

## **INTERNATIONAL ASSOCIATION FOR JAZZ EDUCATION**

### ***New Jersey Chapter -- Executive Board Meeting – June 4, 2007***

*6PM – Starlite Steakhouse – New Brunswick*

*PRESENT: Mr. Graham, Mr. Lesser, Mr. Tumminia, Mr. Lindner, Mr. Heller, Mr. Martin, Mr. Branker,  
Dr. Demsey, Ms. Moody, Dr. Kunkel, Mr. May*

President Kunkel called the meeting to order at 6:35 PM

Agenda Item 1. Minutes from Executive Board meeting 1/07:

**MOTION** by Art Martin (2nd by David Demsey) to: **Accept Treasurer's report.**

**Vote: Unanimous - Motion approved at 6:36 pm.**

Agenda Item 2. Treasurer's Report: John Lindner provided 3 detailed budget sheets for all to review. Only person did not respond to scholarship. Still waiting for 2005 and 2006 bill, JL says we're in really good shape. Insurance bill will be due soon. Still short \$875 in Finals Registration. NJPAC conference broke even!! \$1700 in profit from Preliminary festival, \$800 on Finals. This was attributed to one less judge. \$5000 profit on Region activities. JL explained the year end comparison report. JK asked "How up to date are we on rebates?", JL – Not sure, they tend to come in flurries. JK says membership is solid. There was some discussion about NJPAC concert bills. Jeff Lesser indicated he would like to see us keep the same trophy shop for the festival.

**MOTION** by Art Martin (2nd by Dick Graham) to: **Accept Treasurer's report.**

**Vote: Unanimous - Motion approved at 6:43 pm.**

Agenda Item 3. Vocal Jazz Report: (Dr. Dohrmann via email)

DD is in Boston for business. Auditions for 07 NJASJC went well, 12 vocalists from 6 schools. "Justin Binnick is a gung ho guy" says JK who also says this is the smallest ensemble in a while. A question was asked about total audition participation.

Agenda Item 4. Jersey Jazzer: (Ms. Moody)

JM says Jazzer was mailed to everyone, done until September when we get ready for the next one. JM wonders if we can email the electronic one to everyone. (Yes) J Lesser will look for a successor to take over for Jody.

Agenda Item 5. President's Report/Items for Discussion:

(5a – Election Results) – 26 returned ballots, official congratulation to new round of elected officers:

President-Elect John Lindner, Vice-President Jeffrey Haas, Secretary David May, Treasurer Ryan Krewer. There was some discussion about ballots, and electronic balloting.

(5b – Lifetime Achievement Award) – Art Martin was selected via secret e-mail. JK says "to say it is well deserved is an understatement". AM thanks everyone very much.

(5c – Brazil) – JK was in Rio for a month, talked about Brazil a bit and the music scene there.

(5d – PA District Jazz Experience) – JK conducted. They do two high school bands, A and B.

The kids stay overnight, one difference is that each conductor got \$1,000 plus expenses! PMEA sponsors the region groups, they would never give control over to IAJE. JK feels the NJ players are stronger overall.

(5e – Thanks) – Jk thanks everyone for all they've done for him and tolerating him, been a lot of fun – and is sticking around.

Agenda Item 6. Preliminary/Finals Festival Report: (Mr. Graham) DG reports went “reasonably well”. Down to one band who owes us and they have a check. No action for next year as he waits to see which direction we go in with festival. JK asked about a concern about not enough gold rated bands. J Lindner thought scores were way too low on first night. AM suggests a board member attend each show in addition. J Lesser says a scoring rubric is needed. JK says overall complaints are low. JK asks that we first have to discuss future of festival, and any changes we will make, before talking about rubrics.

Agenda Item 9a. Meeting with Bill Sylvester, NJBC: Bill S. wants NJIAJE to work together with him. Then when asked what he would like us to do, he’s not sure. Bill S. did not have kind words with the NJIAJE process, but it will not have an influence. RH was impressed with what was offered for bands. DTM says he’s not sure Bill knows what his own focus is. NJIAJE is concerned with keeping our relationship with NJMEA strong. AM agrees. JL says we are not going to mess around with our festivals for the NJBC. JL says we will hold off on festival format changes for a new board, new opinions. Any changes will take place in 2009. 08 Festival and Prelims will remain the same. DG says if format remains the same, he will stay as festival coordinator for one more year. AM says if you have an idea, then come up with a proposal and bring it to the board.

