
MMEA BOARD OF DIRECTORS MEETING

Perpich Center for Arts Education, Golden Valley, MN
September 6, 2008

SESSION I

The following board members submitted written reports: Cynthia Shirk and Doug Orzolek.

I. CALL TO ORDER

MMEA President Wendy Barden called the meeting to order at 9:00 am. Board members not present: Kathy Berggren and John Greene.

II. MINUTES

President Barden presented the minutes from the May 16-17, 2008 board meeting for board approval.

It was moved by Dennis Conroy, seconded by Michael Walsh, and carried unanimously to approve the minutes from the May 16-17, 2008 Board of Directors meeting.

III. REVIEW AND ADOPTION OF AGENDA

President Barden presented the written agenda for review and adoption.

It was moved by Michael Lien, seconded by Holly Becker, and carried unanimously to adopt the agenda for the September 6, 2008 Board of Directors meeting.

IV. FINANCIAL REPORT

Executive Director Mary Schae fle presented the financial reports. Receivables have almost doubled from 2007. Vendors and school districts are both paying bills more slowly. More than half of the receivables are 60+ days overdue. MMEA will begin assessing interest against last receivables and doing more follow-up on accounts. Payables are up slightly due to the transit tax increase and the fact that some types of tax are paid quarterly to the state of Minnesota.

Salary costs for programs are now being charged as actual costs when worked, rather than quarterly allocations based on estimates. This means that total expenses for programs won't be final until the end of the year, but they will be very accurate. It is expected that costs for smaller programs will decrease, and costs for All-State auditions and for the Midwinter Clinic will increase.

Executive Director Mary Schae fle reported we added a Sponsor Membership in MMEA. The price is \$200 for one school year and includes a \$75 credit toward MMEA services, such as renting lists, advertising, and booth costs for Midwinter Clinic. Sponsors will be acknowledged as a supporter in all MMEA publications, have their organization listed on the MMEA website, including a link to organization's website. The rest of the sponsorship revenue goes towards the student scholarship and advocacy funds.

It was moved by Renee King, seconded by Scott Carter, and carried unanimously to approve the financial report for 2008.

V. EXECUTIVE DIRECTOR, POLICIES

Executive Director Mary Schae fle reported the Executive Committee approved a Criminal Background Check Policy before All-State camp. A background check was done for all conductors, staff, accompanists, executive board, and executive director.

It was moved by Renee King, seconded by Michael Lien, and carried unanimously to amend the Criminal Background Check Policy to include All-State judges.

During the board discussion it was recommended to modify the All-State Camp contracts with college campuses to recommend that colleges perform background checks on their dorm counselors.

Schae fle reported policies for Executive Compensation and Travel and Expense Reimbursement should be in place by January 2009.

VI. MIDWINTER CLINIC, CYNTHIA SHIRK

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President-Elect Cynthia Shirk reported the Chrystalize! task force met in June and suggested the following changes: new opening session with a keynote speaker, lining up performance and session times, designated time for exhibits, reducing overlap of sessions in disciplines, and changing Saturday format to honor group performances and reading sessions only. The 2009 clinic performing groups have been asked to perform one work two grades below their normal playing level. The exhibit hall will open at 11:00 am before the opening session, and there will be a single day registration fee. A flier will be printed in *Interval* and emailed to members. Shirk reported headliners are John Cooksey, Jill Trinko, Christopher Azzara. In addition, KARE-11 news anchor Diana Pierce is giving the welcoming address at the opening session on Thursday.

The performance application for future years will be modified to include the size of school, whether the group is auditioned, and demographic information about the school.

- VII. HERB DICK, EDITOR
Editor Herb Dick reported the theme for the Winter issue of *Interval* is technology.
- VIII. EQUAL ACCESS – CHANGING CLASSROOMS, MIKE SCOTT
The first round of Equal Access grants was awarded in June 2008. Eight schools, and over 2,800 students will be served through these grant awards. The program is designed to provide resources to music educators to address cultural diversity and the changing classroom. The grants awarded this year are funding teaching artists along with some program materials.
- IX. ADVOCACY, BOB OUREN
Advocacy Chair Bob Ouren reported MMEA had a booth at the State Fair where advocacy materials were distributed. Ouren reported the booth was very busy.
- X. OPEN FORUM
Past President Doug Orzolek reported the Foundation Board raised \$6,000 this year. Orzolek reported David Hyslop and Steve Schulz are leaving the board and that Linda Berger will be joining the foundation board. Additional candidates are being sought.

Research Chair Keitha Hamann reported the deadline to submit research projects for the winter issue of *Interval* is November 1.
- XI. LUNCH BREAK
- XII. INTRODUCTION OF STRATEGY SCREENS, MARY SCHAEFLE
Executive Director Mary Schaeffe introduced a tool for strategic planning. With this tool, the board set a series of strategy statements that are used to evaluate program options. Task forces or smaller groups then make program decisions.
- XIII. COMMITTEE MEETINGS
The board broke into three committees- All-State, New Teacher Network Strategy Screen and Advocacy Strategy Screen.
- XIV. STANDING COMMITTEE REPORTS
- A. Executive Director Mary Schaeffe reported for the All-State Committee. The committee discussed the challenges of assigning solo parts for color instruments (soprano sax, English horn, Eb clarinet). They recommended minor changes to the audition application with a possible secondary audition on critical solos at the camp or even via recording in early summer. They discussed a letter going to colleges before camp reminding them of what facilities and equipment are required via the contract. It was decided to send an email to all members to ask for input regarding the All-State student eligibility rules and to form a task force. The task force will report back to the board at the January 2009 meeting.

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- B. Advocacy Chair Bob Ouren reported for the Advocacy Strategy Screen Committee. The committee discussed changing the focus from legislative action to grass roots, to have regional meetings and to be more visible to the membership.
- C. President Wendy Barden reported for the New Teacher Strategy Screens Committee. The committee modified the statements and ranked the strategy screens. The committee decided focusing on new teachers is more to MMEA's advantage than pre-service teachers.

It was moved by Keitha Hamann, seconded by Bob Ouren, and carried unanimously to adjourn the meeting.