

NJAJE Executive Board Meeting
Omega Diner, North Brunswick, NJ
Monday, October 13, 2014, 5:00 PM

Call to order - Jeff Haas - 5:39pm

Attendance: Jeff Haas, Mike Anzuini, Jeff Lesser, Meredith Foreman, Jeff Kunkel, Joe Verderese, Randy White, Joe Bongiovi, Steve Bishop, Doug Barber, Jeff Brown, John Maiello

Dave May sends his regrets.

Meeting Procedures: Robert's Rules should be followed.

Opening Remarks:

- **Motion to accept minutes from last meeting – John Maiello**
 - Seconded – Joe Verderese
 - Only change would be to correct the name “Steve Verderese” to “Joe Verderese”
- **Motion to change title of the following positions – Jeff Haas**
 - Joe Verderese – Rename to Interim Secretary
 - Joe Bongiovi – Rename to Interim Treasurer
 - Jeff Brown – Rename to State Audition Chair.
- **Seconded – Jeff Kunkel (All in favor of changes)**

Treasurer Report - Mike Anzuini reports a balance \$16,658

- Small expenses forthcoming
- IRS issue with Tax Exempt Status has been resolved. This was confirmed about a month ago
- **Motion to get all parties to the bank in order to make the following changes to bank account access – Mike Anzuini**

- Joe Bongiovi will become interim treasurer and will be added to bank account
- Jeff Lesser will remain on account.
- Remove John Lindner from account –
- **Seconded by Jeff Haas (all in favor)**
- Will need to Change official address of NJ Business Certificate – needs to have Mike Anzuini’s address instead of Jeff Lesser’s address

Vice President Report – Jeff Haas

- **November Conference update**
 - Mark Taylor will be the clinician for the instrumental track.
 - Bob Stoloff will be the clinician for the vocal track.
 - There are currently 57 members of NJAJE. It is important to get more people to come to the conference.
 - Moving to the CHASE ROOM, because of a mistake by NJPAC. This will be a “1-shot deal.”
 - They will arrange for all materials and equipment to be available.
 - Publishers continue to support the reading band.
 - WPU big band will be demo band for Mark Taylor’s session.
 - Hal Leonard paying for hotel room for Mark Taylor.
 - Bob Stoloff needs hotel room Thursday night.
 - Bob Stoloff will perform with vocal jazz group at concert that evening.
 - We are not allowed to bring in outside food. All food needs to go through catering services this year.
- We have received confirmation from Marie Malara about the February reading session at NJMEA.
 - At this point, we have not submitted any other proposals for the February Conference.
- Jeff Brown – All State Audition Chair – trying to get all regions on board with all audition paperwork being done online. They are using Adobe Form Central and we think it would be beneficial to try to align with them. Jeff Brown is already immersed in this system. There are other programs, but in his experience, this is an extremely powerful one.
 - “Form Site” Advantage – sends a receipt to the band director. Jeff will look for a way to make that happen.

- Up for discussion: Should we get our own copy of this? Or go in as partners with NJMEA to pay for it? After Talking to Pete Bauer, John Maiello Is of the understanding that we should be able to combine with NJMEA because they have plenty of space on their account
- Audition Chairs – Jeff Brown would like to make sure to coordinate all the systems with the regions audition chairpersons to make it similar for the state level
 - Region 1 – John Luckenbill
 - Region 2 – doesn't really have one, but Robert Van Wyck and Joe Bongiovi have done the work
 - Region 3 – Len Nicolas
 - Discussion about making sure the vocal jazz forms are the same as the instrumental jazz
- All members need to create a new email address for NJAJE stuff that will be listed as first initial, last name, .njaje@gmail.com Example below:
Jverderese.njaje@gmail.com

Membership Chair Report - Jeff Lesser

- 57 members – have not all paid fees yet. There are usually about 100+ members by the November conference time
- Jeff has not yet sent out membership letters and cards to members. He is working on it now. Last year, he sent stuff out too soon, so wants to avoid issues that will cost us some money, such as the subscription to Jazz Inside Magazine.
- It is ok for teachers to sign up on the spot at the November conference.
- **State Jazz Festival**
 - There is 1 location over-filled with 10 bands, not including the host band at this point.
 - Other sites are still open.
 - Bridgewater-Raritan only has 1 registration at the moment
- **Website** – We need someone to update the content of the website. There are lots of updates that have not gotten done.
 - Joe Bongiovi opened discussion asking for access to individual regional pages for quick updates
 - We do not have the ability to work on the NJMEA site which deals with NJAJE stuff

