



New England Music Festival Association
Executive Board Meeting Special Meeting
Zoom meeting January 3, 2022
7:30pm via Zoom

- 1. Call to Order:** 7:34pm by Marj Rooen
- 2. Roll Call:** Marj Rooen, Thomas Reynolds, Lyvie Beyrent, Rob Gattie, Pamela Rodgers, Bill Sittard, Paul Pierce, John Deeb, Eddie Wilkins, Sal Ciccarella, and Steffen Parker
- 3. Discussion about Concert Festival and Covid Protocols - Rob Gattie and John Deeb**

Covid protocols:

Host school rules for participants - John met with the superintendent today and things are wild in CT. Current rules are playing/singing with masks at 3 feet apart, without at 6 feet. Festival will work with these spacing requirements. Discussion about coming up with Covid protocol and waiver with expectations. Steffen makes a motion that we require standard masks while inside any building, performing masks for wind players while playing, bell covers for instruments, standard masks for all vocalists, string, and percussion players. Lyvie seconds. Discussion about different types of masks. Call to question: All in favor. Paul makes a motion to amend that we require N95 or equivalent masks for string, percussion, and vocalists. Seconded by Pamela. Call to question: Motion passes.

Host school rules for concert audience - 350 for audience. Discussion about having the chorus in the gym for rehearsal and concert, to separate audiences. Audience members will be required to wear masks.

Come up with dates that certain things should happen (such as hotel deadline) - Bill will reach out to student hotels and find out what they want for the latest cancellation. Check back in with everyone on Thursday, Feb 10th at 7:30pm.

Bussing...how many kids, seated how close together - Tabled till Feb meeting

During meals for students - Tabled till Feb meeting

COVID testing before coming? Can/should we require? - Discussion about requiring testing. Steffen makes a motion to require a negative Covid test within 72 hours for all students, sponsors, directors, and guest conductors with results to be verified. John seconds. Call to question: All in favor.

Assuming a mask mandate- do we supply? Host school will provide extra masks in case students forget.

Who determines the need to test on site? Dean? School nurse? - Decided that it would be no different than a regular festival when a student gets sick they will just go home.

NEMFA policy regarding who gets sent home, when - Decided that it would be no different than a regular festival when a student gets sick they will just go home.

Need to communicate info to sponsors/parents - Will go out in the bulletin on Jan 14th.

4. Adjournment - Bill makes a motion to adjourn, Lyvie seconds, all in favor. Adjourned at 9:07pm.

Next meeting Thursday, February 10th at 7:30pm via Zoom.

Respectfully submitted by Lyvie Beyrent, recording secretary