

**Niagara County Music Educators' Association**  
**Minutes of Executive Board Meeting, April 4, 2011**

Present: D. Vallas, J. Wright, D. Hutter, R. VanDette, K. Kuriscak, K. Fick, A. Burdick, P. Wos

Meeting called to order at 6:15 pm.

The meeting began with a presentation from Robin Parkinson of the Buffalo Philharmonic regarding the BPO Teacher of Excellence Award and plans to recognize a Niagara County music teacher through partnership with NCMEA.

Robin stated that in Erie County, the chair of an ECMEA award committee requests submission of nominees from peers with a documentation sheet and optional added support letters. Dean commented that NCMEA had asked membership of interest in a similar award committee, but he only received two responses from interested colleagues to serve.

The award winner would be included in BPO invitations to a ceremony and reception at a BPO concert at the end of April. The award cost (if we choose to get the same type award as ECMEA, a signed baton and plaque) is between \$100 and \$150. This year's award ceremony is scheduled for April 30. For NCMEA to sponsor an award this year, Robin would need the winner's name very soon. She advised that if NCMEA chooses to wait until next year, the ceremony timetable would be similar to this year, scheduled at the end of April.

**Treasurer Report**

As Debbie arrived late, the treasurer report was delayed from its usual place of honor in the meeting. The current balance as of April 1 is \$15,334.73, which still includes monies for the Hedges Scholarship winners. Debbie announced that winners have been chosen, but names are withheld at this time because the winners have not yet been notified.

*(Humorous comment has been edited.)*

**President's Report**

Dean reviewed the proposed 2011-12 calendar. Motion for approval of the calendar by Amanda, 2<sup>nd</sup> by Jeanne. Approved.

Dean announced the officers for 2011-12. They are: Paul Monaco, President; Karen Fish, Vice-President; Paul Wos, Secretary; Debbie Hutter, Treasurer; Tammy Rohring, VP Bands; Ken Fick, VP Chorus; Kevin Duncan, VP Orchestra; Ken Kuriscak, VP Jazz; Stephanie Teichman, VP Membership; Mary Parsnick, Advocacy; Amanda Burdick, SoloChair (instrumental); Drew Burke, SoloChair (choral); Kevin Duncan, Webmaster

Motion to approve officers for 2011-12 by Roger, 2<sup>nd</sup> by Jeanne. Approved.

### **Vice-President's Report**

Roger reported that NCMEA received a thank you note from Kristina Parker (Wilson HS) for receiving a scholarship from NCMEA.

### **Bands VP Report**

April absent, no report.

*(Humorous comment has been edited.)*

### **Membership VP Report**

Jeanne will assist in the transition to Stephanie as SoloChair membership administrator.

### **Choral VP Report**

Chairs absent, no report.

### **Jazz VP Report**

Ken stated that the summer High School Jazz Ensemble featuring ECMEA and NCMEA all-county students at the Lewiston Jazz Festival will NOT meet this year due to a lack of funding.

### **Advocacy Report**

Since Ken Fick didn't know the answer, Debbie said that we sold out of all-county T-shirts at the final festival at Niagara-Wheatfield.

Debbie also suggested that an adult (such as the advocacy chair) should be present on Saturday to supervise the shirt sales. It was agreed to advise Mary Parsnick of this suggestion for next year.

### **Old/New Business**

Discussion began regarding the BPO Teacher Award. Several selection procedures were discussed. Dean will contact Kevin to send an e-mail to membership asking for nominations for this award with a DEADLINE of FRIDAY, APRIL 8. Selection from the established nominees will be made by Friday, April 15 to include the recipient in this year's ceremony on April 30. Motion to approve this procedure by Ken K., 2<sup>nd</sup> by Ken F. Approved.

The retirees dinner is scheduled for May 2, with a free dinner offered to retiring NCMEA members. Discussion began about a gift to retirees from NCMEA; there was general approval for a gift card. Dean will send invitations via Monday memo.

Dean suggested setting a date to "pass the torch" and do an orientation for the new officers. He said it should be done in June; discussion about "where and when" then began. A tentative date of June 13 (Monday) at Pane's was agreed upon.

Ken Fick asked about festival procedure for vocal students at festivals. Consensus at festival general membership meetings was in preference to continuing the solo audition procedure along with NYSSMA sight reading.

*(Humorous comment has been edited.)*

To avoid staring at each other in silence, there was a motion to adjourn by Ken Fick. Motion approved by most of the group. Meeting adjourned at 7:21.

**Next Executive Board Meeting**  
**Also the RETIREMENT DINNER honoring NCMEA Retirees**  
**Monday, May 2, 2011 @ Pane's Restaurant, 6:00 PM**