

NHBDA Executive Board Meeting Minutes

Tuesday, September 8, 2020

Zoom Meeting ID: 766 4470 8357

Passcode: NHBDA

In Attendance: M Adams, L Beyrent, J Chesebrough, K Clark, A DiBartolomeo, V Duval, S Hahs, B Lehmenkuler, J Robins, B Saranita, J Staub, T Russell, D Umstead

Call to Order/Attendance 7:02 pm

Bunny Saranita

Recording Secretary's Report

Bunny Saranita for Vin Duval

- Approval of July 10, 2020 Meeting Minutes
- Suggestion to amend by David Umstead: Michael Markowski tentatively scheduled to present NHMEA/NHBDA clinic in April 2021, not October 2020 as implied in the July 2020 minutes.
- Motion to accept 7/10/20 minutes with amendment: J. Chesebrough/L. Beyrent. Passed.

Executive Secretary's Report

Mike Adams

- Bottom line as of today: \$10288.28
- Motion to approve: J Chesebrough/S. Hahs. Passed.

Special Report: NHBDA Constitution and By-Laws

James Chesebrough

- Discussion of proper timeline and procedures for amending and presenting changes to the Constitution and By-Laws.
- Read-through of proposed changes by J. Chesebrough for discussion and comments by executive board members. Minimal changes, mostly to reflect current practice and changes in nomenclature/denominations.
- Motion to accept changes as suggested by Jim: S Hahs/M Adams. Passed by at least 2/3 affirmative vote of the executive board.
- Changes to be presented to the membership at the next meeting of the annual NEBDI conference. A file of the Constitution and By-Laws with proposed changes can be found on the NHBDA website, nhbda.org

Chair Reports:

- **Membership**

Bunny Saranita

- New member from Hinsdale. Up to three official members.
- Motion to extend membership to two years for participants of the 2019 NEBDI. J Chesebrough/B Lehmenkuler. Passed.
- Bunny will update and get the word out.

▪ **Chamber Festival**

Tony DiBartolomeo

- Waiting to find out/figure out what is going to happen this year.
- Auditions are still taking place. T DiBartolomeo concerned for the future of the festival.
- Date: currently planned for January 9, 2021. Tony D not anxious to change date.
- Logistical arrangements have been made for space at UNH. Clinicians have not been contacted.
- J Robins – NHMEA will be sending out survey in the next month to determine what school districts are willing to do in terms of student participation.
- K Clark – having difficulty getting four conductors for jazz All-State in February (people unwilling to make a tentative commitment). All-State auditions will take place late, so Chamber Festival probably needs to take place at a later date or not take place at all. Untenable to put it together in such a short time frame. Tony D not in a position to recreate the festival in a virtual format. More discussion: timeline not workable with the late date (December 4) of All-State auditions. In further discussion, Tony thinks it makes sense to take the festival entirely off the table for this year.
- Tony D – only alternative that he’s come up with has been to do a much smaller festival – maybe five ensembles – but then numbers make the festival financially more expensive.
- Bunny/Mike – maybe offer something totally different, like a virtual chamber music masterclass with a chamber group (like Jay Daly’s group). Free to everyone in the state? Could be scheduled any time – the normal window, some other time of year. Tony D – can we get kids to show up?
- MOTION to not sponsor Chamber Fest this year, with potential to provide and alternate offering. J Chesebrough/K Clark. Passed.
- Bunny will contact NHMEA to let them know that NHBDA will not be sponsoring the event.
- J Chesebrough: comment on success and illustrious history of NH Chamber Fest
- Tony D happy to work with someone on alternate offering. There are lots of groups that could potentially be tapped to be part of this event. Some companies may foot the bill for clinician endorsers.

▪ **Middle Level Honors Festival 2021**

Jim Robins

- Auditions materials are up on website. Ready to do adjudications remotely if necessary.
- Same issues for planning the festival as with Chamber Fest and other events.
- Bob offered to help with registration forms, parent letters, etc.
- Kurt and his wife had baby, Kurt on leave until end of October.

▪ **Jazz Clinic**

Dave Umstead

- Some of the same issues as Chamber Fest, but without the issue of auditions.
- January 23, 2021. Can probably wait a couple more months to see what is going on
- Past host, Hollis-Brookline HS, currently has a policy of not allowing events such as this in their school, or letting their students participate in outside events. The situation is fluid, this could change.
- Comfortable waiting until mid-November to see if festival is tenable. If so, Dave is comfortable with getting host and putting together clinicians at that time.

- J Chesebrough – plan sounds practical. K Clark – doesn't know that too many schools will be allowed to travel. Clinicians need to be advised in advance that there is a strong possibility of cancellation.
- Sue Hahs – could we consider a similar event with a jazz focus as we were discussing/considering as a substitute for Chamber Fest
- Dave currently not that enthused/has reservations about a virtual event. Would rather save that as a last resort or combine it with the Chamber Fest
- B Saranita "So we're going to hold steady and let time tell it's tale."

▪ **NEBDI 2021**

Jared Staub

- Has been in contact with Jim Chesebrough and Dave Umstead. Has reviewed past materials. Has more questions than answers at this point.
- Currently has people in mind that are friends and colleagues. They might be easier to schedule and potentially cancel than it would be with big-name clinicians.
- J Chesebrough – experience with Plymouth is that they would need to OK everything and at this point it wouldn't even be on their radar. J Staub – everything at Plymouth moving very slowly. Hard even to get email responses.
- Jim and Dave happy to meet again with Jared.

▪ **Website**

Bob Lehmenkuler

- Website up and running.
- Will get new materials up as he receives them.

Other Business

NH Coalition for Music Education

Bunny has continued to represent us on the NH Music Education Coalition. They have met 2-3 week throughout the summer.

The coalition has put out a document of information and resources, somewhat eclipsed by a misleading document sent out by the Governors Task Force on Economic Reopening. Anyone with questions or needing access to the real deal can contact Bunny.

Dave Umstead – not teaching this year, will be working elsewhere.

As the President-Elect of NHBDA, Dave feels he probably needs to rescind the position. The Constitution and By-laws support recently active band directors as being full members of NHBDA. Executive board members supportive of Dave assuming the presidency of NHBDA even in the event that he is still a cog in the juggernaut of the United States Postal Service at the time that he would ascend to the title. He would be the first president of the organization who actually had time in his schedule for the job, a major plus in Dave's (and the organization's) favor.

Motion to adjourn: J Chesebrough/ L Beyrent

Adjournment: 8:10

Minutes submitted by Vincent Duval