which people receive honorariums? **L. Gammon will compile this information.**

Motion passes.

Motion by L. Gammon, seconded by S. Schoonover: I move to accept recommendation #2 (Establish ability to accept electronic payments):

Discussion: Looked at Square, costs about the same; could go that way but PayPal offered more services. S. Turner: would be \$1-3 increase to cover cost of PayPal.

Motion passes

Motion by D. Schoemmel, seconded by S. Schoonover: I move to accept recommendation #3 (increase All-Virginia Audition Fee from \$15 to \$20)

Discussion: S. Rice: We went over \$12K on All-State event this year. Students were charged \$35; really cost more like \$70-71 per student. J. Hargis: I think we need to explain this to our members and not gloss over this All-Va deficit. S. Rice: Unexpected expenses. Part of it was holding the event at a university, meals more expensive than we thought, t-shirts. D.Love: How did this happen? Wasn't there a budget so that you could set the cost per student? S. Rice: All-Virginia Event Chair will be on top of budget next year. There were lots of cooks in the kitchen. S. Turner shared specific expenses of the All-Va event via overhead projector. S. Lambert: We need to have an explicit contract with these universities. S. Rice: I am going to give financial elements to the All-State Event Chair (A.Foreman); I will sign off on it. D. Love: S. Rice, you need to own up to this error to membership. There was a mistake. D. Stokes: VBODA unwittingly subsidized students' All-Va experience this year. S. Turner: I am willing to create the budget and contracts for All-Virginia Events and Auditions. L.M. Thomas: Our constitution says the Event Host is responsible for development of budget; shouldn't we either go by what the manual says, or change it? D. Love: We need to be proactive, explain what happened.

Motion passes

Discussion re recommendation #4 (formalize reimbursement policy): S. Rice: We will table this particular discussion; **S. Turner will tweak and make adjusted recommendations in November.**

Discussion re Constitution and Bylaws' reference to Manual Board (Section 3): L.M. Thomas: There are references to positions that we no longer have; can we align? **S.Schoonover will present revised language for Section 3 in the Constitution in November.**

Budget discussion: S. Turner will send out proposed 2015-16 budget to executive board members. Large All-State deficit (\$12,000), covered by event surpluses. Bottom line: We are at same dollar figure as last year at this time. Because we adjusted Program Participation Fees and had event surpluses, we were able to absorb the All-State deficit and All-State commission fees. S. Rice: D. Maslanka commission will cost between \$12-15,000. Discussion re whether or not to count on surpluses when planning budget, as well as iPad use for All-Virginia Auditions.

Budget passes.

VBODA Operations

1. VMEA/VBODA Fall Professional Development Linda Gammon

Ensembles selected to perform: Colonial Forge Percussion Ensemble, Charlottesville High School String Ensemble, Lake Braddock Symphonic Band, West Springfield Chamber Orchestra, Longfellow Middle School Band. Rehearsal clinics, one with Great Bridge Middle School Band, College: JMU Wind Symphony, , March clinic with Fairfax Winds, Roy Holder performance clinic w/John Champe (sp?) High School Band, plus two All-Virginia Jazz Bands and a fully packed scheduled of band and orchestra sessions. We have 14 VBODA sessions plus meetings, plus All-Va Jazz concerts. VBODA Executive Board Meeting 8 am Thursday Chesapeake , General Meeting, on Friday at 4:45 in the ballroom, followed by reception in the piano bar. VBODA Executive Board Meeting 8 am Thursday in Chesapeake room. General Meeting, on Friday at 4:45 in Marriott ballroom, followed by reception in the piano bar.

2. All Virginia Auditions S. Rice for Andrew Loft

February 27, 2016 – JMU
*Will use as many iPads in room as electronically possible
S.Schoonover: Some expressed desire to place wind and string auditions closer; not really feasible and what we have is working well.*

3. All Virginia Band & Orchestra Steve Rice

2016 Event April 7-9 Location: George Mason University
Conductors: Orchestra: Kathleen Horvath, Case Western
Concert Band: Greg Bimm, Marion Catholic High School
Symphonic Band: Col. Michael J. Colburn, USMC (ret.)
2017 Event April 6-8 Location: James Madison University
Conductors: Symphonic Band: Gary Green – U. Miami
Concert Band: Jamie Nix, Columbus State
Orchestra: Tony Maiello, GMU, (ret.)
2018 Event April 5-7 Location: TBA
Symphonic Band: Peter Boonshaft, Hofstra
Concert Band: Rob Carnochan, University of Miami
Orchestra: TBA

Melinda McKenzie Hall will help coordinate the 2017 All-Va event. GMU rehearsal and performance spaces are huge and more than adequate for our needs. S. Rice: All-Virginia needs three spaces that are 50 x 40. SS: Are we doing three separate concerts, or an all-call next year? SR: Next year all-call; JMU only has 600 seats so will be 3 separate concerts (1:15 length each.)

