

Board Meeting January 23, 2010

Present: Jaree Hall, Mike White, Deborah Barber, Peggy McDaniel, Judy Hopper, Rachel Stegall, Barbara Reeve (ASTA pres. elect), Christine Graham, Ryan Fisher, Paige Rose, Kathy Robison, Mary Zies, Judy Rogers, Patty Oeste, Delynn West, I.J. Routen

1. Barbara Reeve is in Batesville and teaches strings 2- 9. K-1 General music.
2. Reading of minutes suspended since they were emailed after last meeting.
3. Treasurer Report- \$10,397.42 balance. Outstanding registrations and some unpaid ads. Still waiting on \$585 from Oct. issue, and haven't billed for upcoming issue for \$1781. Expecting about \$300 more from conference. Conference: 290 registrants. 97 elementary students for chorus.
4. Judy R - MIOSM report. March 10-11 at Capitol. Christina Munoz will speak on the 11th. She will extend an invite to Brian Kinder unless there is another suggestion. Jaree cannot be there to represent organization. So far about 6 schools are attending.
5. Mary - Segue. Passed out things that would be helpful for her. Having articles in required type and font and proofed will save her time. Jaree suggested posting it on the website. Keep pictures in jpeg format just to be safe. When sending as an email, send the article as an attachment instead of embedding in the email. Barbara suggested adding more info (such as sending as .doc or .pdf) before posting it on site.
6. Jaree read letter from Patricia Cox. Festival Orchestra lost money at the conference this year due to more expenses and fewer students. If ASTA wants to continue this tradition, string educators need to support the project. NW AR is not sending students and only send to All-State. They have an active organization and don't need to add to their activities according to a conversation Jaree had with a NW teacher. Discussion ensued about viability of string program. General consensus is to keep it going. ASTA pays for their clinician and collects the money from their student registrations.
7. Email from Susan Shelton in Springdale: 16 teachers there heard they were getting \$2000 in stimulus money. Then they were told they weren't getting it. They were concerned if this was state-wide or district. Several members shared how their districts spent stimulus money.
8. John Melman - head of MENC and just retired. Met with Patty and they discussed concerns of our organization. They said if there was anything they could do: mailing flyers, etc, they would take on that expense. When we meet in June, committee needs to take charge of this idea so we get our membership up. They also said all states have the same kind of issues we have with getting all the state organizations together.
9. Conference: Will be at UCA on Nov. 4,5 . Discussion on having same schedule with elementary emphasis on Friday.
 - a. Tim Lautzenheiser on Thursday for Keynote and a couple of sessions. He will appeal more to secondary and college students.

- b. Consensus - keep the schedule the same. Elementary and orchestra will be on Friday. Ryan suggested advertising to secondary and college schools for the honor ensembles. Many probably didn't know about the process since most know only of All-State feature groups.
 - c. The timing of last year's concert was an issue. Only 15 signed in for wind concert and 58 for Bel Canto. Very few showed up for saxophone group. Patty said there were probably more for Nettleton that didn't sign in. Timing of concerts: they were at the end of the day. Could we have them perform during a regular slot during the day? Ryan suggested having one invited ensemble and one or more honor ensembles at a different time.
 - d. Deborah suggested adding a jazz master class to get secondary band people involved. Ryan suggested booking UNT 1:00 Jazz or similar group.
 - e. Move deadline for Honors groups to spring to allow directors to prepare. This year put it in May issue and next year put it in February. Ryan suggested advertising to ASBOA, etc. Mike suggested giving the info to Julia Reynolds and Tom Street to give out to their prospective groups. Deadline of June 1st.
 - f. Suggested keeping joint performance at end of elementary groups to keep everyone there. Another suggestion - Orff ensemble added to performance groups.
10. Patty asked for feedback on brochure: Include spreadsheet version of what's going on, and make cover different from Segue.
 11. If anyone lines up a presenter you are responsible for making sure they have transportation, lodging, taking care of them, getting info to Mary and Patty. Whatever you have arranged financially with presenter, you have to let Jaree and Mike know. Suggestions of putting together conference packet. If deadlines are before June, summer meeting will be more productive. Ryan suggested pooling resources into a headliner for each area, then the other sessions would not be paid. If they are coming from other colleges, their schools will pick up the tab as part of disseminating research and promoting their schools. A conference committee should be determining who is presenting. Deborah suggested taking out CMENC as a strand for sessions. Students are ready to be in the real workshops. Paige suggested having a June 1st deadline for everything. Also require online admissions - no hard copy. Performance Group Apps would still be hard copy.
 12. Deadline for Segue is March 15th. Paige will need info from Orchestra, Choir, Conference proposals, and performers by March 1st so she can get ads in to Mary by 15th.
 13. Ryan will start contacting GIA for presenters. Ryan was wondering if we can streamline areas to our 4 main areas: elementary, band, choral, orchestra; instead of all the areas. I.J. still wants her money for her area. Mike would like a link for chairs to find people who are available through publishers. Peggy suggested having MENC post a request for proposals through their publications and website. Ryan & Paige suggested anyone who sends in a RFP doesn't get paid so we can devote more of our money towards the headliners.
 14. Put together conference chair packet so everything is self-contained.
 15. Things to improve from 2009 conference:
 - a. Give feedback to everyone who applies so they know if they are selected or not.

