

TMEA Board Meeting Minutes
June 2nd, 2018

KHS America Headquarters

In Attendance:

- Executive Director: Ron Meers
- President: Lafe Cook
- Past-President: Jonathan Vest
- President-Elect: Alexis Derryberry
- General Music Chair: Linzie Mullins
- Band Chair: Megan Christian
- Choral Chair Reachel Hudgins
- Collegiate Chair: David Royse
- Higher Education Chair: Barry Kraus
- Technology Chair John Womack
- Advocacy Chair: Christopher Dye
- Editor, Tennessee Musician: Michael Chester (arrived 11:17 a.m.)
- Newsletter: Anna Laura Williams

Absent - Orchestra Chair: Anna Maria Miller, SMTE/Research Chair: Jamila McWhirter

8:37am - Call To Order: Jonathan Vest

Motion To Approve the April 2018 Meeting Minutes

(Motion: Lafe Cook, Second: Linzie Mullins)

Voted: Approved

Jonathan Vest “passes the gavel” to President Lafe Cook and thanks continuing board members as well as new board members. Lafe Cook thanks Jonathan Vest for his efforts forging the partnership with CMA Foundation and thanks board members.

Introductions made of all Board Members.

Executive Director Report (Ron Meers), discussion on the following:

- Praises to all volunteers we have in this association, professionalism by Michael Chester on the *Tennessee Musician*, work by John Womack on his excellent work with TMEA technology and the website.
- CMA Foundation Scholarship: 34 Scholarships
- Future plans of advocacy with Arts Ed. Of Tennessee

- Financial Report
 - Paid \$18,000 this year to Opryland Hotel, 30 of scholarship recipients needed housing
 - AV Increase from \$10,000 to \$14,000
 - TMEA is \$30,000 ahead of where the association was last year, allows us to begin thinking about the future of creating a TMEA Office
 - Praises Jo Ann Hood (Exhibit Hall), Mark Garey (Registration), Michael Chester (Publications); more details regarding conference discussed in afternoon Conference Planning Meeting
 - Advocacy Summit Hill Day TN C-NAfME Representatives discussion regarding finances and number of participants

Caucus Reports presented as follows:

- General Music report (Linzie Mullins):
 - Discussion on 2018 TMEA Conference and goals to continue the growth of the General Music element for future TMEA Conferences.
- Higher Education report (Barry Kraus):
 - Information shared regarding upcoming TMEA Conferences: 2019 All-Collegiate Band, 2020 All-Collegiate Orchestra. Would like to expand TMEA Higher Education involvement across all applied (instrumental/vocal) music education faculty
- Band Chair report (Megan Christian):
 - Discussion regarding upcoming State Concert Festival at APSU, reserving future locations, and scheduling the TMEA Conference TBA Meetings and Band Caucus Meetings as back-to-back slots
- Advocacy Chair (Dr. Christopher Dye):
 - Information shared regarding upcoming Department of Education and CMA Foundation position. Looking forward to the upcoming Hill Day in Washington, D.C., and relations with upcoming Fall legislature once they are seated after the election. Lafe Cook asked questions regarding “Tennessee History” bill as well as TN elementary/middle school requirements of physical education/activity and the impact on music education; Ron Meers contributes it should not affect music education at this time, but will present more information in future should the need arise.

- Technology Chair (John Womack):
 - Discussion regarding TI:ME (Technology in Music Education) representatives assisting in the selection process of TMEA Conference Technology Sessions. Shared with new TMEA Board Members they are able to create a blog on the TMEA Website. Lafe Cook praises Linzie Mullins “Educator Spotlight” and would encourage board chairs to consider adding this for their caucuses.

