

## BCMEA 2011 Spring Meeting Minutes – June 20, 2011 5:00 PM

### In attendance:

- New-Hope Solebury: David Bachart (President)
- Palisades: Karol Mannherz
- Central Bucks: Frank Bolkus, Jim Glaser
- Neshaminy: Karl Krelove, Kim Krelove
- Pennridge: Paul Daniels, Diane King, Steve Moser

(A quorum was not present, so any votes will have to take place at the Fall meeting)

### I. Officers

- a. David Bachart (New Hope) has taken over as president
- b. Stephanie Lee Overton-Hall (Archbishop Wood) is the only candidate for Vice-President
- c. The position of treasurer is open. A volunteer is needed to take over this position.

### II. Hosts for Upcoming Events

- a. Central Bucks is hosting the 2012 festival – March 1-3 (This will be the 61<sup>st</sup> festival)
- b. Neshaminy is hosting the 2012 auditions on Sat., January 21<sup>st</sup> (high school – AM, middle school – PM)
- c. We would like to have a location for the 2013 auditions and festival by September
  - i. Pennridge suggested that they might be able to host the vocal auditions next year

### III. Student Participation Fees

- a. The 2011 festival lost \$153.26. Raising the student participation fees from \$15 to \$20 was discussed as a way to ensure that the festival operates in the black. The student participation fee has been \$15 for many years (at least 7). This item will be voted on at the Fall meeting.
- b. Brief discussion on creating an audition fee – the group was not in favor of this idea

### IV. Database of BCMEA Music

- a. A few years ago we stopped putting all music that BCMEA purchased in a central location. The festival hosts “house” the music that was purchased for each festival in their own libraries. The BCMEA library that had existed up to that point is housed in the Centennial School District.
- b. A database of all the music will be created to help with future festivals and festival planning – David will call Tyrone Dinkins to help start this process.
- c. If we have a spreadsheet of all BCMEA music, we could provide it to conductors to see if there are any works we already own that the conductors would like to perform. Any additional works would still be purchased.

### V. Amendment to the Audition Requirements (regarding students who drop out late)

- a. The group discussed amending the audition requirements with the following wording or something similar: “Students that audition for the BCMEA Festivals and are accepted will be expected to perform in the festival. If a student does not attend the festival, they will be excluded from the following year’s audition and festival process. All absences will be looked at on a case by case basis and discussed by the BCMEA executive board. School districts are still accountable for all fees, whether the students attend or not.”
- b. The intent of this amendment would be to prevent students from auditioning, being selected for a group, and pulling out of the festival at the last minute for circumstances other than illness or a true emergency. After much discussion of possible changes, the group decided that we will just vote on the above wording at the fall meeting.

### VI. Student Certificates

- a. As always 6-year people will get an award at the festival.

- b. This year, everyone who participates in the festival will get a certificate before they leave on the day of the concert. This will guarantee that every student gets a participation award for being involved in the festival.
- c. A blank template for certificates will still be sent out to key people for districts who have special traditions or ceremonies involving BCMEA certificates.

#### VII. Audition Repertoire

- a. Junior High Band - this is the 3<sup>rd</sup> year of a three year rotation. At a future meeting, we will vote on whether to repeat the same 3 year rotation again.
- b. Difficulty of pieces – There is a feeling that the Caprice section of Bozza's *Improvisation and Caprice* is too difficult for BCMEA saxophone auditions. There was also some discussion about the difficulty of the Bass, Cello and Viola pieces from the district list. Karl K. will look into previous years to see if BCMEA has substituted other pieces for these more challenging ones. Once suggestions & revisions are made, we will send out a repertoire list for all members to peruse, then the official audition repertoire with any updates and revisions will be posted on the BCMEA website by mid-July.
- c. HS Choral – The 2012 audition piece is "He Watching Over Israel".
- d. MS Choral – The 2012 audition piece is "Kyrie" from Mass in G by Franz Schubert, arr. Liebergen (Alfred publishing). This was the audition piece in 2008-09. At a future meeting, the current 3 year rotation of MS vocal audition pieces will be discussed.
- e. Percussion Auditions – We will post .pdfs on the BCMEA website of the excerpts, etc.
- f. Baritone TC vs. BC – We discussed the most equitable way to assign/choose scales for baritone auditions, since TC and BC players read music pitched in different keys. (ex. If an Ab scale is assigned by the judges, the baritone BC player is playing a concert Ab scale, while a baritone TC player is playing the more difficult concert Gb scale). For now, it was decided that the judges be reminded of this at auditions and try to take this factor into account when choosing their scales.
- g. Horn - For middle school horn players, the F, G, and Ab scales will only require one octave, not two.

#### VIII. New Business

- a. Auditions vs. Director Ranking – This issue came up again and will continue to be discussed at future meetings.
- b. Auditions held on weeknight vs. weekend – This was brought up as a possibility for future years.
- c. Key people list –we worked on creating a key people list to improve/tighten up communication about BCMEA.
- d. More frequent meetings – The suggestion was made that if we had an extra meeting or two per year that it might improve communication and encourage others to attend. The group seemed open to this suggestion.

Meeting adjourned