- b. Chairs double check needs of presenter.
 - c. Delynne will take on videotaping of concerts. I.J. has a name also.
 - d. Someone needs to be responsible for food. Catered lunches should be included on registration form.
 - e. Performing groups need to be rethought. (Already discussed) One person should be in charge just of performing groups.
 - f. Orchestra/choir people didn't reset their areas. Should have a setup crew. Ryan suggested giving donation to the student groups that help. The directors should be helping to set up/break down. Whoever is in charge of the performing group is responsible for the set up crew. Deborah suggested waiving registration fee for students who help set up. I.J. suggested having one person in charge of staging equipment. Ryan suggested one person for each building. Deborah volunteered to take care of one of the stages. Performance group directors need to fill out a diagram for the stages similar to presenters. Paige suggested putting that in a follow-up packet. Even if they don't know until that day, they can fill out the form in the morning (such as for orchestra). Barbara suggested adding to the registration form that directors would be expected to help break down stage after performance before leaving with their students. I.J. suggested having them sign a contract that they will be responsible for this. Mike said there is plenty of room on the registration form for this. Final action: add contract to registration form for directors to help with break down after concerts.
 - g. Concert program - Patty needs someone to take over the program. Delynne will take over getting program done. The guy who prints Segue gives good rates - check with Mike when it comes time.
 - h. Social hour - do we want to repeat this? Peggy suggested mentioning it at every session to advertise it and increase attendance. Stress the networking advantage. Mike suggested keeping it if we can still get corporate sponsorship. Peggy suggested adding entertainment. Judy H mentioned any entertainment shouldn't take away from the networking aspect of the gathering.
 - i. Suggestions for future workshops: Tone chimes, world drumming, More I.J., Stark, Zinse, Boomwhackers, handbells, West African Dance, Ken Green technology, Grunow-Gordon, Orff instruments & recorders, other types of multicultural presentations than African.
17. Jaree thanked everyone for all their hard work on the conference.
18. New legislation: We need to be prepared in case new legislation appears, so Mike has written a proposal. Line 28 - 29 is unclear to some of the board, clarification is needed. Consensus is to change the 5th grade wording so students don't have to make a choice between music and art. IJ suggested that the wording support both art and music to avoid dividing the arts. Barbara suggested adding a time minimum to 7th and 8th grade in the law. Consensus is to take out the Pre-K. IJ suggested tabling any changes to allow members more time to research and think. Mike is asking for recommendation to approach art, band, orchestral, and choral organizations to structure a bill that will be acceptable to all involved. No action taken.
19. MENC national symposium dates are June 24 - 29 in D.C.

20. ArkMEA board meeting will be in June, on 2 consecutive weekdays. Jaree will send out possible dates later via survey monkey.
21. Mike went through the resources page again. One is under the contact page. Click on the board and it will go to the resources page through the yahoo group.
22. Meeting adjourned!