

SECRETARY'S REPORT – LYVIE BEYRENT



New England Music Festival Association

Executive Board Meeting

Zoom meeting **September 19, 2020**, 10:00am

Meeting ID: 732 123 0794

Passcode: 6260585752

1. Call to Order: 10:04am Marj Roen

2. Roll Call: Marj Roen, Scott Benson, Pam Rodgers, Lyvie Beyrent, Steffen Parker, Danielle Conerty, John Deeb, Rob Gattie, Thomas Reynolds, Bill Sittard, Frank Whitcomb, James Pecsok, and Sal Cicciarella.

3. Association Member Comments:

4. Minutes August meeting on Google Docs – Vote to accept. Motion to accept Steffen Parker, Rob Gattie second. All in favor of accepting.

5. Board Member Reports:

a. Executive Secretary/Treasurer – Bill Sittard - Report sent via email. We are in good standing. Motion to approve Steffen Parker, second Tom Reynolds. All in favor of accepting.

b. Past President – Sal Cicciarella - No report

c. President Elect – John Deeb - Wants to have a Zoom meeting with potential new members/schools, but now is not the right time with everyone being overwhelmed with new guidelines for Covid reopening.

d. Bulletin – Tom Reynolds - Meghan Ferris helped with a format, Tom provides content. Steffen makes a suggestion to send more frequently to keep our organization on the minds of people.

e. Solo & Ensemble Festival – Steffen Parker & Rob Gattie on-line procedure and guidelines. Application process will be the same as in years past. Deadline of Oct 30th. Fee remains the same as last year. Audition process will be recordings submitted to the website between Sat, Dec 5th at 9am through Sat, Dec 12th at 5pm. MP3 files can be uploaded to the site, Steffen walked us through the process. Files are being stored on another site, as to not overwhelm the server. Showed the adjudication side of things. Dress code will be removed. Discussion on how two adjudicators talk about overall ensemble score. One will be able to listen to all parts of the ensemble several times and be able to provide feedback. Currently working on adjudicator audio comments, hoping they will be able to provide both written and verbal.

Would like to post results by the following weekend. Lengthy discussion about uploading music so judges have a copy in front of them. Motion by John Deeb to upload pieces for this year. Second by Pam. All in favor, motion passes. Rob reported that costs will be down this year, due to the fact that we don't have to pay for travel expenses.

f. Member Services/Background Checks– John Kuhner - No report.

g. Librarian – Frank Whitcomb - Music has started to be returned since school started. Working on getting rental money back.

h. Chorus Manager – Eddie Wilkins - No report.

i. Orchestra Manager – Scott Benson - In a holding pattern currently, but will reach out and see if they would be willing to push back another year.

j. Band Manager – Danielle Conerty - Nothing new.

k. Festival Hosts – No report

6. President's Report – Marjorie Rooen - Keeping solo and ensemble festival going is important during these times.

7. Unfinished Business

a. Concert Festival options - Virtual options? Scott suggested a piece of software called Jack Trip that allows for virtual ensemble rehearsals. Suggestion on hiring someone to put together the individual tracks to form a final recording, or doing masterclasses such as Zooming with conductors, or workshops on college auditions. Discussion about asking the membership if they are intending to participate in S&E Festival. John, Sal, Tom will serve on a virtual ensemble committee meeting.

b. New England Website – Tom Reynolds - Issues with old information. Add the word “opens” to the end of Oct 5th Solo and Ensemble Registration.

c. Recruitment efforts – Frank Whitcomb - Gone out to RI, will go out to others soon to promote S&E Festival.

8. New Business

2022 Concert Festival Hosts - Search will resume in 2021 once we get a better sense of how the world is reacting.

9. Future Dates

a. Executive Board Meeting December 11, 2020. Discussion about what would be accomplished at this meeting without the need this year to select ensembles. Lyvie makes a motion to move the meeting to Saturday, Jan 9th at 10am. Sal seconds. All in favor, motion passes.

b. Future Concert Festival Dates:

2021 Concert Festival; March 11-13 - Virtual Festival?

2022 Concert Festival; March 17-19

2023 Concert Festival; March 16-18

10. Any other business that could not be brought to the President before the setting of this agenda? Discussion on flexibility of deadline of payments this year and late fees, due to this being a different year. Bill agrees.

11. NEMFA Executive Board Comments

12. Adjournment: Steffen makes a motion to adjourn. Lyvie seconds. All in favor. Adjournment at 11:49am

Possible NEMFA Virtual Festival topics/ workshops/ clinics

Who will present and who is the target audience?

What will it entail?

Where in the format, on website or zoom?

When live or prerecorded on the "Concert Festival" weekend or longer?

Why – to keep NEMFA viable and valuable to our students and membership.

How can we do this as easily as possible?

1. Auditioning for college as a music major
2. The Theory behind the music
3. Online zoom with the Ensemble Conductor(s)
4. Kids record their part of one piece, potentially resulting in a Virtual Ensemble piece – many issues with this -
5. Other suggestions?

Respectfully submitted,

Lyvie Beyrent

Recording Secretary