



New England Music Festival Association

Executive Board Meeting
Lewis S. Mills High School
Friday, March 18, 2022
10:15 AM

1. **Call to Order** - Interim President Rob Gattie called the meeting to order at 10:20 AM

2. **Roll Call** - Rob Gattie, Lyvie Beyrent, Bill Sittard, Tom Reynolds, Frank Whitcomb, Eddie Wilkins, Steffen Parker, Pam Rodgers, John Deeb, Paul Pierce, and Anthony Pandolf.

3. **Board Member Reports:**

a. Executive Secretary/Treasurer – Bill Sittard - Difference in N and S adjudication costs. Reason was due to keeping the same adjudicators for both weekends. Checking account is at \$68,025. Steffen makes a motion to accept the treasurer's report, Tom seconds. All in favor. **Motion passes.**

b. Recording Secretary – Lyvie Beyrent - Nothing new.

c. Past Presidents Report – Frank Whitcomb - Met and extended thanks to the EB for making this festival happen.

d. Festival Hosts – John Deeb - Things are going ok, a few hiccups, but that is expected. Thanks to Frank for taking on the hotel part. Hiccup on testing/vaccination process, but got through it. One school lost 4 or 5 kids from the chorus for testing positive.

e. President Elect – John Deeb - First meeting in June.

f. Bulletin – Tom Reynolds - First week in June will be the next bulletin. Deadline is May 25th.

- g. Solo & Ensemble Festival – Steffen Parker - Discussion about getting numbers up for S&E Fest would help, but the festivals ran at about 60% this year. Dates for next year are Dec 3 and 10.
- h. Member Services– John Kuhner - Will be here this evening.
- i. Social Media – Will be filled by Eddie in June.
- j. Dean of Students – Pam Rodgers - Pretty quiet, easy things. One student was not feeling well this morning.
- k. Librarian – Frank Whitcomb - Nothing to report
- l. Chorus Manager – Eddie Wilkins - Few hiccups, not as prepared as had hoped, grumbings about not being a real piano, balance out the program a bit more with acapella pieces vs. accompanied pieces. Thanks to all the directors stepping up to help with rehearsals and sectionals. Recommend onsite hearings go back next year. Eddie makes a motion for this year with everything going on giving recording track accompanist \$400. Steffen seconds. Discussion. Motion withdrawn. New motion from Eddie to continue with \$200 stipend, and to add a \$200 gift for this year only. Steffen seconds. All in favor. **Motion passes.**
- m. Orchestra Manager – Paul Pierce - Thanks to John and his crew, the conductor is happy, it's going to be a good concert. Won't get to reading pieces. Masking issues with the brass section, but it has been solved.
- n. Band Manager – Anthony Pandolfe - Danielle Convery gave a report. Sounds like a young group, but doing ok. Some parts are a little challenging, but the conductor is positive and not concerned. Anthony later came and updated. Looking for a 3rd trombone player.
- o. President's Report – Robert Gattie - Cowgill Scholarships, 9 students qualify, goes to highest rating from this year. Instrumentalist is Olivia Lee, Cellists from Glastonbury, Vocalist is Cooper Johnson, Bass from Valley Regional HS.

1. Unfinished Business

- a. Nomination process for election at membership meeting - Slate of nominees will be presented at General Meeting. Might have a host for next year. Immediate Past President, Marj Rooen, has agreed to move into that role.

2. New Business

- a. Consideration of having a Co-Manager set up for the Chorus - Would not serve as a voting member, but would help with the size of the group. Steffen makes a motion to have a co-manager for the chorus. Tom seconds. Discussion about co-manager or committees. Steffen withdraws

motion and makes a new motion to have an assistant choral manager serve 2 years and then 2 years as choral manager. Eddie seconds. Discussion. Four in favor, four against. Bill makes a motion to table discussion at the June meeting. Lyvie second. All in favor. **Motion passes.**

b. Appointment of Social Media Chair - Eddie Wilkins. Rob endorses All in favor.

c. Any business brought forward as a result of the Director's Forum - Discussion about jazz ensemble. Tabled to June.

d. Any other business that could not be brought to the President before the setting of this agenda? Hotel stays in future years. Discussion. Would like to ask that question at the general meeting to get feedback.

Discussion about dress code. Eddie volunteers to send a survey out. Lyvie suggests it's an easy fix, just take away the genders. Steffen suggests that it's John K's job as member chair.

4. EB Member Comments

Lyvie thanks the board for setting a good example and wearing masks when in the presence of students.

3. Future Dates

Executive Board Meeting; June 4, 2022. In Brattleboro, VT at the Holiday Inn Express, 100 Chickering Drive. Discussion about starting earlier, 9AM would be good. All in favor.

Future Concert Festival Dates:

2023 Concert Festival; March 16-18

2024 Concert Festival; March 21-23

2025 Concert Festival; March 20-22

8. **Adjournment!** Steffen makes a motion to adjourn. Eddie seconds, all in favor. Meeting adjourned at 12:01PM