

MTVA Board Meeting

The MTVA Executive Board met on Tuesday, March 11, 2003, in Harding Hall at David Lipscomb High School. Those present were: Robert King, Katie Oldham, Valerie DeHoff, Lewis Walling, Lia Holland, David Spencer, Angela Tipps, Greg English, and Jerry Pierce. Those not present were: Jeremy Jones, Jj Ebelhar, Tiffany DePriest, and Bobby Jean Frost. President King called the meeting to order at 5:34 pm.

The first item of business was dates for next year. The dates need to be set before the May/June board meeting. Most importantly, this helps with finding venues. Everyone will be asked in the general membership meeting to email or fax school calendars for the 2003-2004 year. Hopefully, the board can set a tentative slate of dates at the April 1 board meeting, then present to the members at that night's general membership meeting. The board will e-discuss the date for the May/June board meeting. Also looking ahead, President King asked Katie to compile a list of changes/revisions to the handbook that have been discussed this year. If the voting can begin in April, we could have the changed in place earlier next year (by-laws require one 2/3 majority vote, standing rules require 2 majority votes).

The next item was the Treasurer's Report. David reported that we lost approximately 2500.00 on the two Mass events (2000.00 on MS and 500.00 on ES). Overall, MTVA made about 3000.00 in late fees, and the choral festival should clear 1500.00-2500.00. Last year, that money was used for All-State CD's. Right now, we are in the black, but if we follow current trend, it's a wash.

Katie and Robert met with TPAC; the meeting was very non-threatening. Robert told them that our ultimate goal was to not to have to use their facility one day. The meeting went very well. TPAC is going to have our vender information so that if there are any problems, they can contact the vender directly. MTVA is welcome back at TPAC next year. However, they need our dates ASAP. A suggested venue is Brentwood Baptist. Another is Brentwood Methodist; Angela is going to try to contact them. An idea for contacting Brentwood Baptist is to see if any of our Brentwood teachers have students that attend that church.

The next item of business was Elementary and Middle School Honors. The event was held at FRA, which was great for that event. The only problem was the middle school group was on the large side. Elementary was about the same as usual- around 110 kids. Middle school had about 160. The procedure this year was to choose the guys, then add girls accordingly. Also, some years, literature selection was an issue and could be in the future. This year, Carol Poston, as clinician, did a great job in selecting literature. For future years, now that a clinician and literature selection is a committee decision, everything should work out okay. President King suggested a formula or cap for the MS group. After some discussion, Katie moved that there be a cap on each Honor Choir; each choir is not to exceed 120 kids

(2nd- Angela). The vote passed without dissent. This also will help in finding venues for this event. FRA was very gracious, but we had some people who had to stand. This cap will not be put into the handbook immediately, but we will live with it for a year and see how it goes. Valerie mentioned that Mary Jackson at Blackman Middle School is interested in hosting events. Robert also mentioned that Connie McCain is interested. President King also wants to try Blair. MTSBOA recently held their concert festival there. This again brought up that we need to set dates early.

President King began a discussion of having the choral festival chairperson become a chair, thus creating a position on the board. Years ago, it was. In addition, he noted that chairing an event and hosting an event do not necessarily have to be the same person. Also, it was discussed that the solo and ensemble chair should have a position on the board. Angela brought up that, perhaps this would help with promotion and visibility of the event. President King also mentioned that maybe we should look at putting something into the handbook for hosts/hosting schools' programs (honorarium?).

President King went over the agenda for the general meeting- ACDA luncheon at the TMEA conference, Angela's group (MTSU Women's Chorale) is performing at TMEA on Thursday night at 8:30, Robert's group is performing at TMEA on Thursday at 5:15, promotion of the conference itself, All-State is April 2-5, report from Valerie and Jerry about the Honors events, Connie-solo/ensemble, Treasurer's report and minutes, pitch for venues, calendars for next year. Also, Tiffany's committee hasn't met yet (when directors don't follow rules at mass events). Katie suggested that there be a guidebook as an addendum to the handbook for the mass events. President King asked Katie to co-chair the committee with Tiffany and work on that this summer.

Some last comments: choral festival is earlier due to preparation for state choral festival and transportation, also to avoid spring breaks; handbook- live accompaniment only for choral festival, mid-state pieces are allowed, but not suggested; Board is invited to Katie's wedding on April 12, at 4:00 pm, at McFarrin Missionary Baptist Church in Madison.

The board meeting was adjourned by President King at 6:54 pm.

General Membership Meeting

The general membership of MTVA met in Harding Hall and was called to order by President King at 7:05 pm. Those listed on the roll were: Terry Zapp-Miller, Linda Towe, Sam Duggins, Judy Yeaworth, Sandy Elliott, Katie Oldham, Debbie Wilson, Stella McKnight, Susan Shirel, Lia Holland, Greg English, Lewis Walling, Greg Dingwall, Lynn Jung, Audrey Bowie, Jerry Pierce, and Valerie DeHoff.

The first item of business was the solo/ensemble festival, which is under evaluation since participation has dropped. The deadline is March 15. The event will be at Franklin High School with Connie Fuller chairing it. It will be evaluated after this year.

Valerie and Jerry reported that ES and MS Honors went well. Both asked for comments/suggestions and thanked the participating teachers. President King also thanked Jessica Mitchell and FRA for all of their hard work hosting the event.

President King made a plea for venues. Any schools or churches that would work should be suggested. The Mass events lost 2500.00 mostly due to venues. War Memorial charges for staff. He mentioned Brentwood Baptist being a great place for an MTVA event. We need people who share our vision. Also, venues determine what size choirs we can have. TMEA deals with this on the state level. Anyone with any contacts is urged to try and help.

Treasurer's Report- Choral festival money has been taken in but has not been spent yet. Katie moved to accept the report (2nd-Lia). The motion passed without dissent. Lewis moved to accept the minutes (2nd-Katie); they also passed without dissent.

President King reminded the members that 2003-2004 calendars should be sent to the board ASAP so they can work on next year's dates. The board is going to attempt to get a month ahead in scheduling. The board intends to present dates for next year at the April meeting at which time members may give feedback.

The choral festival has record participation this year. Several members asked questions regarding the event and details were discussed.

The next meeting will be April 1 at Lipscomb at 7:00 pm. The TMEA conference is April 2-5 (also All-State). There are many good groups and sessions at the conference (including Robert's group on Thursday at 5:15 and Angela's group on Thursday at 8:30). The All-State rehearsal schedule is on the TMEA website, which is linked from www.mtva.org.

New business- Greg has set up a message board which is linked off the MTVA website (www.mtva.org). This will be a great place for discussing issues. This month's scheduled presentation was supposed to be by Gloria Frank from Austin Peay, but she is not present. Robert expressed his appreciation for setting this up. Greg is the TMEA Vocal Equipment Chair and needs 4-step risers and possibly a podium. Anyone who can help should contact him.

President King adjourned the meeting at 7:53 pm.