

Niagara County Music Educators' Association
Minutes of Executive Board Meeting, January 4, 2010

Present: D. Vallas, A. Carere, J. Wright, A. Sandy, D. Hutter, R. VanDette, K. Duncan, K. Kuriscak, N. Moore, A. Burdick, E. Brusino, P. Wos

Meeting called to order at 6:15 pm.

Secretary Report

Minutes of November 2009 meeting approved as written.

Treasurer Report

Debbie reported a balance of \$14,086.78 and the major difference in fund balance was due to payment of solo festival expenses.

Roger asked about the amount allocated for scholarships. Debbie said there is \$2000 from NCMEA plus business membership fees, currently \$390.

President's Report

Dean passed around a prototype of this year's festival programs.

Discussion and comments began about the recent solo festival. Most board members agreed that the festival process went very well and smoothly, but some issues resulted that sparked later discussion. A long discussion took place concerning issues about the weighting of scores at the festival. Dean said he addressed two parent and two teacher concerns about weighting of scores.

Dean reported deadline dates as discussed at the November meeting: November 1 – SoloChair registration/solo levels, performance permit information. Please note that the November 1 deadline is for ALL solo festival information, including registration, solo level, solo name and manual information for playing permits.

Vice-President's Report

Roger reported that there was only one applicant for the Daria Kuriscak scholarship. Roger sent word to the NCMEA scholarship applicants (a relatively low number this year) to get materials in for consideration for the scholarship.

Bands VP Report

April asked everyone present to refer to the YELLOW papers (as if we can't read the headings on the documents, only recognize color differences. . . .) April thanked Eileen Brusino for again hosting the solo festival at North Park Middle.

At this point Ken Kuriscak let out a mighty sneeze which terrified many at the table. The sound of anguish still may reverberate throughout Pane's.

Membership VP Report

Jeanne commented “rrfoyrUU” (speaking with a hunk of chicken in her mouth.)

Choral VP Report

Linda has resigned as Choral VP, the position is now open.

Jazz VP Report

Ken announced that he was generally pleased with the entire jazz audition process at the solo festival.

At this point the board heard from Eileen Brusino regarding the solo festival. She received an e-mail from a teacher at the school who complained about missing desks and sloppiness in a classroom. Eileen considered the procedure used by that teacher to be unprofessional and had never received a complaint about similar issues in 5 years of running the festival.

Ken again violently interrupts the discussion with a mighty sneeze, scaring some other patrons at Pane’s. Our group is soon alone in the main dining area.

SoloChair Administrator Reports

Amanda said that teachers should check spelling of student names for the program. She thanked everyone for turning in materials on time. Naomi and Amanda both commented on the problem of changing solo levels after registration, which can cause errors in score calculation, scheduling times, and other issues. Naomi commented there were approximately 40 registrants who played a solo at a different level than the one they registered with. This created many headaches with rankings for ensemble selection.

Angela said that in spite of the December 1 deadline, she was still receiving height info as late as December 20. One elementary teacher sent incomplete information with payments. She suggested that a new vocal form needs to be designed for junior high level.

A suggestion was made that members of the Executive Board take shifts checking/verifying the levels of the solos AFTER the solo is done and the sheet is submitted for Zone verification and SoloChair ranking. Motion to that effect made by Ken, 2nd by April. Approved.

Website Administrator Report

According to Kevin, nothing new. . . .

Meeting ended at 8:39 PM.

Next Executive Board Meeting
Monday, April 5, 2010 @ Pane’s Restaurant 6:00 PM