

President's Committee Conference Call
10/23/16, 1:00 p.m.

Present on call:

President Andrew Loft

Vice-President (immediate past president) Steve Rice

President Elect Doug Spruill

Orchestra Representative Carrie Finnegan

Treasurer Steve Turner

Secretary Laura Mulligan Thomas

AL: Good afternoon. I have sent a set of suggested norms. Has everyone reviewed? Yes. Committee agreed on norms (as revised) before we began the meeting.

This meeting has been requested by a couple of members [of the President's Committee.]

Official time for meeting start: 1:05 p.m.

Wait 3 seconds before responding so we don't step on each other.

Next time let's Skype. Everyone figure that out before next time.

AL: This meeting is about Senior Regional Orchestras. Laura and Carrie have shared a document.

LMT: It became clear to us in September that our understanding about the way SRO is structured is not shared by everyone. We culled meeting minutes from the last decade, and came up with four points we have shared with everyone prior to this conference call.

[These four points will also serve as the agenda for this committee meeting]:

1. June 2013 Executive Board Meeting:

"I move to establish a **regional chairperson, elected by the membership or appointed by the orchestra representative** for a minimum of two years at the SRO Event starting in 2013.

Responsibilities include:

- **Chairing the annual SRO auditions and event** each year in each region
- Serving as a liaison between the VBODA Orchestra Representative and the orchestral directors of the region
- Communicate information to the web manager, orchestra representative, and the president

Motion by Carrie Finnegan, seconded by Laura Thomas, passes

2. June 2015 Executive Board Meeting:

From Strategic Planning Committee:

“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, approx cost \$750

Motion by S. Lambert to accept recommendation, passes

3. June 2015 Executive Board Meeting:

From Strategic Planning Committee:

Motion by S. Schoonover, seconded by A. Hall, to accept **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

4. From 2007 Printed Manual, page 14: By-Laws, Article III, Section 4:

Executive Council may be appointed by the VBODA President and shall consist of VMEA District Instrumental Representatives, the VBODA Executive Board, and the **four High School Regional Orchestra Chairmen**. The Executive Council will meet in June of each year in conjunction with the VBODA Board and shall have full voting privileges at this meeting.

DS: Are these points in current online manual?

LMT: No. 3 is. #1 and 2 are not, but it was certainly the board's intention that #1 would be posted there, given that it was a unanimous executive board vote. It just didn't happen.

SR: We can't just put stuff in the manual, since the membership has voted on it as is.

DS: Were these things in the manual before Denny rewrote it?

LMT:

#4 was [in the manual], not sure why it didn't [get transferred when the manual was rewritten.]

#3 is in the [current] online manual.

#1 and #2 were passed **after** the manual rewrite. #1 was supposed to be in the manual but wasn't [put in the manual after the executive board voted for it in 2013.]

AL: I think #1 should probably be in the Admin Handbook. We'll need to come up with verbiage for that. #2 is just what we're doing [procedural].

LMT: We need to communicate this [#1] to SRO Chairs so that they follow the process next month.

Discussion re who ran SRO Audition judges' meetings in September. Not always SRO Chair/Rep.

CF: SRO Chair/Rep should run meetings and make decisions. They are elected to represent region, not whoever is the site host in a given year. There is a chain of command that is in place, but not always followed. Training needs to take place as soon as possible.

DS: Training will happen at Conference this year.

LMT: Section 6 in Admin Handbook stipulates SRO Chair/Reps oversee events.

AL: Are we all in agreement that #1 needs to be in manual? Carrie, please bring this to Ex Bd meeting in November so we can vote. Carrie, please communicate with Merry Beth, manual editor, to get this placed in section 6 [Regional Orchestra section.]

DS: #2: Conference training 8 am Friday training. Will include MS rep. Could include people who have been hosting events successfully for years.

DS will communicate with District Reps about training at conference.

LMT: Perhaps we could videotape the training so we can share with those who don't make it.