- Collegiate Chair (David Royse):
 - Recognized previous chairs (Jennifer-Vannatta-Hall and Mike Mann) for previous service in this position. Information shared regarding upcoming C-NAfME Collegiate Kick-Off at UTK on Saturday, September 29th. Looking forward to the upcoming Collegiate Advocacy Summit Hill Day with TN C-NAfME Representatives. Discussion by Ron Meers, Jonathan Vest, and David Royse for future Hill Day TN C-NAfME Representatives included numbers of representatives and selection process from universities across the state

- Editor, *Tennessee Musician* (Michael Chester):
 - Presented by Anna Laura Williams on behalf of Michael Chester

- E-Newsletter (Anna Laura Williams):
 - 2018-2019 submission dates announced

9:35am – Break

9:44am – Meeting Continued

Old Business

- Strategic Plan 2018-2022 (Lafe Cook):
 - Goals for the August Council Meeting. Wanting to continue to increase membership. Will be further discussed in August.

- TMEA Performing Ensemble Selection Process (Johnathan Vest/Lafe Cook):
 - Discussion of “slots” and the selection process of ensembles; Lafe Cook notes the need to consider a slot for a jazz ensemble or percussion ensemble (underserved areas). History of the selection procedures discussed by Ron Meers. Jonathan Vest states challenges of selection process since applying ensembles change yearly.
 - Selection of judges and adjudication an emphasized discussion point; the need to have quality educators emphasized by Ron Meers. Current process of submitting electronically considered with possibility of electronic anonymous system of

judging the recordings to be discussed by Lafe Cook with John Mears, TMEA Conference Auditions Chair.

- Fine Arts Portfolio (Lafe Cook):
 - Lafe Cook has received feedback from Tennessee educators who have expressed unhappiness with Fine Arts Portfolio evaluations; currently, districts, not individual teachers, have the power to opt-in or opt-out of using this evaluation system. Although not involved at this time, TMEA may have to weigh-in on the Fine Arts Portfolio again in the future.
- Guitar Education Chair Needed (Lafe Cook):
 - Linzie Mullins asked if possible to make it a “TMEA Guitar/Ukulele Chair” position; board agreed and discussed recommendations of possible candidates for this position.

Last Discussion of Old Business

- TMEA Performance Ensemble Groups: Ron Meers discussed who will give the final determination of the TMEA Performance Ensemble Groups, based on the judges’ recommendation. Lafe Cook and Ron Meers recommend including the evaluators and the TMEA Executive Committee.
- “Guitar/Ukulele” Chair: Linzie Mullins revisited the “Guitar/Ukulele” position and asked if this would be a separate track and sessions at TMEA Conference, Lafe Cook states the purpose of the position is to advocate for that subset of music education. Ron Meers stated it may need to be seen more as a Project Chair instead of board position based on the reorganization of the board under Steven Coleman and Madeline Bridges. Jonathan Vest revisited historical information of this position in recent years and volunteers to give guidance to whomever has this chair in the future.

New Business

- TMEA Dates 2021-2025 (Lafe Cook/Ron Meers):
 - TMEA has done its due diligence searching across the state considering all possible options before selecting future dates and conference venues for the upcoming TMEA Conferences; considering all options, Opryland is the clear choice. Multiple benefits discussed, including this contract keeps our room rates locked, safety, and quality of the venue. David Royse states the benefits from the collegiate perspective.

- Website Calendar Creation (Lafe Cook/Megan Christian)
 - Calendar to be created on the TMEA Website to include state-wide music events, dates, and information.

- New Membership Category for University Faculty (Barry Kraus):
 - Barry Kraus seeks to improve collegiate/higher education applied faculty TMEA membership and cited not much incentive for them to join in past. Discussion resulted in these individuals being able to join TMEA through their regional associations without having to pay the cost of joining NAFME; this proposed change would have their dues include their regional fees and the TMEA portion fees. This would need to be ratified by the regional associations, delineated for applied collegiate/higher education faculty (not general private lessons studios). This policy change would allow these applied collegiate/higher education faculty to be involved in TMEA, including receiving the *Tennessee Musician* and increased involvement in our state association and conference. Barry Kraus volunteered to send an e-mail communicating this to regional associations.

