Call to order – David May - 5:51pm

Attendance: Jeff Kunkel, Jeff Haas, Joe Verderese, Randy White, Joe Bongiovi, Steve Bishop, David May, Mike Anzuini

Meeting Procedures: Robert’s Rules should be followed.

Opening Remarks:

• Dave May

Interim Secretary Report – Joe Verderese

• Motion to accept minutes from last meeting – Dave May
  o Seconded – Jeff Kunkel, all in favor

Interim Treasurer Report

• Joe B sent out the treasurer report via email and handed out a basic version of it at the meeting
• We are using quickbooks now.
• At last meeting, we were running short on cash as we were putting money out for events.
• NJAJE lost a good amount of money on prelims
  o Steinert and Jackson Liberty were 50/50 splits. Some individual schools lost money due to poor attendance in the audience and participating bands.
  o How can we resolve this situation to turn it into a financial positive for hosting schools?
  o Can we find sponsorship to help us with prelims?
    ▪ Finding sponsors was quite difficult
In the past, the sponsors were local dealers and each sponsorship was good for a year’s worth of events within NJAJE. Generally, sponsors do not come from large corporations such as Yamaha.

- Total ticket sales from 5 nights of prelims was $1800
- The question was asked: “If sight-reading doesn’t count, why do it at prelims?”
- NJAJE lost $2025 on prelims, including ticket sales income
- Motion to accept Treasurer report – Mike Anzuini
- Seconded – Jeff Kunkel
- All in favor

**Jeff Lesser Report**

- Issues raised about posting of results for prelims and finals
  - Never used to post results of prelims because it was not considered competitive in that sense, more about education. Ratings given.
  - Didn’t send out results until a teacher brought it up after not sending them.
  - Posted google doc of the scores without the names of schools
  - Handed out recap sheet at finals, but it was requested to get results from ALL divisions
  - Discussion:
    - Transparency is a good thing in terms of scores being released
  - Outcome: Scores can be released to all bands of bands from all divisions

- Payments for prelims and finals – almost done with finals.
  - Is sometimes tough to get money from some of the groups
  - Thought: host schools would not get charged to host finals

- Format and Divisions:
  - Camden Creative Arts is in division I based on drawing from larger schools
  - Newark Academy is in Division III a private school drawing from the entire state
  - Divisions are generally set by school size, but can we give schools the option of moving to a different division for finals
Maybe there needs to be a committee that can sit down and meet to review regarding any changes to the festival. It needs to be done leading into the beginning of the year.

Jeff Lesser and Joe Bongiovi – appointed committee chairs
  - Joe and Jeff will come up with a date and set it up.
  - General Membership invited to be a part of the committee
  - Invite someone who can represent each division’s finals who is not a part of the board
  - Any of these changes will take effect in 2016-2017

Can we add an improvisational component to a separate private room in the competition along with the sightreading
  - Choose 3 soloists to improvise, picking a card out of 3 keys and chord changes, OR be a part of the sightreading piece.

Judges should arrive earlier to go over the rubrics before judging

- Festival sites for almost completely confirmed for next year
  - Division III is back to Overbrook this coming year
  - Burlington in 2014
- Membership application
  - Shooting for July 1 to have it ready
  - Jeff will send an email about membership forms being ready by July 1 including info about all conference clinicians/etc
- Magazine subscriptions have not been delivered to everyone
  - Jeff Kunkel will contact Downbeat to see if we can work out something with them instead of Jazz Inside.
- Website
  - No major changes made at this point
  - It is ambiguous where things are “supposed” to be posted. Things get posted in multiple places because we are not sure which places to put things.
    - Jeff Lesser asking permission to neaten in up
    - Also to put up a google calendar on the website
- Election results
  - All officials have been elected

President’s Report – Dave May
• There are positions that need to be filled
  o Doug Barber stepping down as Region III president but accepted all state manager position
  o President-Elect – NJAJE - Mike Anzuini becomes president
    ▪ Time to take nominations at the September meeting
• Executive director position – large workload
  o State Jazz festival, membership, website, moderate conference help, etc.
  o NJMEA has gone to the format of having executive director
  o How do we go about making this change? Is there a certain time that we have to do this? Can we vote at November meeting and make the position retroactive to this summer?
  o Mike Anzuini will draft a proposal to make a general membership vote to make this change. Mike can find this information under ARTICLE 5 on the website.
• Jeff Brown report – absorbed into Dave May’s report
  o This information will be attached to the minutes
  o Most directors like the new procedures for all state
  o Students need to be informed sooner if they are eligible to audition for all-state
  o Statement on the region form stating that you must fulfill the requirements of region jazz band in order to audition for all-state
  o New online registration system will likely be ‘jot-form.”
  o Can integrate payment tools
  o Scores entered during auditions could be efficient with network capable laptops
    ▪ Paper worksheets still needed as backup
    ▪ Should directors be able to judge in rooms that their kids are auditioning in?
    ▪ Difficult to find judges for all instruments
      • On the director application form – maybe put checkboxes for instruments that they are comfortable playing
      • Should have a judge in each room on the primary instrument, whenever possible
      • What happens if a director is not able to make it, but their students show up? Directors will be held responsible for
being there OR making up the time, in the case of an emergency