Motion by L.M. Thomas, seconded by D. Love: We advertise 3 separate All-VA concerts, starting this year.

Discussion: JMU's Forbes Center holds 600 in audience; non-performing ensembles will have to be in satellite location. Each concert would be one hour in length, with 15 minutes between concerts for set changes.

Motion passes

Free discussion: S. Rice: Membership voted to combine All-Virginia Chorus, Bands, and Orchestra (in Richmond, with VCDA) in 2018. L.M. Thomas: Is it really accurate to say the membership voted to combine? (The vote was 149-140 to continue to pursue option. April Executive Board minutes reflect A. Loft stated he told choral people we were not ready for 2017.) D. Schoemmell: Membership voted to continue to pursue this possibility. We have a lot of logistics to work out before committing. S. Rice: We need to know the will of the board on this. A. Hall: I see value, but we need to hedge our bets and need to have a back-up plan. L. Gammon: Appoint a committee to visit the site and make recommendations. C. Finnegan: What are the benefits of a combined event? S. Rice: If we pool our resources, we can afford the Altria Theater, which is a wonderful place to play. Makes cost less. The governor lives in Richmond. D. Stokes: Agree with L. Gammon; we need a committee to investigate. We don't have to say yes to anything that is not acceptable. C. Finnegan: Didn't you tell VMEA we were going to do this for three years? D. Love: It did come across to everyone at the VMEA meeting that you were committing to combining. **S. Rice: I will clarify with M. Horanski.**

If any VBODA members would like to be on the committee to help define logistics of possibility of combined All-Virginia Choral, Band, and Orchestra Event, let S. Rice know by July 15. A. Loft, A. Foreman, C. Finnegan should be on it. **By Sept 1, we need a recommendation of yes or no on this.**

CNU is available in 2018, if the combined Richmond idea doesn't work.

Committee can define what we need from an All-Virginia host site (3 rehearsal spaces 50' x 40', ability to feed 300 kids, etc.)

Recess at 28:36 2:49 p.m.

COMMITTEE REPORTS

Meeting resumed at 3 p.m.

1. All Virginia Band & Orchestra Event 2015 web survey Andrew Loft

Distributed, accepted. Appreciation expressed to A. Loft.

2. All-VA Jazz Ensemble Committee Steve Turner

(Committee members are S. Turner, A. Birdsong, Paul Rozecki, M. Bartusiak, J Hargis)

Oct 4-5 Auditions, audition material released a month ahead

Concert for both ensembles Saturday a.m. at conference at Marriott. Rehearsals at Roper Theater and School of the Arts, right next door to each other. Chris Vadala will conduct top ensemble; looking for second conductor (Bryan Kidd suggested)

3. Awards Committee Linda Gammon
*Met today; recommend five to be honored for the Hall of Fame at Conference.
 Motion to approve by S. Schoonover, discussion, passed.*
4. Judges' Training S. Rice for Sharron Jeanes
*10 people have completed training. Three people have requested 'grandfathering.'
 L. Gammon: We need to come up with a procedure and criteria for sanctioning judges (in lieu of training.)
D. Schoemmel will create suggested criteria, S. Lambert will help. Email D.Schoemmel with suggestions for criteria. (S. Rice established committee of two.)*
5. Legacy Recording Rob Carroll
(not present)
6. Legislative Report Steve King
Appreciation expressed to board for appointing him to serve these past five years. Homeschool issue came closer to passing this year than ever before, legislators referenced "competition bands" and "extracurricular activities, like sports and band." We have a public perception issue. Discussion re Republican agenda...Koch brothers pay people to write legislation, is affecting Va. "Matter of choice." Speak to your local boards, keep them informed. VMEA is searching for a replacement for S. King as Legislative Liason (position still open.)
7. Manual Committee Dan Kosko
Nothing to report
8. Marching Band Assessment Committee S. Rice for Brandon Neal
Website updated, judges' panels all set, Mailing will go out this week. We propose offering judges only one night of lodging, choose before or after. D. Schoemmel: Have we remedied the problem of 8 bands at some sites and more than 25 at others? S. Rice: We will even out. S. Lambert: Discussion of Richlands' appeal, I have volunteered to be site host, working toward recruiting here.
9. Scholarship Committee Carl Bly
(not present)
10. Sight Reading Committee Report Band Diana Love
Music for 2016 has been completed. Parts are being proofed by committee members to help eliminate any errors. (Committee members only view those pieces that they do not SR.)
11. Sight Reading Committee Report Orchestra C. Finnegan for Tina Hans
*Attached. Todd Parish is going to write all of our string orchestra sight reading.
Motion to accept committee report by B. Hearne, passed.*
12. Strategic Plan Committee Allen Hall
*Members: A. Hall, S. Schoonover, J. Hargis, C. Finnegan, L.M. Thomas Have met twice.
 Five recommendations*
 1. We propose Event Management and Leadership Training for all VBODA members who are hosting any event or audition for which there is a budget, and for other interested parties. This should be offered at Conference and All-Virginia.