CF: Could we look into a Thursday evening training, so we can get higher participation?

DS: Maybe the training is scheduled for Saturday morning? Not sure. I will call and find out when this is scheduled.

AL: President-Elect is going to coordinate logistics of 2016 Conference training. The secretary can send out invitations to those who are hosting events. Carrie can provide list of names and email addresses.

#2 resolved.

#3 done and in Admin Handbook

#4 Would require a process to put back in handbook. AL: No allotment for regional governing.

CF: There is a sentence in the current (online) Admin Handbook (editor's note: Section 6, section 4) that says each region is responsible for establishing all logistic and procedural policies to facilitate successful auditions. The reason we are set up like that is because each region is comprised of multiple districts.

AL: The governing of VBODA is through districts. The districts are the governing body. Section 6 doesn't jibe with rest of handbook. Comments?

AL read from the current (online) Administrative Handbook:

Section 6, section 4, b: *scheduling of the event on a VMEA-approved date.*

AL: How can this be; district reps would need to be in on this decision.

Discussion of scheduling issue in North Central this year. NC selected a date for SRO Event that was not VMEA-approved.

SR: The date selected by NC this year conflicted with a marching band event.

AL: If the region is a voting body, we have to change the verbiage (in the Admin Handbook).

LMT: The Executive Board voted in 2013 to have this verbiage in the manual. It just didn't get put in the manual (Administrative Handbook.)

SR: We want to stay away from the Ex Bd changing the manual without everyone voting on it. Yes, it should have made it into the manual, we all agree. I don't know why it's not. Anything that changes the document, we need to go through the document changing procedures.

(Discovery that we are not all talking about the same point.)

AL: The district reps are expected to attend the SRO meetings so that they can in essence ratify what is going on there. We don't want another situation like we have in NC now, putting an SRO on the same weekend as Marching Assessment. The way to resolve that is to have the District Reps being there.

CF: The reason the SRO Chair position was established is because the District Reps don't attend that meeting. Even when they do, there are regions that include numerous districts (SC contains 7 districts). If you had 7 district reps in a room, who has the final say?

CF: We're talking about establishing a policy that affects a region, which includes more than one district. The regional rep should have the final say, because the decision is affecting the region, not a specific district.

SR: I think we all understand where you're coming from. We're spinning our wheels on hypothetical. Chances are, if you have district reps you will stop something like a regional orchestra event being put on top of a big VBODA event like Marching Band.

LMT: Years ago, Bud Hearne suggested [at an executive board meeting] that we have an executive board member at each of these meetings. Not a district rep, but a VBODA board member, to help facilitate communication and cooperation. It doesn't always

happen. It does in ours [SC] because we happen to have 3 board members in our region.

AL: Who would have the final say? I think it's a great idea, just not sure

CF: Would you like me to clarify the NC scheduling issue?

AL: I don't know that that is germane to this issue right now. If we want to deal with no. 4 with voting members, we'll have to go through the process.

CF: It just seems like [the SC scheduling issue] is misunderstood.

DS: An executive board member would be present in an advisory capacity. Members in that meeting communicate with each other. We have a situation here where our string people and band people didn't communicate.

LMT: Carrie will contact MB with the verbiage in no. 1.

AL: We voted on it and it passed. Where does it go? If it goes in section 6, it can just go as is. Is the wording okay as is?

All: Yes

CF: All mentions of District Reps in Admin Handbook Section 2 should include Regional Reps as well

AL: We are in agreement that no. 1 motion will go in section 6.

LMT: Carrie will be in contact with regional chairs prior to their events; do you agree?

All: yes

AL: As president, just keep me in the loop.

AL: Everyone should figure out Skype so can do that next time. Will save the organization money. Steve Turner, can you research conference call/video call technology? [ST agrees.]

Meeting concluded at 2:10.

Respectfully submitted by Laura Mulligan Thomas
10/29/16