

MTVA Official Minutes  
November 5, 2002

### **Executive Board**

The MTVA executive board met in Harding Hall. President King called the meeting to order at 5:40 pm. Those present were: David Spencer, Katie Oldham, Lia Holland, Jj Ebelhar, Jerry Pierce, Tim Pate, Tiffany DePriest, and Bobby Jean Frost. Those not present were: Valerie Dehoff, Angela Tipps, and Jeremy Jones.

Each member received a packet with information on the Arts Academy, the report from the committee, which met about audition events for Elementary and Middle School, All-State information, repertoire list for Elementary Mass, and requests which the board has received for excused absences.

The first item discussed was advance scheduling. President King wanted to see how far some of the MTVA events can be scheduled ahead of time to allow for finding new venues, and other factors. The main events he was concerned about are Middle School Mass, Elementary Mass, and Mid-State. After discussing several ideas and options, Tiffany and Tim decided on the dates for Elementary Mass (February 26-27, 2004) and Middle School Mass (October 27-28, 2003). President King mentioned that he is going to begin sending a generic questionnaire after each event. This month, these dates will also be a part of the questionnaire.

The next item of business was a report on All-State from Lewis. He reported that everything was done with scheduling students and directors. The music portions have been selected and CD's are being processed for each part. The main problem has been a large amount of requests for rescheduling. He has been accommodating the request as long as it doesn't hurt anyone else. This brought up the subject of fines. When is it an incorrect or incomplete application and when is it just a change, which doesn't fall into that category? President King requested that Lewis make a list of the changes and send it to David who will then determine if fines need to be assessed.

Directors who receive a fine can then appeal to the board if they are so inclined. President King also said that from now on, all inquiries concerning penalties and late fees are going to be sent directly to David. The main point here is being consistent. Lewis reported the totals for the Mid/All-State-Freshman Honors auditions. Mid/All-State- 920, Soprano I- 157, Soprano II- 159, Alto I- 184, Alto II- 132, Tenor I- 56, Tenor II- 75, Bass I- 110, Bass II- 47. Freshman Honors- 340, Soprano- 161, Alto- 121, Tenor- 39, Bass- 19. The total number auditioning is 1260.

Next, Jerry Pierce reported on the meeting of the committee, which was formed to discuss audition events for Elementary and Middle School. Jerry moved that the board present to the membership the changes to the handbook (included in this mailing). Tiffany seconded the motion. After some discussion, Tiffany called for the question. All those who were in favor of bringing this as a motion from the board to the membership to add this to the standing rules and by-laws of our handbook following appropriate procedure were asked to vote. The motion passed without dissent.

The next item was a discussion of whether the board should support Connie's motion made at the October meeting. Her motion was that students auditioning for Middle School Honors should only be allowed to audition for one part. After hearing from several members of the board with arguments for both sides, the main concern came down to being fair to everyone. The poll by President King regarding this showed that 8 members were in favor of Connie's motion. The question is should the board take a stand to the membership. Lewis moved that the board take no position, and let the membership make the decision (2nd- Tiffany). 8 were in favor, 1 was opposed.

Tim reported on Middle Mass. From his point of view, the event went well. He was very appreciative that President King and Vice-President Ebelhar were there. He appreciated their support. The biggest problem, to Tim, was directors not following the rules, which were detailed in an early letter from Tim. One suggestion was to make 2 SAB groups instead of 1 SATB group. President King said this could be discussed using his generic questionnaire.

President King reported that the ACDA State Choral Festival will now be two days, May 1-2, at TN Tech. Next, the board discussed the various requests for absences or other appeals which have been received this month. A decision was made regarding the latest request, Greg Herring's. It was decided that he would not be excused. All of the others who requested absences or made appeals are: Sue Craig, Lisa Forbis, Judy Yeaworth, Kelley Wiggins, Edward Freytag, John Kimbrough, Felicia Barber, and Steve Dowell. Some of these were not actual petitions, thus not requiring the vote from the board.

Tiffany gave a report on Elementary Mass. Lisa Jernigan, the original clinician was replaced with Roberta Roberts.

The meeting was adjourned at 6:56 pm.

