



New England Music Festival Association

Emergency Executive Board Meeting

October 19th, 2021 via Zoom

7:00pm

1. Call to Order: Marj called the meeting to order at 7pm
2. Roll Call: Sal Ciccarella, Rob Gattie, Lyvie Beyrent, Bill Sittard, Anthony Pandolfe, Marj Rooen, John Kuhner, Steffen Parker, Frank Whitcomb, and Eddie Wilkins.
3. Discussion about Northern Site in Hartford, VT.

At our September meeting Marj asked what the climate was at schools to help plan on whether or not we should do live S & E festivals. The discussion was that requirements were loosening up and a live performance looked doable.

1. Since that time, our host school changed the parameters and is requiring their teachers, staff, and contracted workers to be vaccinated.
2. Rob and Steffen had put together a plan to accommodate the school requirements to have our S&E Festival live. Rob emailed me and let me know what they thought would work with not getting students from different schools near each other and different rehearsal rooms for schools they may request from them.
3. Nothing was said about vaccinations for our adjudicators or membership for this plan. The membership question came up recently.
4. Marj asked Rob to formulate their plan and send an email to the EB about having ensembles on-line and just hearing solos live. This was to keep us on the same page, and not a policy change.
5. The addition of requiring our adjudicators to be vaccinated for the live performance would be a policy change and needs discussion

6. Other options were presented by the EB including holding all Northern festival solo and ensembles on-line or having another school in the north host the S&E Festival.
7. Many other concerns were also brought up including this being a super spreader event, some people cannot take vaccines, some schools are not allowing trips that mix their students with more than one other school (sports only deal with one other school), some schools may not allow students to travel out of state, etc....

Discussion: Students are not required to be vaccinated, only adults. Must be masked the entire time, won't be close to adjudicators (VT has close contact of being within 3 feet for 15 minutes). No vocal ensembles, those are virtual. Unvaccinated teachers will be outside, no students as proctors. Doing everything that CDC and Hartford is asking for and offering video recording alternatives for those that don't feel comfortable. Discussion on legality of requiring vaccination. Question on who is checking the vaccination cards.

Steffen makes a motion to make sure that the association follows state, local, and school districts policies with regards to Covid-19 requirements. Bill seconds. Discussion about how this is different from what we voted on in Sept. Call to question: All in favor. **Motion passes.**

Discussion about keeping our members safe and offering a Zoom component for meetings.

Discussion about hotel supervision. Tabled until December meeting.

Meeting adjourned at 7:39pm. All in favor.

Respectfully submitted by Lyvie Beyrent, recording secretary.