

The ZOOM meeting of the Louisiana Music Educators Association Executive Board of Directors and Division Chairs was called to order at 1:00 PM on with the following present: Scotty Walker, Brett Babineaux, Carol Lupton, Bruce Lambert, Sharon McNamara-Horne, Katrice LaCour, James Hearne, Jessica Fain, Pat Deaville, Ed McClellan, Greg Oden, Michele White, Ronnie Gleason, Angela Jones, Lee Hicks, Carolyn Herington, Fran Hebert, Katie Codina and Billy Hochkeppel.

Agenda adopted with flexibility.

Vocal Division – Greg Oden announced as Vocal Division Chair, Angela Jones outgoing. Audition Piece for second round – “Himme”. Greg will get repertoire list. Julie Yu will serve as clinician. Women’s choir clinician is Jessica Napoles from North Texas. Will order music and give bill to Bruce. Change to vocal assessment sheets were mentioned.

Web Site – Major overhaul on website. Moved to Blue Host. Sharon McNamara-Horne request that all division chairs review handbook and forms to make corrections. Also a need for information to sync between forms on website. Inviting members to submit links for learning resources and welcome any suggestion to improve website. Brett referenced the Florida MEA website with many usable links regarding COVID and other resources for teachers to prepare to return to school. Pat referenced the LMEA Facebook page with links for membership.

Band Division – Welcome Ronnie Gleason as new Division chair. Ronnie will get with Joey to continue with changes discussed to French Horn audition music. Sharon has redone the corrected scale sheet to be posted on the web site. Clinicians will be secured for next meeting. Ronnie will get with Joey regarding sight reading level changes at Assessment.

Jazz Division – Lee Hicks was happy to see everyone in this new format. All state music will be posted soon on the web site. Students will be able to download music. Clinician is Sherrie Maricle of the Diva Big Band from New York City. This is the first female conductor working with the All State jazz band. The audition music sets have been realigned to match the concert band sets.

Orchestra – Katrice LaCour reports the clinician is David Becker from the University of Iowa.

Ed McClellan reports that universities were making a determination regarding face to face or virtual schooling for next year. There will be no travel in the fall.

Conference Chair - James Hearne reports that LSU is ready to provide concerts for conference and asked for all chairs to provide a bio and photo along with session title for conference.

Public Relations – Carolyn Herrington asked for guidance in how to move forward regarding the collection of fees from vendors. Scotty asked to extend an invitation for NAFME to attend the conference. Brett volunteered to secure contact information for Carolyn. Due to COVID concerns, Lee was concerned with students playing instruments in the exhibit hall. Carolyn would contact vendors to ensure that no playing will take place. Including Kazoos.

Newsletter – Pat is asking for articles. Would like for districts to submit calendar however realizing it may need to be TBA until the school calendar has been confirmed.

Awards – Brett reported that two awards are active. The Robert Wilhite Award of Excellence nominations now being accepted for 2020. The Standard of Excellence Award will begin in the 2020-2021 Academic year. Middle School Instrumental Ensembles can submit on EVEN numbered years. High School Instrumental Ensembles can submit on ODD numbered years. Pat pointed out that this is great information for the newsletter.

Louisiana Advocacy Leadership Force – Scotty requested names of interested individuals throughout the state that would be interested in serving in a Music Advocacy Committee.

Greg – Jump Start 2 is a new part of the curriculum that includes Beg. Band/Choir but not Adv. Band/Choir. May cause a problem for seniors when scheduling.

Elementary Division – Michele White reports the council for general music has had several meetings. Topics include what happens in virtual learning and problems we may face in creating lesson plans. The council advises to have a plan to add at home learning. Music is the greatest way to promote social and emotional learning. We must convince administrators how important what we do is.

Fran Hebert will discuss with Carol about reevaluating conference registration times.

State Solo Festival – Scotty - Unfortunately, due to COVID, the revitalization of State solo festival failed to be realized, however we will look to offer this to our students next year.

Lee would like for Zoom meeting videos to be posted online. Brett will research privacy laws that may prohibit. Sharon voiced concern of space needed on website to store the meeting. Meeting ended at 2:24PM