-Start at noon on Saturday of Conference (one hour)
 -No compensation offered at first

*-Conference registration not required.
-Budget: lunch will be provided, approximate cost \$750*

- 2. Retain Merry Beth Hall to clean up the presentation of the manual so it is easier to read online. Complete ASAP, preferably by September.*
- 3. Complete the remaining Event Addendums for Manual*
- 4. Vote to include revised Section VI (Regional/District Orchestra) in Manual*
- 5. Add All-Va Jazz Event to Section VII (All-Virginia.)*

Motion by S. Lambert to accept recommendation #1, passes

Motion by S. Schoonover to accept recommendation #2 (amendment: pay \$500 one-time fee), passes

D. Kosko: Replace bullets in manual with letters and numbers, agreement.

(Recommendation #3: No board action required; general agreement that we need to complete the remaining Event Addendums asap.)

D. Kosko: Perhaps call the various sections of the handbook:

- 1. Constitutional handbook (sections 1-2)*
- 2. Administrative, handbook (sections 3-9)*
- 3. Procedural handbook ('Addendums')*

Recommendation #4: Section VI (Regional Orchestra) needs revision before vote, will bring back in November.

Motion by S. Schoonover, seconded by A. Hall, to accept Section E (Regional Chair Responsibilities and Timeline) as a template for the Procedural Section of our Handbook. This should be posted as soon as practically possible. Motion passes.

*Scheduling of District Orchestras goes through District Instrumental Rep
Discussion re organization of manual*

Recommendation #5: S. Turner will bring back suggested revisions to Section VII (All-Virginia) to include Jazz, in November.

S. Rice: Strategic Planning Committee, please continue your work.

13. Website Report

Mike Hackbarth

Old Business

1. General

- a. All-Virginia Workshops Allen Hall
Will continue
- b. 75th Anniversary Commission Orchestra Carrie Finnegan
Balmages is writing grade 6 String Orchestra piece for this year's All-Virginia Orchestra
- c. 75th Anniversary Commission Band Allen Hall

A. Loft is in communication with David Maslanka. May be about \$15,000 for the grade 6 band piece. Other commissions were \$4K and 6K.

2. Addendums for the VBODA Handbook Steve Rice/Carrie Finnegan and Laura M. Thomas
3. Orchestra Carrie Finnegan
4. Band
a. Combined All-Va Steve Rice
(Earlier in the meeting, we established a committee to investigate logistics of possible combined event.)
b. Eb Clarinet Steve Rice
Will continue to monitor.

New Business

1. Orchestra Carrie Finnegan
2. Band Allen Hall
3. Action items from committees
Committee Report Steve Rice
1. Committee chairs, please submit reports to secretary electronically/digitally
2. Please submit a list of the members of your committees to president, secretary, website chair
3. VBODA inventory and contracts go to Steve Turner

L. Gammon: Bios and pictures of people who are running for VBODA officers are due to Merry Beth Hall by August 15. Merrybethhall@gmail.com

C. Finnegan: There will be a proposal to VMEA in September to add a fifth Senior Regional Orchestra. If accepted, this change would not take effect until at least the 2016-17 school year.

Motion to adjourn by J. Hargis, seconded by A. Hall, passes.

Meeting adjourned at 4:34 p.m.

Respectfully submitted by Laura Mulligan Thomas, June 25, 2015