

Alabama Vocal Association
AMEA Board Meeting
Wednesday, January 18, 2023

Present:

Hilen Wilson, Meg Jones, Amanda Slay, Matthew Gardner, Frank Andrews, Zack Banks, Carrie Payne, Debbie Flynn, Sally York, Christie Breland, Nichole Hill, Jody Powell, Marlin Ward.

Meeting was called to order at 7:18pm by Hilen Wilson.

Coverage of AMEA Assignments

- Matthew - Presider: Buckhorn HS/Florence HS Performance (9:15 am Thursday)
- Frank - Presider: Tucker Ratcliff session (3:30 pm Thursday)
- Zach - Presider: Ellis Session 1 (11:00 am Thursday) & Life Session (2:15 pm Friday)
- Carrie - Presider: Ellis Session 3 (1:00 pm Friday)
- Debbie - Presider: Loeppky (8:00 am Friday)
- Sallye - Presider: Luttig (3:30 pm Friday); Accompany Ellis 1 PM Friday
- Christie - Presider: Sexton (4:30 pm Friday)
- Amanda - Presider: Iron City Singers (7:00 pm Thursday) & Rudolph (8:00 am Saturday)
- Nichole - Presider: Ellis Session 2 (1:00 pm Thursday)
- Hilen - Presider: Membership Meeting (9:00 am Friday), UAB (7:30 pm Friday) & Miles (9:15 am Saturday)
- Jody & Marlin - Risers 😊

Performance	Setup Risers	Breakdown Risers
THURSDAY, 1/19		
9:15 AM Buckhorn HS & Florence HS	Wednesday 4 pm	10:15 AM
7:00 PM Iron City Singers	5:40 PM	7:40 PM
FRIDAY, 1/20		
7:30 PM UAB Concert Choir	5:40 PM	8:00 PM
SATURDAY, 1/21		
9:15 AM Miles College Choir	7:30 AM	10:00 AM

After reviewing our riser duties, Hilan Wilson covered our other duties:

- Attend leadership breakfast at 8 AM on Thursday morning
- Be present in the front of the general membership meeting at 9 AM on Friday
- Attend entire conference through Miles College performance on Saturday
- Help with riser setup and breakdown as needed
- Visit exhibits at our designated exhibit time - **2:15-3:15 PM on Thursday**

Session Presiders

Please make sure to arrive at the session room early to check on the room, greet the clinician, assist during the session, introduce the clinician, make sure the session ends on time, and present the clinician with a certificate at the end of the session.

Jody then passed out packets and certificates for presiders over sessions.

Concert Presiders

Be in the performance space during all warm-ups to assist the conductors with logistics, check and plan for transition needs between choirs such as instrument and sound setup, etc.

If there is an issue use the contact information given to you to let the correct people know.

- Stagehand- Spencer- he is very helpful

Introduce all choirs and present each director with a plaque at the end of the choir's final piece.

Meg Jones and Hilan Wilson made sure that all equipment and technology will be taken care of by AMEA or BJCC.

State OCS

Hilan Wilson reminded the board that the virtual interviews will be Tuesday, January 31 beginning at 3:30 PM. Interviews will be conducted via Zoom and judged by **district chairs**

- **Question-** How will this work?
 - Hilan will send you a Suggested interview questions have been emailed to you with the schedule

Meg Jones will send a score spreadsheet/rubric for you to complete for each OCS candidate.

Meg Jones asked the DC's to reach out to the winners to tell them when they can update resume and video by deadline (24th-OCS/26th ME)

State ME

Hilan Jones reminded the board about the virtual interviews that will be held on Thursday, February 2 beginning at 3:30 PM. Interviews will be conducted via Zoom and judged by Amanda Slay & Jody Powell.

Meg asked the DC's to reach out to the winners to tell them when they can update resume and video by deadline (24th-OCS/26th ME)

All-State

Hilan Wilson thanked the board for helping auditions run smoothly!

The pre-all state board meeting will be held March 8th virtually.

The board discussed moving the virtual meeting to March 7th. The board voted after the discussion and voted to hold the virtual meeting at 4pm on March 7th instead of on March 8th.

