
MMEA BOARD OF DIRECTORS MEETING

Room D, Radisson Conference Center, Plymouth
September 7-8, 2007

SESSION I

The following board members submitted written reports: Michael Lien, Renee King, Allison Cramer, George Vondracek, Cheryl Bungum, Ann Bordonaro, Denise Pesola, Cynthia Shirk, Mary Goheen, Bob Ouren, Nyssa Brown, Bill Webb, Herb Dick.

I. CALL TO ORDER

MMEA President Wendy Barden called the meeting to order at 7:00 p.m. Board members not present: George Vondracek.

Wendy Barden welcomed Joyce Patch, North Central Division President.

II. MINUTES

President Barden presented the minutes from the May 18-19, 2007 board meeting for board approval.

It was moved by Mary Goheen, seconded by Cheryl Bungum, and carried unanimously to approve the minutes from May 18-19, 2007 Board of Directors meeting.

III. REVIEW AND ADOPTION OF AGENDA

President Barden presented the written agenda for review and adoption.

It was moved by Holly Becker, seconded by Renee King, and carried unanimously to adopt the agenda for the September 7-8, 2007 Board of Directors meeting.

IV. PRESIDENTS REPORT – WENDY BARDEN

President Wendy Barden reported on current activities including: MMEA Awards meeting, MENC Centennial 100 Anniversary celebration, MENC Leadership and National Assembly. Barden reported the 2007-08 educator of the year is David Gudmastad from Cotter High School and the Hall of Fame inductees are Steve Boehlke and Jane Frazee. Barden attended executive committee meetings to discuss the clinic, budget, and mentoring pilot program. Barden reviewed the strategic planning process – membership from the May 20, 2006 meeting. Barden attended the All-State Jazz concert at Peavey Plaza, the All-State Choir camp at Winona State University and the All-State Orchestra camp at Saint Olaf College. Barden reported we have open positions for retired, urban outreach, middle level and elementary chair. Barden sent out a survey to all elementary and middle level teachers to gather feedback on the MMEA sponsored festivals.

V. JOYCE PATCH, NORTH CENTRAL DIVISION PRESIDENT

North Central Division President Joyce Patch reviewed the MENC leadership structure. Patch reported on the function of the national executive board, division executive boards, and state officers. MENC has put together a task force to look at governance reorganization. The World's Largest Concert was discontinued for the 2006-07 year. A MIOSM/WLC task force was created and the NEB accepted recommendations of the World Largest Concert task force to create a MIOSM calendar and create a DVD to serve as a pilot for 2008. Patch encouraged the board to look at the MENC strategic plan and share comments before September 20.

VI. NYSSA BROWN, MUSIC EDUCATOR COORDINATOR

Music Educator Coordinator Nyssa Brown reported on the arts standards review process. The Minnesota Department of Education by legislative directive is in the process of conducting a review of the Minnesota Arts Standards. The Perpich Center for Arts Education is serving in a consulting role in this process. The public will also have a chance to provide input on the standards during a series of public hearings, which will take place in November. Information about hearing locations and schedules will be available on the Department website, and will be emailed to all MMEA members.

VII. MIDWINTER CLINIC UPDATE, CYNTHIA SHIRK

President Elect Cynthia Shirk reported the 2008 Midwinter Clinic theme is *Embracing World Music – Embracing Local Traditions*. The headliners are Dr. Donna Cox from the University of Dayton, presenting sessions on gospel and African American folk traditions; Dr. Peter Boonshaft, author of

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Teaching Music with Passion and *Teaching Music with Purpose*, presenting on rehearsal and conducting techniques; Jane Frazee, founder and director of graduate studies at the University of St. Thomas, and Arvida Steen, Orff-Schulwerk Teacher Training Clinician, presenting on Orff methods in general music. There are sessions focusing on hearing health for music educators, relicensure sessions on identifying early warning signs of mental health issues, literacy and music, open forum sessions, and more. On-line registration will be available in November. The Thursday evening concert is Kantorei Chamber Choir and 34th Infantry Division "Red Bull" Band. The Friday evening concert is Concordia Chapel Choir and The Concordia College Band. Chuck Lazarus will be working with the All-State Jazz Ensemble and soloing with them.

VIII. **ADVOCACY AND CONSORTIUM UPDATE – BOB OUREN**

Advocacy Chair Bob Ouren reported the Arts Education Consortium of Minnesota has set the legislative platform for the 2008 session. Proposed legislation would require school districts to report on non-tested academic areas. AECM is considering a change to language and is seeking the input of its member organizations.

