

NHBDA Executive Board Meeting Minutes

Friday, July 10, 2020

Zoom Meeting 790 1271 1211

In attendance: Bunny Saranita, Lyvie Beyrent, James Chesebrough, David Umstead, Bob Lehmenkuler, Mike Adams, Jim Robins, Sue Hahs, Vincent Duval, Jared Staub, Kurt Schweiss

Call to Order/Attendance: 11:04 am Bunny Saranita
Extended greeting to Jared Staub by James Chesebrough. Introductions by Bunny Saranita.

Recording Secretary's Report Vin Duval

- Motion to amend minutes of 5/11/20, put the "motion to accept executive secretary's report" currently in minutes under membership, in its correct place under the executive secretary's report. V. Duval/B. Lehmenkuler.
- Motion to accept amendment. B Saranita. No opposition. Passed.
- Motion to accept minutes as amended. J. Robins/B. Lehmenkuler Passed.

Executive Secretary's Report Mike Adams

- Same as May meeting, with a couple of small changes. Two months of bank fees (- \$6.00) , uncashed check by Chamber Festival clinician (+525). Current balance \$11, 104.28 (+\$15.00, Bunny)
- Motion to accept report as presented J Chesebrough/D Umstead. Passed.

Chair Reports

- **Membership** Bunny Saranita
 - Membership currently – one. Jim C asked what it would be if we didn't "expire" memberships this year, i.e. what membership was at NEBDI last year.
 - Campaign to solicit membership. Updated brochure posted to our facebook page, email scheduled to go out this evening to past two years of NEBDI participants with link to membership. Please forward to others.
 - Extensive discussion: Should we require organization membership of directors for participation in NHBDA activities?
 - Motion to require membership for MLHF. B Lehmenkuler/V Duval. Motion failed.
 - Discussion: membership, school participation fee, increased participation fees by festival. Without NEBDI we come up short about

\$5000. Adding other fees to make up the difference would lessen the loss, but not make up for it.

- Motion to assess a sponsoring fee for NHBDA events, excluding the Chamber Fest, of \$30 per district. J Chesebrough/M Adams.
Discussion: is the participation fee in addition to the individual student participation fee? Yes.
- Amendment to the motion J Chesebrough. Directors be notified of district fee as well as the SAU. Discussion: fees such as this normally are required by SAU's to be budgeted in advance. Mike: the more we discuss this, the less it seems valuable at this time. Revisit in September. We're fine for now.
- Motion to withdraw motion. J Chesebrough/M Adams

▪ **Website**

Bob Lehmenkuler

- Kurt suggestion for MLHF: a page oriented toward students rather than directors, students able to find all info necessary for auditioning. Sue concern about tone, website content being amended as we speak.
- Kurt thanking Bob for getting audition material up on website.

▪ **Middle Level Honors Festival 2021**

Kurt Schweiss/Jim Robins

- Locking in chamber ensembles now – flute, trumpet, saxophone.
- Auditions due Friday before Thanksgiving to give time to teachers and students
- Concern about percussion issues – access to instruments (COVID-19)
- Friday, March 26, 2021 tentatively at Keene Middle School
- Jim Robins: Verbal commitment from Tim Anderson from UMass to conduct the 2021 band. Verbal commitment from Mike Conerty for trumpet choir (Hartford, VT middle school).
- Jim Robins looking for contract language to address issue of paying clinicians/guest conductors should events be cancelled. Discussion of contracts for Jazz Clinic and NEBDI. Will consider using NHMEA language.
- Question from Bunny – any thoughts on alternative event format for MLHF? Kurt – maybe chamber groups, smaller ensembles to implement social distancing guidelines. Sue – registration language saying that fees are not refundable? Dave – after snow-out of Jazz Clinic, we decided on a 50% refund. Lyvie – after festival pays its costs, then distribute partial refunds. Kurt – auditions non-refundable, students still get benefit of professional feedback on audition even if festival itself is canceled. Mike – clinician contract language will determine whether or not we need to include a refund clause for participating schools/students.
- Kurt – soliciting board members to play/record demo performances of MLHF audition material.

- **President-elect, Workshop & Clinician Sponsorship** David Umstead
 - Bunny shared info – NHMEA October Fest will be entirely virtual
 - Due to the cancellation of NH All-State, we did not sponsor Michael Markowski at NH All-State this past April. Currently penciled in as our sponsored clinician for ~~this October~~. (amended by motion on 9/8/20 to read) April 2021 at All-State.

- **Jazz Clinic** David Umstead
 - Chazz Rogers at Hollis-Brookline has agreed to host for next year. January 23, 2021.
 - No action yet on reaching out to clinicians, confident that he will be able to set up a good line-up.

- **NEBDI** Jared Staub
 - Dave – will be working with Jared. Offered services of J Chesebrough as well. Clinicians were lined up for this event, it would make sense to reach out to same if possible for next year. Suggested meeting with three of them to discuss the event.
 - July 8-10, 2021 Thursday – Saturday.

- **Chamber Festival** Bunny Saranita
 - Saturday, January 9, 2021 at UNH.
 - If All-State assumes a chamber festival format this coming year, then Chamber Fest would be redundant. Joe Mundy in discussions with Bunny at this time to try to determine if event will take place.

New Business

- Updating the NHBDA By-Laws and Constitution
 - Jim Chesebrough & Vincent Duval appointed by B Saranita to two-person committee to update language and report back to board in September
- Meeting dates for 2020-2021
 - Tues 9/8/2020 7 pm. Monday 1/4/2021 7 pm. Wed 5/12/21 7 pm. Motion to approve dates J Chesebrough/M Adams. Approved.
- Bunny representing NHBDA on state music education coalition.
 - Letter requesting that music teachers be included in reopening decisions in schools and districts.
 - Nothing from NH DoE has come out yet regarding guidelines for music education. In NH, everything will ultimately come down to local control.
 - Discussion by members of what is being done in our own districts.

Motion to adjourn: J Chesebrough/J Robins. Passed.

Adjournment: 12:34 pm.

Minutes submitted by Vincent Duval