Agenda Item 7. All-State Jazz Auditions: (Mr. Martin) AM says Brian Height and DD have all the information they need. AM says if you have any questions, need help, e-mail him! Lots of saxes, weak trombone section. 63 auditioned. JK has confirmed dates with Jim McFalls.

Agenda Item 8. Vice-President’s Report: (Mr. Haas via e-mail) JK read a report from JH who wants to know should we keep it at NJPAC, same date? AM made a point about keeping the same date as other dates will have inherent conflicts, concerts, marching band competitions. Hal Leonard will provide clinician, payment details will remain the same. JH said he had a few requests for a vocal component. There was some discussion regarding a vocal component. J Lesser thinks we have room, just work a session into the current day. RH says it’s a great idea, but can we maintain a vocal jazz component for the foreseeable future? JK says he thinks so. Corporate sponsors, did we ever get Dillon’s? J Lindner says no. JH asks for all board members to locate one sponsor, and report to him. Etudes – all now should be in corrected form. A limited but positive reaction to adding chord changes to it. Sharing of etudes with Connecticut – D Demsey did North CT Jazz Ensemble. They had a problem with they soloists, mentioned that they borrow one year of ours, says to get around the composer’s rights, maybe we charge a fee to be put in a scholarship fund? DTM says since no mechanical license exists, we should approach composer first. DD says it could be a great money stream for us. There was some discussion about composer’s rights. Demsey will talk to JH about helping out CT on a one-time basis for a one-time nominal fee.

Agenda Item 9b. NJMEA dinner/meeting updates: Lindner, Lesser, Dohrmann, Martin going to dinner. A goodbye dinner for Joe Akinskas, JL says we are going to support him.

Agenda Item 9c. JR high region jazz grade realignment: Region III wants 9<sup>th</sup> grade out of the junior high jazz ensemble.

**MOTION** by Jeff Kunkel (2nd by David Demsey) to: Eliminate 9<sup>th</sup> grade from junior high jazz ensemble, then form Region Middle School Band Grades 6-8 and if a lack of qualified middle school students exist, allow 9<sup>th</sup> grade students for the open audition at first rehearsal.  
**Vote: Unanimous - Motion approved at 9:11 pm.**

Agenda Item 9d. Jazz Combo Event Ideas: J Lesser would like to see in his Presidency an expanded role with small groups – noncompetitive. DD says William Patterson would love to be involved. AM suggested NJPAC Jazz4Teens perhaps?

Agenda Item 10. Higher Education Report: (Mr. Branker, Dr. Demsey) AB says Ralph Bowen / Anthony Branker conducted, unfortunately lost drummer who was in over their head. DD/AB says there should be a reminder to collegiate directors of the level of the ensemble. AB thinks having a 2<sup>nd</sup> drummer may not be a bad idea. AB thinks combo is a great idea to develop relationships with universities. University students, in addition, may be able to be a mentor to H.S. students. Reaching out to local h.s. and m.s. students, and getting them to interact. Said jazz education is more than what we do in schools, it is reaching out to the community. "Use me!"

Agenda Item 11. Region Reports:

(Region I) – Ryan Krewer not present, JK says things went well except for the fees.

(Region II) – Ron Heller says "interesting because he's had a lot of complaints about a rehearsal after Palm Sunday. Lost one rehearsal due to weather, groups were fantastic.

(Region III) – David May says "ditto".

JK says we got a bill for \$897.96 from Parsippany for services. We cannot run the risk of a district sticking it to us. We may have to pay part. AM said we need something in writing. Others feel it is just a general building usage form.

Agenda Item 12. Art Martin/Remarks: AM thanks Ron, Jeff H, Jeff K, for their kind words. Been involved since 1974, been hardest decision he's had to make. Keep it going! Wants to keep up via e-mail with everyone.

***Motion to adjourn meeting by Dick Graham, 2<sup>nd</sup> by Art Martin at 9:51 PM.***