

Niagara County Music Educators' Association  
Minutes of October 2011 Executive Board Meeting  
Monday, October 3, 2011 @ Panes Restaurant

Present: P. Monaco, K. Fish, T. Rohring, T. Martin, D. Hutter, S. Teichman, A. Burdick, C. Uitas-Roos, M. Parsnick, P. Wos

Meeting called to order at 6:15 PM.

Secretary Report

Minutes from the August meeting were distributed. Motion to accept the minutes by Debbie, second by Tammy. Approved.

Treasurer Report

Debbie reported a balance of \$7,656.18 as of October 3. The expenses of the past month were SoloChair renewal, NYSSMA insurance, and costs of the welcome back dinner. All district participation fees have been paid except for Barker and Lew-Port. DeSales is the only private school that has paid participation fees. Motion to approve by Amanda, second by Carolyn. Approved.

President Report

After apologizing to the group that we lost our regular meeting room to another function, Paul announced that 12 students from Niagara County were selected to Conference All-State groups this year. Paul will attend the NYSSMA Winter Conference in Rochester, and he will attend the county presidents' meeting and the APPR (Annual Professional Performance Review) meeting by the State Education Department.

Paul announced that Gerry Bacon has offered to consolidate all NCMEA handbooks of officer duties, chair duties, etc. for a comprehensive county handbook.

Motion to approve report by Tammy, second by Karen. Approved.

Vice President Report

Karen said that all high school teachers should have received application materials for the upcoming NCMEA scholarship. Students who apply must be applying as music majors to their chosen colleges.

Motion to approve report by Debbie, second by Carolyn. Approved.

Membership Report

Stephanie reminded all that the due date for memberships and renewals has passed. There are now 72 active members. There are 10 business members so far, including 4 new business members, including the BPO and the Buffalo State Music Dept. She will send reminders soon to past business members soon, as there is a November 15 deadline for business memberships.

Motion to approve report by Carolyn, second by Tim. Approved.

Band VP Report

Tammy has 7 confirmed judges for the upcoming solo festival, and she is seeking more to return her invitation to be adjudicators. There is now a conductor (Chris Riederer or Keith Schessl) and chair (Kristin Ungaro) for the senior high band.

Motion to approve report by Debbie, second by Amanda. Approved.

#### Choral VP Report

Ken was absent, but Paul read a report that Ken prepared. SoloChair is available and open for vocal registrations. Population submissions (population of students in the building) are due by 11/1, and the registration deadline for SoloChair is Dec. 1.

Motion to approve report by Carolyn, second by Mary. Approved.

#### Jazz VP Report

Tim reported that Bill Tiberio will be the senior high jazz ensemble conductor, but the chairperson is not finalized at this time. He has 3 confirmed judges for the solo festival with one judge position remaining. Tim will be the junior high jazz chairperson, and Amanda Burdick will be the conductor.

Motion to approve report by Carolyn, second by Mary. Approved.

#### Orchestra VP Report

Kevin was absent, but prepared a written report that was read by Paul. Judges are secured for the solo festival. Marty Allen will conduct the junior high orchestra; the senior high orchestra conductor is not yet set.

Motion to approve report by Karen, second by Stephanie. Approved.

#### Advocacy Report

Mary had nothing new to report.

#### SoloChair (Instrumental) Report

Amanda said that this year's performance permit includes the student participation contract on the same form.

Motion to approve report by Carolyn, second by Mary. Approved.

#### SoloChair (Vocal) Report

Carolyn thanked Ken for setting up the testing on SoloChair. Registration is now "on," and all student names entered during the testing mode are now deleted.

Motion to approve report by Karen, second by Mary. Approved.

#### BPO Education Representative Report

Norm reminded everyone of the listing of youth concerts by the BPO, including the Friday morning concert series for students at a substantial discount, with student tickets at \$6. There are 2 open dates for participating groups in the BPO community concert performance series. Contact Norm for more details.

There is a call for volunteers for a selection committee for the BPO/NCMEA Music Education Award. Any NCMEA member teacher is eligible. Contact Paul if you are interested in serving on this important committee.

Norm will send an invitation to the BPO's Education Rep to attend the NCMEA November meeting on Tuesday Nov 1.

Motion to approve report by Tammy, second by Amanda. Mary, beginning to feel self-conscious about having so many seconds, did not volunteer to second at this time.)

#### Old Business

Meals for conductors and chairs at festivals: It is the responsibility of the host chairperson to make sure that meals are provided for chairs and conductors at festivals. Receipts for meals will be given by the host chair to Debbie for reimbursement. Motion to approve by Amanda, second by Carolyn. Approved.

It will be the responsibility of the Band/Orchestra/Choral VP to obtain mailing supplies, in order to streamline expenses and avoid unnecessary duplication of duties. Debbie said she would prefer to pay for just what is needed and not "stockpile" supplies. Chairpeople will buy supplies as needed, using the tax exempt form from Debbie, and submit for reimbursement. Motion to approve by Karen, second by Debbie. Approved.

NCMEA Day for Educators: Several districts have denied teachers the opportunity to attend. Option of a move to Saturday was discussed. Norm suggested the possibility of running the day through O/N BOCES. The Saturday plan was generally shot down after discussion. Paul will investigate the possible alliance with O/N BOCES for the day in the future.

Snow days at festivals: After much discussion on alternatives (extending to Sunday, making a scheduled "make-up weekend" for re-scheduling), it was decided to continue the current policy, that a cancellation of school on a festival Friday means that the entire festival is cancelled with no re-scheduled weekend.

#### New Business

There was discussion about the importance to reinforce deadlines for registration. It was suggested that Paul draft a letter to administrators to introduce himself as president, detailing the opportunities that NCMEA provides for students, and explaining policies regarding deadlines and festival cancellations.

Professionalism among professionals: When a student does not adhere to the festival dress code, teachers who are not the child's regular teacher should NOT scold the child directly. It may be brought up to the child's teacher, but it is not appropriate to criticize that child yourself. If there is a genuine difficulty for a student to adhere to a dress code, it should be brought to the attention of the child's teacher upon acceptance to an all-county ensemble.

All-County ensemble seating: If a seating change needs to be made for any reason, the changes AND re-assignment of parts MUST be made as soon as possible by contacting the appropriate ensemble VP.

Anyone needing Tax ID for NCMEA purchases should contact Debbie Hutter for that information.

Festival I at NFHS: I reminded everyone that after my retirement in June 2012, whoever will be in the music department at NFHS may not be willing to host a festival on an annual basis, as I personally made that offer upon the opening of the NFHS building in September 2000. I said that it is probable that the 2013 Festival I will remain at NFHS and the remaining teachers there will run it; I offered to help the new staff member (if there is one) with scheduling and running the festival in 2013. After that, it will be up to the NFHS music staff at that time if they want to continue the annual responsibility of hosting Festival I.

Motion to adjourn by Tammy, second by Mary. Meeting adjourned at 7:53 PM.

Respectfully submitted,



Paul M. Wos  
NCMEA Secretary

SCORING SUMMARY FOR OCTOBER

NAME	Motions	Seconds	Total Points
Carolyn	4	3	7
Debbie	3	1	4
Tammy	3	1	4
Amanda	2	2	4
Mary	0	4	4
Karen	2	1	3
Tim	0	1	1
Stephanie	0	1	1

NEXT NCMEA EXECUTIVE BOARD MEETING  
Tuesday, November 1, 2011 @ Panes Restaurant  
6:00 PM