

Board Meeting 9/10/13

Present: Lorna Pyka, Crystal Juechter, Shawn Frazier, Beth Kolwyck, Lia Holland, Alexis Yatuzis-Derryberry, Terri Godfrey, Lori Busbey, Gerald Patton, Missy Cook and Brian Russell.

Lia Hollan introduced Lori Busbey to the Board who will be doing the treasurer duties for MTVA. Lori discussed that our profit is high right now due to the income of registration and no expenses. She let us know that if someone needs a check for their event, they should request that at least a week in advance. She will have a form that needs to be submitted to her in the for all check requests.

Lia mentioned that there needed to be a correction made to the general meeting minutes for August. There should be a notation about the voicing for men's piece for Mid-State auditions. The minutes should state that all the tenors should sing the tenor line and the all the basses should sing the bass line. It will not be in 4 part and no men should be singing the soprano or alto lines.

Lorna Pyka discussed the Middle School Mass Event. She informed the board that the numbers are low due to a few schools that had a conflict with the date and one school that was not allowed to participate due to past experience. Mary Jackson had initially intended not to bring her students but she is concerned about her numbers in the choir she is leading. She mentioned that she would bring her students if we could waive the late fee. Lorna made a motion that we waive the fee. Alexis 2nd. The board voted unanimously to waive the fee.

Gerald Patton announced to the board that the Freshman Honors event is coming together as planned. The accompanists have been hired and the music is in hand from Pepper.

Terri Godfrey announced that there are 1105 people registered to audition for Freshman Honors and Mid-State. There have been a lot of special requests for students. Everyone will have to take into consideration that due to the number of special requests, it is very hard to schedule everyone as requested. She also mentioned that several directors have submitted special requests to be excused from one of the audition days. Lia called for discussion about a motion to have a

blanket statement that if directors send her a school related special request that they need to be excused from one of the day of auditions, that they are excused but the \$50 fee will be assessed per day because we have to hire someone to take their place. Terri made the motion and Lorna 2nd. The board voted unanimously to approve that motion. Lia mentioned that we needed 40 teachers to run the Mid-State/Freshman Honors audition just for judges. There was discussion about different ways to fix this dilemma. There was discussion about only being able to accept so many requests and then all others would have to be denied. Lia also mentioned in our handbook that it says we do not have to entertain any requests after the deadline. It was also suggested that there should be a late fee assessed if special requests come in after the deadline. Lia also mentioned that our handbook allows for changes two weeks before the event and then there can be no changes for any student. She asked the board what our policy would be for students who just show up whenever they wanted for their audition. The board discussed that we felt like that students should come when they are assigned. The board concluded that students would need to sing on their day assigned. If they are assigned a Friday audition time, they MUST audition on Friday. The same applies for Saturday. If they would like to come early and wait to see if there was a “no show” and audition in their place, that would be acceptable. The only way they could sing on a different day, would be if there was a traumatic event or unavoidable conflict that prevented them from auditioning on their day. The board members present would vote whether this would be approved for any student. We are just trying to be fair and considerate of everyone’s time. Terri also discussed that because of last year’s performance and students not being prepared, we are hoping that we can pay someone to make rehearsal tracks for everyone in Mid-State and Freshman Honors.

Ashley Sexton was not present but Crystal Juechter discussed Middle School Honors. Crystal asked for clarification on how much the fee was for changes to the registration after the deadline. There is a \$25 fee per change and no changes will be allowed 2 weeks prior to the audition. The deadline for the registration for Middle School Honors and Elementary Honors is 10/4. Because these two event auditions are on the same day, all directors will need to attend. The

accompanists have been hired for Middle School Honors. Directors will be given a Pepper number for the packet of music for Middle School Honors. If directors use this number, then they will receive a folder for their students that is engraved. If we order the pieces separately, they will not receive a folder. Lia asked if she could see if we could do the same thing for Elementary Honors. There will be rehearsal tracks on line for our pieces for Middle School Honors.

Beth Kolwyck talked about Elementary Mass. She is still working on scheduling her clinicians. Everything else is coming together.

Brian Russell said that everything is coming together for the Choral Festival.

Alexis will have certificates for our professional development opportunity tonight with Craig Zamer.

Shawn discussed Solo and Ensemble Festival. The event will be at MTCS in Murfreesboro. Shawn mentioned there is a problem with some directors who sign up everyone for a solo and then most do not show up. Shawn asked if there was something he could do to ask to for better registration. Crystal mentioned that he could ask a week before the event for directors to tell him if they had students that would not be attending.

Lia asked that those who were responsible for an event performance to try and arrange in advance any needs you have. She asked if we could submit a list of people we know that play different instruments that we might need for our choral performances.

Lia asked everyone to be conscious of their event costs. For example, when taking clinicians out, try to choose restaurants that are reasonably priced.

Alexis is making contacts with the other regions as well as the instrumental people to attend our sight-reading workshop on 11/8 and 11/9. There are about 30 registered as of now for this workshop.

The board meeting dismissed at 6:20pm.

Submitted by Missy Cook