### **General Membership**

President King called the meeting, which was held in Harding Hall, to order at 7:02 pm. Those present in addition the board members previously listed were: Alexis Page, Susan Shirel, Judy Yeaworth, David Cassel, Debbie Wilson, Jamey Kelley, Carol Byrd, Sam Duggins, Connie McCain, Mr. Davis, Georgette Atsedes, Matthew Johnson, and Moose Smith. He first expressed thanks to Angela Tipps for arranging for a guest speaker, Laura Diddle, to present a session on selecting repertoire after the meeting. The first item of business was the report on Middle School Mass from Tim. He reported that it was a very good two days and a good opportunity for beginning choirs. President King discussed the general questionnaire that will be going out with the minutes which solicits responses from members regarding recent events.

The next item of business was to vote on the motion brought to the board at the October meeting by Connie Fuller (it must be voted on at 2 consecutive meetings and pass with a simple majority vote). This motion is in regards to Middle School Honors auditions. The motion stated that a student be allowed to audition on only one voice part. The board decided to bring no recommendation neither for nor against the motion. The discussion was centered on the fairness of allowing multiple part auditions. After a lengthy discussion, Matt Johnson called for the question. There were 18 who agreed with the motion, 2 who disagreed and voted no, and 5 who abstained. The motion passed, but will require a second vote at the January meeting.

President King reiterated several points, which had been made at previous meetings, but which he felt were important. 1. Membership and school fees must be paid by or before the first event application deadline you enter. 2. Penalty fees for incomplete and incorrect applications, in addition to any late fees. Check with David Spencer for exact calculations of fees. 3. Director's attendance is mandatory at all events in which they have students involved. Consideration for excused absences for audition events must be received by the application deadline for that event. He also urged the members to remember that anything can always be appealed to the board.

Next, Lewis reported on All-State. He informed the membership that all of the information had been sent and that anyone who hadn't received it should see him. However, since that mailing, things have changed. The meeting on Friday, November 15, for directors is at 4:45 at Greenbrier. Saturday morning, the judges should meet at 8:00. Anyone with an \* beside his/her name should bring a CD player. The results will be available sometime Saturday evening. If you cannot stay, the website will have them posted, and they can be mailed on Monday morning. He urged members to go to the website, [www.mtva.org](http://www.mtva.org), for any information they might need (schedule, directions, etc.). Also, membership directories for this year are available.

Bobby Jean reported on the TMEA conference, which will be April 2-5. As she is the conference manager, she was able to describe several of the events and sessions which will be taking place. There will be a 5th-6th grade treble choir, state caucuses (the vocal one will be Wednesday at 8:00), a commissioned piece for the All-State band, and 14 performing groups, among them President King's concert chorus. President King reported that there will be no MTVA meeting during the conference.

Revised handbooks were available at the meeting.

President King reported the dates for the Arts Academy. Week I for grades K-6 will be June 8-13 and will feature Lori-Ann Dolloff from Toronto as clinician. Week II for grades 7-12 will be June 15-20 and will feature Ann Jones from Boston University as clinician.

David presented the treasurer's report. There were no corrections. The minutes were on the website and mailed. Also, there were copies available at the meeting. There was a motion by Carolyn to accept both the treasurer's report and the minutes (2nd- Bobby Jean). The motion passed without dissent.

There was a brief discussion regarding the German in the All-State audition piece. President King reminded the members that the judges should use some discretion in judging a foreign language and look for good vowel and consonant pronunciation. David reminded everyone to be consistent as they are judging.

Jerry reminded everyone that he still has Middle School Honors audition CD's available.

President King stated that the membership will vote at the January meeting on the report of the committee for audition procedures of Elementary and Middle School Honors Choirs. The board recommends it. He urged everyone to read the copy, which will be enclosed with the minutes. One provision for the elementary only is that each school with participating students is guaranteed to place at least one student provided that the score is at least 150 (midpoint of the continuum). At this point, Tiffany announced that music for Elementary Mass should be on Pepper's website this week. Connie asked about the refund policy. The policy is that if you send in an application, fees, and a request for absence, and you are denied that request, you will be able to get a refund.

President King introduced Laura Diddle from Cumberland University. She presented a session on selecting choral music repertoire. She had several sources such as choral-net, ensemble.org, etc.

David reminded everyone of the ACDA National convention in New York City in February. President King announced that the ACDA State Choral Festival is now two days (May 1-2 at TN Tech). The next southern division ACDA convention will be here in Nashville. Also, Moses Hogan's health was discussed. For current information check the ACDA Web site at <http://www.acdaonline.org/>. Lewis reported that Robertson county will have some choral vacancies in the second semester in anyone is interested or knows someone who might be interested.

The meeting was adjourned at 8:15 pm.

Respectfully Submitted,

Lia D. Holland