- Can we get a couple of directors to volunteer
- Nothing changing at this point, but we need to reinforce what we already have in place
  - We must make sure that our web-master takes down the old etudes immediately and post the new ones more efficiently.
  - Video clips of the etudes could be posted on website with “mini-lesson”
    - Video clips about jazz etudes in general, things to look for
    - Webinar? - Live online clinic/question and answer session which can be then posted to youtube for those who could not make it

- Conference for kids?
- Can one of the officers be the “educational coordinator” to take care of some of these things? Maybe the President-elect or the executive director.
- How can we coordinate better on the business end of our festivals to get money deposited sooner
- Thank you to the following;
  - Jeff Brown – technology integration
  - Steve Bishop – Vocal Jazz audition stuff
  - Group of guys who helped with jazz vocal auditions (didn’t catch all the names)
  - Doug Barber – region III president stuff
  - Thanks to the board for everything over the past 2 years.

**Vice President Report – Jeff Haas**

- November conference has been set early
- Jim Snidero - $1000 minus Selmer’s portion
  - Would like a hotel room the evening before his presentation
  - Not sure about need for a demo group
    - First call would be to Montclair State this year
- NJMEA Conference – time to start thinking about this
- Request for space has been put in
- Region I audition space is booked for Ridgewood
- Kerry Marsh is signed for educator conference as well as conducting all state
- Made a “boiler-plate” contract. Could we take a look over it to make sure nothing is missing or incorrect?
  - Contract includes everything that is expected of the conductor
- Can we do pins or medals for Region Jazz?
  - Vote on this in October
- Nominations and discussion about jazz education achievement award
  - Brian Height – nominated by Jeff Kunkel, seconded by Steve Bishop
  - Joel Perry – nominated by Jeff Haas, seconded by Dave May
    - Vote for award taken – Brian Height

**President Elect report – Mike Anzuini**

- April 4-8, 2017 – Atlantic City to host All-Eastern
- All-State Jazz will be hosted at Claridge for the next 4 years
- Conrad Herwig was approved by NJMEA to conduct all state jazz band
- All info for the newsletter needs to get in
- NJEA sessions needed to be submitted by May 15
  - Still looking for sessions
- NJMEA conference – forms are up already, deadline is September 15, 2015
  - Strong middle school band director – to teach non-“jazz-people” how to teach kids to swing
  - College professors from different universities
  - Jazz etude session
  - Rhythm section
- Project Trio is the Friday night concert at NJMEA
- Reading band on Saturday by Jeff Haas

**State Festival and Membership Chair Report - Jeff Lesser**

- No notes

**Honors Jazz Choir Report – Steve Bishop**

- Double response from last year
- Upgraded from 4 schools to 16 schools submitting auditions
- Students accepted from 12 different schools
- If we have any thoughts about this year’s new process, let Steve know
• “how-to’s” were online
• Can we try to do these auditions a little earlier?
• Will try to have everything ready by October
• Will include that “Video quality is not judged”
• No technological glitches
• All videos were checked for safety and privacy
• Song submissions are in – all arrangements of Kerry Marsh
• Still discussing possibility of combined piece with the jazz band
• How can we get a larger database of directors to email?
  o Can get a spreadsheet sent over from Tom. Mike A will try to get a hold
  of an updated list
• Steve B is teaching the 2 days of rehearsal prior to Atlantic City

Past President Report - Jeff Kunkel

• Last meeting as past president – we will need to find someone to take over
  finding adjudicators
• Jeff K will share his database of people to contact directly with the person who
  is taking the job
• Jeff K is interested in staying on board to help Dave Demsey with collegiate end

Jersey Jazzer Report - Meredith Foreman –

• No news

Higher Education Report – Dave Demsey

• No news

Region I report – John Maiello

• no news

Region II report – Randy White

• thanks to everyone for all their contributions this year
• Everything went well at Rahway
• Region ensembles, all state, etc was smooth
Region III report – Doug Barber

- no news

Old Business –

- Calendar is set up that states what needs to be done before each meeting to be passed down from president to president to make sure nothing gets missed

New Business –

- Alumni All State big band –
  - Need to get lists from all the past years
  - Fundraiser?
- Can we create a template for a press release that goes out to students who make our groups that can be submitted to the student’s local papers to help promote their achievements and our programs
- Can we add a place for people to list themselves as clinicians on our website?
- Email from Earl McDonald – director of jazz studies at University of Connecticut – interested in being on list of potential candidates to guest conduct Regions or All State
- Is there a way for people to submit application to conduct honors groups?
- Steve Bishop interested in starting a vocal jazz reading session clinic
  - Get people together and show them that they CAN do this!

For the good of the order -

- none

Adjourned – 9:32pm

- Motion to adjourn – Mike Anzuini
- Second – Dave May
- All in favor