IX. **OPEN FORUM**

SESSION II

X. **CALL TO ORDER**

MMEA President Wendy Barden called the meeting to order on Saturday at 8:00 a.m. All Board members were present.

XI. **MENTORING PILOT PROJECT, LINDA BERGER AND CATHY SCHMIDT**

Cathy Schmidt and Linda Berger shared comments and quotes from exit interviews of mentees and mentors. In 2005 a Music Education Mentoring Task Force was created in Minnesota, convened by MMEA with representatives from many of the music education organizations in the state. In February of 2006 was the first training session for 15 mentors participating in pilot project. In April of 2006 there was a full day of mentor training. In August of 2006 there was an orientation for mentors and mentees together and in September 2006 the pilot program began. Exit interviews were conducted in the spring and summer of 2007.

XII. **HERB DICK, EDITOR**

Editor Herb Dick reported the spring issue of *Interval* will focus on professionalism and ethics in music education.

XIII. **FINANCIAL REPORT**

Executive Director Mary Schaefle reviewed the Balance Sheet as of August 30, 2007. All accounts were in balance and up to date with total assets equaling liabilities and equity of \$352,261.74. Liabilities year-to-date are \$36,494.74. Total year-to-date operating income is \$587,934 compared to a budget of \$596,180. Total year-to-date operating expenses are \$433,163 compared to a budget of \$576,778.

Schaefle reported MMEA is in the process of transitioning banks, which should be completed by the end of December. Fixed assets increased due to capitalization of software purchase, which will be spread out over three years.

Schaefle covered the 2007 program budget performance for February All-State, All-State Auditions, Elementary and Junior High Festivals, and the Midwinter Clinic. The Midwinter Clinic was budgeted for a surplus of income over expenses. The budgeted surplus was \$32,000, while the actual surplus was only \$16,000. This was due to costs of the Heitzeg premiere and Minnesota Orchestra partnership being shifted from the All-State budget to the Midwinter Clinic budget. February All-State was budgeted for a \$27,000 loss, but only experienced a \$3,000 loss. The elementary and junior high festivals were budgeted to break even. They did show a small surplus, due to overhead costs being shifted as a result of a time study. In general, MMEA is on track for an overall surplus to begin repayment of retained earnings.

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Schaeffe covered the 2006 audit findings. MMEA experienced a net loss of \$28,907 for 2006, due in large part to a technology investment. The MMEA Executive Committee and Board have agreed to pay these funds back to retained earnings over the next 3-5 years. MMEA's net assets target is \$211,000 by 2011.

It was moved by George Vondracek, seconded by Mary Goheen, and carried unanimously to approve the financial report and 2006 audit reporting.

MMEA's investment practice has been to only invest in CD's. These bring a return of 3-4%. Schaeffe recommended that MMEA consider an investment policy which would bring larger returns. Two financial advisors with an interest in music education have agreed to help draft the investment policy. Bob Ouren also agreed to work with this group as a representative of the MMEA board.

It was moved by Cheryl Bungum, seconded by Denise Pesola, to create a policy to guide investment decisions and to open an investment account with Anchor Bank. In discussion of the motion, Doug Orzolek offered a friendly amendment.

It was moved by Doug Orzolek, seconded by George Vondracek, and carried unanimously to amend the motion to read: to create a policy to guide investment decisions. The amendment passed unanimously. The motion was called and it also passed unanimously.

Schaeffe reported MMEA received a check for \$16,356.83 as part of the cy pres proceeds related to a class action lawsuit regarding price fixing on compact discs. She is investigating what restrictions were placed on the use of these funds by the court.

XIV. COMMITTEE MEETINGS

The board broke into two committees: All-State and Elementary/Middle School Programs and Connections.

XV. STANDING COMMITTEE REPORTS

- A. Orchestra Vice President Nancy Stutzman reported for the All-State Committee. The committee discussed the All-State Vice President Handbook, providing minimal supervision in gathering places during recreation time at camp, booking conductors two years out, creating a guideline for choosing literature for conductors and the All-State audition process. The committee has directed the Executive Director to research using "proctored" All-State auditions to determine if there would be any cost savings. If cost savings may exist, two sites will be chosen to record auditions to compare the scoring from a live audition to a recorded format.
- B. President Wendy Barden reported for the Elementary/Middle School Programs and Connections committee. The committee discussed the feedback from the surveys that went to the elementary and middle school teachers. The committee discussed ways to increase communications to members. A letter from Region Representatives will be included in the directory mailing to encourage administrators to support professional development.

It was moved by Geneva Fitzsimonds, seconded by George Vondracek, and carried unanimously to adjourn the meeting.