New England Music Festival Association

Executive Board Meeting Agenda

Date: March 14, 2025
Location: Middletown High School
Time: 10:30 a.m. - 12:00 p.m.
Facilitator: Jennifer Chambers

NEMFA Executive Board Members/Attendance

☐ John Deeb, President	☑ Robert Gattie, S & E Festival	☑ Eddie Wilkin, Social Media
☑ Jennifer Chambers, President Elect	☑ Steffen Parker, S & EFestival	☑ Pamela Rodgers, Dean of Students
☐ Marjorie Rooen, Immediate Past President	☑ Tom Reynolds, Bulletin	☑ Molly Clark, Chorus Manager
☑ William Sittard, Exec. Secretary-Treasurer	☑ Amy Ranta, Interim Co-Chair Membership ☑ Lauren Churchill, Interim Co-Chair Membership	☑ Paul Pierce, Orchestra Manager ☑ Matt Davide, Jazz Band Manager
☑ Lyvie Beyrent, Recording Secretary	☑ Frank Whitcomb, Librarian	☑ Angelica Jackson, Band Manager

Others in attendance:

New England Music Festival Association (cont'd)

Topic	Discussion	Next Steps
Welcome/Call to Order/Roll Call - JC & LB	Jennifer calls to order at 10:31am	
Secretary's Report/Acceptance of 12/13/2024 EB Minutes (see below)	Tom makes a motion to accept, Lauren seconds, all in favor. Motion passes.	
Association Member Comments	Sarah Cullins comments - work done on vocal repertoire lists, updating solo vocal list, made strong recommendations for range, ease, and streamlined with fewer books. Hal Leonard Anthology is a book that most teachers have and it has plenty of options. Lots of things are out of publication. Vocal lists should also have a virtuoso part like instrumentalists.	Would like to put together a committee to update and revive the vocal list. Sarah and Andrea are interested and will be announced at the General Meeting.
Board Member Reports:		
Exec Sec/Treasurer - BS	Bank balance $107,307. $46,785.78 as of today.	
President Elect - JC	Working on planning the 100th anniversary.	Will start work after the concert festival.
Bulletin - TR	Would like material/submissions by Memorial Day. Discussion on sending before or after the EB meeting.	Next comes out June 1st.
Festival Host - Stephanie		
Solo & Ensemble Festival - RG & SP	Hartford HS is going through a rebuilding. Proposal for Lebanon MS, Hanover HS, or Hartford MS.	Will keep brainstorming. Steffen has created a Google Drive folder with what is needed to host.
Librarian - FW	Scans are in the Google Drive for band music. Would like programs and music at the June meeting.	

New England Music Festival Association (cont'd)

Topic	Discussion	Next Steps
Membership - LC & AR	Amy is going to post a link on the website to encourage members to fill out Google doc and drive to share pictures. Having a who's who page at the festival. Information about who plays what type of instruments when we are looking for accompaniment players for the festival. Welcome letter from the EB and window clings. Emailed NH schools to get the word out. Good feedback from members who have students in the festival about being able to find info on the website.	Explore a retired NEMFA membership rate, as well as a collegiate rate. Bill and Steffen will let Amy and Lauren know about new members, so they can reach out and connect with them.
Social Media - EW	All is ok, difficulty in posting on Wifi. PD 8 people signed up, Eddie is matching $5,000 in donations for sponsors.	
Housing - RC	Kids are awesome. Staff at Hampton are more together than Marriott. Solving volunteering/chaperone staff. Meal supervision issue. Ray would like to take over housing from Steffen. Suggestion to streamline the job process.	Jen will have the job descriptions for the June meeting to make sure that we don't have these gaps anymore. Will come up with a list of things that have come up. Eddie makes a motion to present the bylaws at the 2026 Concert Festival, Frank seconds. All in favor. Eddie makes a motion to reopen Bylaws at the June meeting. Tom seconds. All in favor. Use of registration from CMEA
Ensemble Managers - MC, JD, PP, MD	Chorus (Molly) - Doing great, working hard. Going on risers and stage today for practice. Reopen conversation about having a co-chair and getting people to volunteer. Jen mentions that in NH	Molly makes a motion to add co-chair with the understanding that it's one voting voice. Angelia seconds. 6 in favor. 2 opposed. Motion masses.

New England Music Festival Association (cont'd)

Topic	Discussion	Next Steps
	directors have to sign up to be on a committee or to help with housing and would like NEMFA to be the same. VT also has co-chairs. Jazz Band (Matt) - Had to find a new conductor lat week, due to medical reasons. Trombone 3 dropped and a trumpet dropped. Two adult performers will be compensated appropriately. $250 per person. Wayne S. is interested in taking over for Jazz Band manager, Matt will continue to help. Orchestra (Paul) - Smooth, sciatica flare up with director, but still engaged. Good program, sectionals this afternoon. Band (Angelica) - Very positive, very balanced. Suggestion to have more supervision during meals and buses.	Need to find 8 people to ride buses with students back to the hotel and then ride back to school to get vehicles.
Old (Unfinished) Business JD	Suggestion to have a document in case NEMFA hosts like 2024.	Bill and Tom will work on a document for the June meeting.
Dean of Students - PR	Getting access to the nurses office after hours. A few students have gone home due to illness. Suggestion for signing up for specific. Medication issues from state to state.	Jen will be doing a follow up with the admin if directors don't show up.
New Business	Streamline using Google email address.	Amy makes a motion to have a collegiate level membership for $25. Lyvie seconds. All in favor, motion passes. Amy makes a motion to have a legacy membership for $25. Lyvie seconds. All in favor, motion passes.

New England Music Festival Association (cont'd)

Topic	Discussion	Next Steps
	Suggestion to have the June meeting be in person.	
EB Roundtable	Discussion about rehearings and making random selections instead of rehearing everyone. Quality of the chorus has skyrocketed. Suggestion about having a good way to communicate with festival participants when at a festival.	
Adjournment	Jen makes a motion to adjourn at 12:06. Lyvie seconds.	

Additional Questions/Concerns/Meeting Highlights

[December 13, 2024 NEMFA EB Minutes]

Next Meeting – Saturday, June 7, 2025 – 10:00 a.m.

2025-26 EB Meeting Schedule	Future Concert Dates
June 7, 2025	2026 - March 19-21
September 6, 2025	2027 - March 18-20
December 12, 2025	2028 - March 16-18
March 20, 2026	2029 - March 15-17