Hilen Wilson went over All State duties and DC's responsibilities. The board is needed to help set up rooms the morning of Thursday March 9th. The choir coordinators will take care of setting up each practice room. Amanda Slay will be assigning some of you as emergency contacts for choirs. More information is forthcoming.

In regards to contracts for All State:

Hilen Wilson then went over what she needed the DC'S to communicate to their district membership.

- Let the teachers know they have to pay for the kids even if they choose not to come.
- Let the teachers know we will only approve absences as described in the handbook.

SCPA/SE

Hilen Wilson covered the steps that needed to be completed by the DC's. The hospitality room for judges, performance space, warmup room, and sight reading room should all be assigned and complete. These are the duties that the DC's will need to complete:

- Hilen Jones will send a spreadsheet for your use.
- Making sure every choir has envelopes for each choir (3 performance + 1 sight reading). If you need envelopes please communicate with Meg Jones to purchase envelopes
- For Solo Ensemble (SE) you will need only one envelope per Soloist.
- For Solo Ensemble (SE) you will need only one envelope per Ensemble.
- All music must be checked for original music. If ordered and not arrived, then the ensemble must have a receipt that shows the music was purchased 8 weeks ahead of the assessment date.
- While presiding with the SCPA or SE event the DC should stay at the registration desk the entire time. Have someone you trust to help. Two adults at the registration table and let a few of your students be the runners. In regards to your runners, you do not need a lot. It was suggested that you only have one runner per choir(ensemble) and to have a student or parent as a general runner (to get judges scores). Meg Jones also suggested that you have no more than five kids running.
- When you get the score sheets from either SCPA or SE please double check their math and write in pin over the score and initial
- When SCPA or SE has been completed make sure to send your complete score report to Meg Jones.

Meg Jones asked that this information be said in the membership meeting and to please communicate with your band teachers about assessment overlap with MPA. There are some districts that this needs to be addressed in.

Communication

Communicate with your choirs participating in your district SCPA/SE where they need to park (buses and personal cars). They also need to be told to arrive one hour prior to your scheduled time (If you are not there at your time we will move onto the next group.).

All music must be the original copies of the songs for SCPA ensembles and solo/ensembles.

Please communicate with your choirs participating in your district SCPA/SE about proper concert etiquette within a concert. (Attaching a list of concert etiquette guidelines to your email.)

Remind your district membership to check their email for a link to the adjudication form, auxiliary form, and the sight reading form.

Solo and Ensemble Judges

Remind your judges that sometimes, the judges treat this as a workshop and not an assessment, remind them that this is a serious assessment. Communicate with your judges that they do not need to be talking a lot. Please strive to keep the judges on time so as to stick with the schedule.

Frances P. Moss Award

The board reviewed the nomination of Karon Cantrell. Amanda Slay reviewed over what the Frances P. Moss Award is about before the board held a vote.

Carl Davis, Jody Powell, Paul were contacted about Karon Cantrell to see if she had ever been given this award. They discovered that she had not been given this award.

The board agreed to have Beck Rockhill aide in the presentation of the award. Hilan Wilson asked for a vote and it passed unanimously.

All-State Show Choir

The board discussed their thoughts on the new format of All State Show Choir (ASSC).

Debra Flynn's school participated. Zoom was an issue, it was difficult with getting all tech to work. Debra Flynn stated that this audition (on ZOOM) was very high pressured, even more than if it was in person. Kids and parents were worried about the system crashing. Her students did not like it.

The discussion, going back and forth the last few years between virtual vs in person for ASSC auditions. The main issue stated was having to charge a higher audition fee and then only having one day and one site for all to show up at an audition.

Suggestion was made to have the kids do a survey in regards to the new ASSC format. Hilan Wilson agreed to this. We could have them complete at the festival.

Hilan Wilson informed the board that during the AMEA meeting she was asked why the ASSC was not being held during the AMEA state conference like it had been in the past. She stated that finding risers, equipment set up, and teachers not wanting to bring kids to a conference were a few reasons for the choice to move ASSC. Hilan Wilson also discussed with the AMEA that our conference time is during schools show choir competition season.

Results for ASSC 2023 should be released by January 31, 2023. We had 140 students register and 76 of those students actually auditioned.