- All-State Removal Policy for Behavior Issues (Johnathan Vest) (59:00)
 - “All-State Handbook - Appendix I: TN All State Rules and Regulations” discussed, including revising the organization of the rules so that first and second offenses are clarified, “disruptive behavior” is added, and the “All-State Disciplinary Committee” is clearly defined. **Jonathan Vest and Lafe Cook state the updated All-State Removal Policy will need to be included on the August 2018 Council Agenda.**

- Freshman Eligibility for All-State Choirs (Reachel Hudgins) (1:09:00)
 - Discussion included the arguments for and against allowing freshmen to be eligible for TMEA All-State. The most recent survey to the choral caucus was misleading, and a new survey will be created that may include different settings that could include freshmen eligibility.

- Addition of Middle School Choir to All-State Linzie Mullins (1:16:00)
 - Discussion consisted of multiple options in which to incorporate middle school students in All-State ensembles. Linzie Mullins envisions a 6th-8th grade choir and a 4th-5th grade Orff Choir in the future. Discussion led by Reachel Hudgins, Linzie Mullins, and Jonathan Vest result in the agreement to create an updated survey to send to regional associations, directed towards both middle schools and high schools.

- Jazz Band Session/Concert (Lafe Cook/Megan Christian):

- Lafe Cook recognizes the need to have Jazz and Percussion Ensembles represented at TMEA and recommends considering added a small ensemble performance possibly as a session; plans to discuss during Conference Meeting.
- NAfME Hill Day Meeting (Dr. Christopher Dye)
 - Current plan briefly summarized, included highlights of tentative meeting schedule
- TMEA Research Chair/SMTE Chair (Lafe Cook)
 - Presented by Lafe Cook on behalf of Jamila McWhirter. Jamila McWhirter has submitted a proposal to split the TMEA Research/SMTE Chair into two positions for the future. The position had been combined into its present state as one chair under the leadership of President Jonathan Vest due to the work-load of these project chairs. Since she is willing to continue to serve both components for now and due to the interconnected nature of these duties, the board determined to keep the position combined as-is, the TMEA Research/SMTE Chair.
- Research Chair as Board Position (Jamila McWhirter)
 - Presented by Lafe Cook on behalf of Jamila McWhirter. Jamila McWhirter submitted a proposal to make this a board position, thus enabling this to be a voting position. Discussion noted it is an integral part of music education, not just a project chair, and that it should be a contributing voice as a voting position.

Motion To Add the Research/SMTE Chair position to the TMEA Board

(Motion: Jonathan Vest / Second: Barry Kraus)

Voted: Approved

- TNSMTE Symposium Funding Request (Jamila McWhirter)
 - Board read Jamila McWhirter's request as stated on her SMTE Report that requested the TMEA Board to consider "providing some travel funding for...[the TNSMTE Symposium Key Note Speaker]...toward the flight and hotel".

Motion To Allow Up To \$700 For Jamila's Use Towards The Proposed TNSMTE Symposium Endeavor ("providing some travel funding for...[the TNSMTE Symposium Key Note Speaker]... toward the flight and hotel") -

(Motion: Lafe Cook / Second: Jonathan Vest)

Voted: Approved

New Business Addendums

- Transgender within All-State Ensembles (David Royse):
 - Jonathan led discussion on prior communications made during caucus meeting where members were encouraged to be inclusive and that the TMEA All-State Ensemble names were changed to “SSAA”, “SATB”, and “TTBB” to reflect that as well. David Royse asks questions regarding housing and use of restrooms, stating county policies. Jonathan Vest states since All-State is a considered a Field Trip in each county, decisions regarding this need to be based on each county’s policy.
- All-State Conference: Key-Note/ Activity for All-State Students (Lafe Cook)
 - Lafe Cook envisions an opportunity for all the All-State students to gather together for an opening key-note/ activity at the beginning of the TMEA Conference. Discussion shows board in favor of this idea, and details regarding scheduling, possible activities, and the possibility of including CMA involvement are conversed.

11:36am - Meeting Recess, Lunch