



NEW ENGLAND MUSIC FESTIVAL ASSOCIATION

EXECUTIVE BOARD MEETING AGENDA

Date: December 12, 2025,

Time: 7:00 – 9:00pm

Location: Comfort Inn
375 Voluntown Rd.
Griswold, CT

<https://meet.google.com/zek-eakm-wxu> (for those not in person)

Facilitator: John Deeb

NEMFA Executive Board Members/Attendance

<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> John Deeb, President	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Eddie Wilkin, Social Media
<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Jennifer Chambers, President Elect	<input type="checkbox"/> Amy Ranta, Co-Chair Membership
<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> William Sittard, Exec. Secretary.-Treasurer	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Lauren Churchill, Co-Chair Membership
<input type="checkbox"/> Lyvie Beyrent, Recording Secretary	<input type="checkbox"/> Molly Desrochers, Chorus Manager
<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Robert Gattie, Solo & Ensemble Festival	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Anthony Brackett, Orchestra Manager
<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Steffen Parker, Solo & Ensemble Festival	<input type="checkbox"/> Wayne Spletstoeszer, Jazz Manager
<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Tom Reynolds, Bulletin	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Angelica Jackson, Co-Manager
<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Frank Whitcomb, Librarian	<input type="checkbox"/> Kevin Lam, Band Co-Manager
<input type="checkbox"/> Raymond Churchill, Student Housing Chair	

Others in attendance:



NEW ENGLAND MUSIC FESTIVAL ASSOCIATION (CONT'D)

Topic	Discussion	Next Steps
Welcome/Call to Order/Roll Call - JD & LB	Meeting Called to order @ 7:05	
Secretary's Report/Acceptance of 9/6/2025 EB Minutes - LB (see below)	Steffen Motion to Accept; Tom Second - All in Favor.	
Association Member Comments		
Board Member Reports:		
Exec Sec/Treasurer - BS	Copy of Report handed out. Steffen - Motion to Approve; Tom - Second; All in Favor.	
President Elect - JC	Thank you to Tom for assisting in securing the site and helping to organize. 100th celebration, full swing in motion, conductors lined up. March 11 - 13, 2027	Continue to plan and work toward the 100th.
Bulletin - TR	Jan 15 next bulletin will go out.	All need to have info to Tom by Jan 5.
Solo & Ensemble Festival - RG & SP	Smooth northern site, a few bumps, but all went well. Question: where will the site be in the North next year? Unsure of the timeline of Hartford. Hope tomorrow will be the same at the South Site. Multiple changes, Steffen has been combing through the adjustments for tomorrow. Software is still clunky; Steffen is working through how to build the system. Discussion regarding deadlines and late additions.	
Librarian - FW	Everything is good, everyone has their music. Looking at a location for the future of the NEMFA Library.	



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Membership - LC & AR	Nothing new to report; once registration occurs for the concert festival, more to come.	
Social Media - EW	More to come in January for PD	
Ensemble Managers - MD, AJ, TB, WS	<p>AJ - Slight change to program, dropped a piece. All virtual folders are made and ready to go. 100th focus after the completion of the 99th festival.</p> <p>TB - All Set; upper strings all bowed, letter written, folders created.</p> <p>WS - Rob made a motion to accept program #1; Tony - Seconded. Discussion. (<i>The Peanut Vendor - Arr. B. Strayhorn; Whisper Not, B. Golson; Royal Garden Blues, Williams arr. Strayhorn; Oop Bop Sha'bam, Gillespie, arr. T. Dameron</i>). Motion vote - All in Favor.</p>	
Festival Host - LB		
President's Report - JD	<p>Discussion for the NEMFA refocus group to analyze the systems and protocols of the organization to propel forward for another 100 years. After the new year, build a retreat for the E-Board to allow a full discussion.</p> <p>Discussion of the restructuring of the board. As we move forward, a medical professional will be</p>	



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Topic	Discussion	Next Steps
	hired for the “dean of students” position—cost of professional question for the future.	
Old (Unfinished) Business - JD		
New Business - JD	<p>Motion - All director sponsors must be required to participate in a “duty” while attending the concert festival. Lauren Second. Discussion. Motion passed.</p> <p>iPads at/for rehearsal and/or concert. Discussion about electronics at rehearsals. Cell Phones/Ipads. Discussion</p> <p>Motion to make a \$500 donation to the Lowell Mason House (Rob). Tony seconded. Discussion. Motion Passed.</p>	Eddie will create a list and send out the “duites” list to the EBoard.
Other Business - JD	<p>Thursday Night . . . Region 10 will be naming the Auditorium after John. John will conduct a piece during the concert that evening.</p> <p>Discussion regarding the equipment for S&E Festival.</p>	
Future Sites (2025 and beyond)	<p>2026 - Gilford HS (NH)</p> <p>2027 - Mechanics Hall, Worcester, MA</p> <p>2028 - ?</p> <p>2029 - ?</p>	
Adjournment		

Additional Questions/Concerns/Meeting Highlights:

[EB Minutes 6-5-25 - Google Docs](#)



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Next Meeting – March 20, 2026 - Gilford, NH

2025-26 EB Meeting Schedule	Future Concert Dates
September 6, 2025 - Gilford, NH	2026 - March 19-21 (Gilford, NH)
December 12, 2025 - Griswold, CT	2027 - March 11-13
March 20, 2026 - Gilford, NH	2028 - March 16-18
June 6, 2026 - Remote Online Meeting	2029 - March 15-17