

VMEA Northwest District I
Meeting Minutes
June 18th, 2007

Highlights:

1. It was voted to change configuration of festivals back to straight HS and MS festivals.
2. It was voted to have the HS festival on the normal February dates.
3. It was voted to have the MS festival (2-day) in the spring, however in April if possible with Enosburg.
4. It was voted to add the Jazz Band to the Spring MS festival.
5. Important issue tabled for August meeting: registration fees should come in with names submitted. Bring #'s. check or cash to HS band auditions. February meeting same thing for May names and fees.
6. Gisele/Anna co-presidents were elected by majority vote of both absent people online and those present.

Calendar:

Fall Meeting	August 29 th , 5:30 PM	BFA St. Albans
HS District Auditions:	Wednesday November 28	BFA St. Albans
HS District Music Festival:	Thurs-Fri, Feb. 7/8	MMU
MS District Music Festival:	Fri-Sat, April 4/5,	Enosburg
	alternate dates May 16-17 if Enosburg cannot host April 4/5	

In attendance: Caleb Pillsbury, Donna Costes, Eric Bushey, Armand Messier, Anna Roy, Gisele McRae, Bruce McRae, Mary Bauer, Andy Frappier, Patti Griffin, Marilyn Sink, Joanne Scott, Betzi Irwin, Aron Garceau,

Caleb presiding. Call to order 5:30

Old Business:

- a. Approval of Meeting Minutes from February – tabled until Fall meeting.
- b. Treasurer's Report & Scholarships
 - Discussed how to get music back after festivals. It was decided that the best thing to do was to have teachers responsible for collecting their own students' music after festivals rather than the manager, so they can go after their own students if music is missing. It was suggested that music not be collected at festivals at all, rather collect it back at school.
 - Some music is still missing, Some was returned tonight.
 - Eric moved to accept treasurer's report, which included five scholarships at \$200 each.

Later there was this discussion:

- Wondered why our money was down – because of moving piano in the winter fest at MMU. Donna: We have raised our honorariums but not our ticket prices.

- Gisele: If you submit a name, you will be charged for those names in fee.
- Donna: fee should be due upon submitting names.

Configuration and Dates of Festivals

There was discussion on both whether to mix ages of groups in our festivals and whether to change the dates of the festivals:

- All agreed that MS should have a two-day fest.
- Aron: If MS fest is still in May, will have conflict with IAJE festival, others also have that conflict
- Gisele and Mary thought that if HS Band were in a fall fest, auditions would be too early. Aron said you would have to warn and prepare kids the spring before. Eric said that we couldn't do it this year, but could start in 08-09, so spring of 08 could prepare.
- Gisele: What if 3rd week in May for a fest? Aron and others didn't like it close to the end of the year.
- Marilyn: a fall fest makes it tough to get ready for the holidays.
- Gisele: MS chorus was tough to see paired with HS Band, caliber and confidence. Patty said it's nice for the community to see two things.
- Aron: what about Nov. fest with HS chorus and MS Bands – no auditions.
- Gisele: May dates were MVU connected.
- Mary & Caleb: need conductors now, so we need to decide.
- Aron asked how many HS teachers NOT in favor of mixed fest – 6.
- Betzi: How many still not in favor if the calendar conflicts were resolved. People were still not in favor.
- Gisele: for 08-09, look at MS fest in Nov, go back to regular dates this year.
- Andy and Aron will not be at May fest if there is IAJE conflict.
- Eric suggested before April Break. April 11-12
- We discussed why it is good to have it on a Fri/Sat rather than a Thurs/Fri for MS
- Marilyn wants to try Thurs/Fri
- ***Betzi moved to change festivals back to HS fest and MS fest. Mary 2nd. Passed.***
- ***Gisele moved that HS fest should be on the normal Feb. dates. Marilyn 2nd. Passed.***
- ***More discussion of which would be better for MS, Nov. or April.***

- Eric: moving the MS fest to Nov. will alienate teachers who aren't here who already voted to put it back in May.
- ***Eric moved to have the MS fest 1st choice April 4/5, 2nd choice May 16/17 if Enosburg can't do it April 4/5. Aron 2nd. Passed.***
- Betzi: when will we talk about thinking about moving MS fest to Nov., have a committee and propose it in Feb? Caleb: has to be decided by August.

- Patty expressed concern that Andy didn't have enough support to host at Enosburg. Andy said he was fine.

Jazz Festival

- ❑ Andy – when? Of online votes, 5 want Jazz to stay with MS. 2 want it separate.
- ❑ Eric: April 4/5 date solves participation problem.
- ❑ Andy really wants the Jazz festival in it's old format, by itself
- ❑ Aron likes it too, likes to have kids hear other jazz bands. Nov. date would be hard if we ever did that with MS fest.
- ❑ ***Eric moved to add Jazz Band to MS fest on April 4/5. Mary 2nd. Passed.***
- ❑ Andy: if MS fest ever moved to Nov., then maybe we could move Jazz to spring by itself again.

Managers

HS WE – Eric

HS CB – Aron

HC Chorus – Patti. Ann Hamilton from NCUHS will conduct.

MS 8th Band – Phil

MS 6/7 – Frank and Joanne

MS chorus – Marilyn

Jazz – Andy [is this right? BI]

- ❑ There was discussion of space at Enosburg. People loved using the Opera House. Not a transportation problem, walking was fine. If a Fri/Sat, would we use Opera House both days? Andy says the Bands have to be in the gym and auditorium.

Fall meeting: August 29th at 5:30 – at BFA St. Albans

Issue tabled for August: registration fees come in with names submitted. Bring #'s. check or cash to HS band auditions. February meeting same thing for May names and fees.

Elections

There was a discussion of whether it was a 1 or 2 year term for officers. Many thought it was a 2 year term. Several people expressed that we should have a president-elect for two years to prepare for being president. A couple people expressed that this year's president did ok, and this was a year with a lot of change and weird things happening.

- ❑ Marilyn nominated that we have Caleb be president again and Anna president elect.
- ❑ Discussion of Andy president elect choice also.
- ❑ Discussion of what had been emailed and whether it would work to have co-presidents. Several people were concerned that the email was not a good way to have an election. But it was pointed out that several people voted on that already, and that now we were having a meeting, we could have nominations and a ballot.

Elections were held with three slates of officers, all of which had Betzi as secretary and Donna as treasurer.

1. Gisele/Anna co-presidents
2. Caleb president, Anna president-elect
3. Caleb president, Andy president-elect.

Gisele/Anna co-presidents were elected by majority vote of both absent people online and those present.

Anna moved to adjourn. Mary 2nd. Passed.