Bella Triplett Scholarship

- The award will be for \$300.00 to each student. We will select two students per division.(AVA, ABA, AOA)
- Discussion:
 - Where does this money go?
 - How much?
 - Just fees waived?
 - Add to directors statement what qualifies “from a historically underserved area”
- Hilan will go and ask the developers of this scholarship these questions and give the board answers as she receives them.
- Member of an All-State Ensemble.
- From a historically underserved area of our state in terms of music education.
- Nomination letter from the student’s director. In the letter the director should (a) outline the need for financial assistance, (b) describe the leadership and musical qualities of the student, and (c) describe how music education has had a positive impact on the student.
- Divisions will have autonomy to choose members who receive scholarships

This will be put before the membership in the general membership meeting. The board will be allowed choose the two

Late Fee

Hilan Wilson opened the floor for discussion about late fees.

The question was asked “Do we want to add a \$300 late fee option to all events from now on? and if yes then, How should we handle this?”

Zach Banks, would this need to be reread/rewritten as Conditional acceptance?

It would only affect SCPA/ SE. Meg Jones brought up that we changed this so we didn't have to handle money. The board also has the question of how they pay. Do we force them to pay online? Another issue is having directors who think they have paid but don't realize they have not paid until they get the schedule.

It was asked that all DC’s get payment dates and reminders out to their district directors.

Hilan Wilson and Amanda Slay ask that we table the flat late fee to summer boards and handle current situations as need be.

Community Choir Proposal

A proposal was made to the board to allow students who are in a community choir and who do not have a school choral program to be allowed to audition for All State and AVA functions if their private teacher/conductor is a member of AVA

The board discussed and decided to table the discussion to discuss at the AMEA general membership meeting.

- Help to not let it get out of control

Sight Reading Proposal

A proposal was brought to the board in regards to adding a sight reading component to the All State audition. The board agreed to table the discussion to discuss at the AMEA general membership meeting. Discussion was held among the board members of thoughts to discuss at the AMEA general membership meeting.

General Membership Meeting Voting

During the General Membership Meeting we have two things to vote on:

1. Do we keep or get rid of the honor choir?
 - Discussion
2. To keep or get rid of OA competition?
 - There was only one submission in the entire state and they did not pass
 - We will vote on this at the meeting Friday because this is in the bylaws
 - If we really wanted to keep it maybe we can find a way to reorganize it

AMEA Board Meeting:

Hilen Wilson discussed with the board the AMEA Board Meeting that was had. They asked to use our risers for the elementary group. We told them yes if they move the risers.

They informed Hilen Wilson that if you got checked in tonight you automatically got 20 credit hours and will get a PD certificate by email.

The AMEA Board asked Hilen Wilson to let the board and the membership know that they gave her a stack of postcards and want us to write a letter to our representatives and our senators.

Hilen Wilson has already put together a prompt for the membership to use.

They asked Hilen Wilson to let the board and membership know to please take pictures and videos and send them to Hilen Wilson to use for promotions and for the Alla Breve.

The AMEA Board encouraged AVA board and general membership to apply for Capital Tunes. Capital Tunes gives the opportunity to apply to go sing at the capital in the lobby.

They will give you a stipend to offset your cost. They will send out sign up information before summer.

We, the AMEA Board, are set up to update our standards in 2024. Encourage people to sign up to help with that, to be advocates, and to include national standards including social emotional learning and critical race learning.

AMEA will be in Huntsville 2024 & 2025. If you have any ideas of how this conference can happen here please prepare them and let us know. Matthew Gardner brought up a question, in need of discussion, about performance space.

Summer Board Meeting

Summer board meeting will be held on June 25-28, 2023 in Birmingham, AL. A survey was sent out to vote on dates and everyone that voted chose this date. All board members should be there for this meeting time.

Amanda Slay offered to host it at her school, Hoover High School.

Meg Jones said she will begin to look at hotels and cost.

Final Questions

Hilen Wilson asked if any one had any questions?

Frank Andrews asked what does it mean about going to see the conference exhibits at our time?

Hilen Wilson responded that this means we should be there being seen since we have an open window with no sessions going on.

Zach Banks motioned to adjourn. Frank Andrews seconded and the vote unanimously passed.

Meeting ended at 8:32pm