- **Motion to re-establish the Webmaster position by Jeff Kunkel.**
 - Individual areas can still access and edit when necessary.
 - Seconded by Joe Verderese. (All in favor)

Region I report – John Maiello

- Paperwork is in to host Region Jazz Concert/rehearsals and for hosting finals.
- No official answer for who will be the HS conductor yet.
- Still looking for a MS conductor

Jersey Jazzer Report - Meredith Foreman –

- Could be done this weekend if all the information comes in.
- Jeff Kunkel mentioned that Meredith can have a little more freedom to “Take it where she wants.”
- Alumni Spotlight – potential added section. Possible spotlight options:
 - Nick Marchiano, Jared Gold, Freddie Hendrix, Sean Jones, Julius Tolentino, Ben Hankle, etc. . . . Jeff Haas will get some info to Meredith

President’s Report – Dave May is not in attendance

- **All State Jazz Band (Discussion of issues to resolve)**
 - Communication has been poor between NJAJE + NJMEA, and from these organizations to the parents, students and directors.
 - Questions regarding hotel, payment, contract, travel arrangements, recording.
 - 1st Rehearsal went very well
 - No one else at the site besides the host.
 - Reminder/info email should be sent out this week to parents and students regarding rehearsal on 10/28
 - Thoughts about subscribing to remind 101?
- **February Jazz Academy courses**
 - Jeff Haas will do reading session. Jeff Lesser will preside.
 - No other sessions have been proposed
 - Steve Bishop hoping to put together a vocal session
 - The jazz academy is on the registration form. We will need to put some sessions together for Thursday, 2/19.

- Need to set up “lower level” presentations to help teachers who have beginner programs as opposed to the advanced ones.
- **Jazz Educator Award Recipient**
 - Nomination for Jeff Haas for this year by Mike Anzuini.
 - Seconded by Jeff Lesser. (All in favor)

Past President Report - Jeff Kunkel

- Adjudicators will be taken care of by Jeff Kunkel for all of the festivals.
- If we need representation to Jazz Education Network (JEN) Jeff Kunkel will be there, and he can represent us if Dave May is unavailable.

Intercollegiate Band Report – Jeff Kunkel (for Dave Demsey)

- Dave and Jeff K will direct this year.
- Nothing further news.

Vocal Jazz Report – Steve Bishop

- Lost 3 kids over the summer for this year’s group.
- 16 person group, 4 person rhythm section
- Quality of singers is not as high as they would like it to be. May be looking to go to more of a group oriented route.
- Who pays for the director’s accommodations? We think it was NJAJE, and they paid for the night of the concert to avoid forcing the director to travel home late after a concert.
- Thinking about taking **recommendations** for vocal jazz instead of auditions. Maybe next year, there can be an online Youtube audition.
- Need to try to find a way to get there to be more of a “Through line” from regions to all state
- Can you have the region vocal jazz groups perform before awards at each of the competition finals to promote involvement of kids in vocal jazz
- Steve Bishop will make an informational flyer about the recommendation for vocal jazz.
- Will also put an advertisement in the jazz vocal slot in Tempo Magazine also.

Region II report – Joe Bonjiovi + Randy White

- Rob Van Wyk will host festival in Rahway.
- Joe will help Randy out this year and Randy will take over fully next year

Region III report – Doug Barber

- Seneca HS will host festival
- George Rabbi will conduct the HS band

Old Business – no news

New Business – no news

For the good of the order

- Are we doing the combo festival?
 - Looks like we will take the year off and come back “bigger and better” next year if possible.
 - Can we look into a venue for a combo night?
 - Can we combine the combo festival with the big band festival?
 - Steve asking for someone to come help at next Vocal Jazz rehearsal with the rhythm section

Adjourned – 9:00pm