

The meeting of the Louisiana Music Educators Association Board of Directors was called to order at 10:00 a.m., October 4, 2014 with the following present: Sharon McNamara-Horne, Sara Bidner, Fran Hebert, Bruce Lambert, Johnny Walker, Brett Babineaux, Sharon Stephenson, Guy Wood, Jim Trant, Carol Lupton, Neal Naquin, Jay Ecker, Michael Townsend, Lee Hicks, Michele White, Ed McClellan, Carolyn Herrington, Pat Deaville, James Hearne, B.J. McGibney, Gina Anthon and Michelle Wilkinson-Nelson.

Moved by Carolyn Herrington and 2nd by Michele White to approve the agenda. PASSED

Moved by Fran Hebert and 2nd by Carolyn Herrington to approve the minutes. PASSED

Moved by Jim Trant and 2nd by Carolyn Herrington to approve the financial report. PASSED

Sharon McNamara-Horne attended the National Leadership Conference in June and the Southern Division Meeting in September. NAFME dues are not keeping up with increases in expenses. This led to a staff reduction of 59 down to 40. She reported that all states are going through teacher evaluations. Many states are now requiring student performance as part of the teacher evaluation. Florida and Tennessee have gone to a uniform joining date for their organization. Some states have added a guitar division. Some states had gotten away from published magazines and had only online magazines have gone back to publishing some of their issues. Many states refer to their conference as the Professional Development Conference. We should consider making this change. Sharon has asked Sara to work on updating the L.M.E.A. handbook. This is the time to fix the problems while the new website is under construction.

Sara Bidner will be attending the Southern Division Conference in Nashville. Sara reported that the executive secretary and editor both received great reviews from the board. She is working on a proposal for a pay increase for the executive secretary.

Fran Hebert reported that she and Sara Bidner will attend the National In-service Conference. Fran said we need to encourage the teachers of all-state students to help the students complete the Academic All State form and turn it in on time.

District 1 – Absent

District 2 – Johnny Walker reported they were ready for 2nd Round at Pineville High School. Pineville Band Parents will furnish breakfast and lunch for the judges and workers. Cost will be \$600.

District 3 – Brett Babineaux reported that the District 3 Marching Festival will be on October 28 at Cajun Field. He stated that because of the new student information law, his district will start requiring permission sheets for all honor groups auditions.

District 4 – B.J. McGibney reported for District 4. He stated there are fewer string teachers in District 4. The Kids Orchestra, K – 5th grade, has over 800 students participating.

District 5 – Sharon Stephenson reported District 5 required permission slips with student release information at first round auditions. She stated only 27 vocal students are going to 2nd round. Only 35 students showed up for first round auditions. This is much lower than normal.

District 6 – Guy Wood reported that the District 6 Marching Band Assessment will be held November 3.

District 7 – Jim Trant stated the new student information law has not been mentioned in his district. He said St. John Parish is adding some music teachers.

District 8 – Carol Lupton reported her district required band students to have student information forms for first round. She said her district has not lost music teachers this year. First round band numbers are up and choir numbers are about the same. The District 8 Marching Festival will be November 4. Carol is getting 2nd round monitors this year and still needs a couple of directors.

District 9 – Neal Naquin reported that student information permission slips were required at first round in his district. First round audition numbers were consistent with previous years. Also, teacher numbers for District 9 are about the same as last year.

Brett Babineaux discussed Regional Assessments for State Festival beginning in spring 2016. Moved by Brett Babineaux and 2nd by Neal Naquin to have 3 regions for State Festival beginning in spring 2016. Details will be worked out between district directors and the executive secretary. PASSED

Band Division – Jay Ecker reported he sent out the final alternate list. All districts got at least one alternate. Jay asked for help with registration at 2nd round. Johnny Walker volunteered to get some workers. Richard Bresowar will host the All State Symphonic Band and Daphne Richardson will host the All State Concert Band. Jay said he still needs a conductor for the 2015 All State Concert Band. Robert Sheldon will conduct the 2015 All State Symphonic Band.

Jazz Division – Lee Hicks reported that 70 students auditioned for All State Jazz. The recordings were well done and the process was very easy. Lee said PreSonus will work with the All State Jazz Ensemble during rehearsals and the performance.

Orchestra Division – Johnny Walker stated that Katrice Lacour will deliver the All State Orchestra wind and percussion folders to him at Pineville High. Bruce Lambert reported only 97 string students auditioned for All State Orchestra. 70 were selected. The last few years we had around 120 string students audition.

Vocal Division – Michael Townsend reported he had received all district lists and checks for 2nd round. Students must register with their districts.

Elementary Division – Michele White reported there will be several middle school clinics at L.M.E.A. Conference this year.

University Division – Absent

Collegiate / NAFME – Ed McClellan stated it seems to be a shortage of new music teachers. There will be a Future Music Educators Day on November 12 at Loyola. Ed said that Edgar Martin Middle School Band will not be able to participate at the Collegiate Summit. He would like band directors to bring their instruments for a reading band during the Collegiate Summit at Conference. He will put this in his article for the November magazine.

Public Relations – Carolyn Herrington said all exhibit booth spots are taken. She will contact Donna Britt, a Baton Rouge news reporter, to see about getting some TV coverage of the All State rehearsals and performances.

Hall of Fame – Tom Wafer was absent but is feeling better.

LAKE – Michele White stated that LAKE will be hosting a festival on April 24 at Louisiana College.

LAJE – B.J. McGibney reported that LAJE will help with future All State Jazz auditions.

AOSA – Gina Anthon reported that AOSA has sponsored five workshops this year.

ASTA – Michelle Wilkinson-Nelson stated that District 4 will have an LMEA Orchestra Festival on March 28. String groups from other southern districts will be allowed to attend the festival. ASTA is sponsoring a three day rehearsal and workshops on November 6-8 at Independence Park Theater. Mark Wood will present Electrify Your Strings.

Editor – Pat Deaville stated October 6 is the deadline for articles for the November magazine.

Website – Jim Trant stated he will post all the All State information on the website.

Conference Coordinator – James Hearne stated he is working to fill all sessions at conference. James thanked John Mlynczak and PreSonus for providing equipment for many of the sessions. He reminded the board they are not to let clinicians vend their materials after their sessions.

The LMEA Board of Directors voted on nominees for the Louisiana Outstanding Music Educator Award. Accepted for the award were: Elizabeth Wallace, Geddy Bienvenu, Blake Bogan and Alex Zuniga.

John Mlynczak passed out a proposal for the LMEA Advocacy Committee. The LMEA Advocacy Committee is needed to provide a unified and positive message that promotes the benefits of music education program in the community as well as local and state government, provides our membership with information to share with administrators and parents and works to ensure every child in Louisiana has equal access to quality music programs.

Goals: 1. Every child in Louisiana has access to a high-quality music program from K-12, including weekly general music for all children K-5. 2. Every school in Louisiana has a certified music educator whose sole duties and evaluations are focused on music education.

Action Plan: Engage our membership by educating them on how to deliver our message and reach our goals. We maintain a relentlessly positive theme on the benefits of music education programs in schools and ensure that teachers, parents and students have a voice for music education.

John can be reached at musiced@presonus.com

CogentPath will have LMEA online some time after October.

Meeting adjourned