

AVA General Meeting
Saturday, January 24, 2009
University of Alabama, Moody Music Building

President, Damion Womack, called the meeting to order at 9:16 am.

Secretary, Stacy Owens, read the minutes of the previous general meeting. Minutes were approved with a request that a hard copy of the minutes be handed out at meetings and posted on the website.

Treasurer's Report

Treasurer, Pat Blackwell, was not present at the meeting due to sickness, but a hard copy of the report was handed out to the membership. As of January 11, 2009, there is \$101,184.08 in checking and \$11,578.63 in savings with the total assets being \$112,762.71.

Meal Tickets have been offered for All-State.

If you have any questions, please call Pat's cell.

AMEA

Charles Robinson from UMKC was great as our clinician, and please feel free to give any comments about the conference to the board.

Proration:

Attendance was down around 100 members. A comment was made that this is not affecting just Alabama's convention, but other states as well.

Congratulations to the performing groups at AMEA for they did an outstanding job! Online applications will be available in May. Please consider this opportunity.

Executive Secretary

Results to the mail out ballot were overwhelmingly affirmative.

Job description will be defined and posted on the website and in Alle Breve.

Pat Blackwell will be applying, but it is an open application process.

Thanks to the membership for their input. If the membership has any questions, please feel free to ask the board.

All-State 2009

Schedules will be sent out soon by Jane Powell.

Samford is ecstatic to have us back.

TTBB will be rehearsing in Hanna Arena.

OA will be on Wednesday afternoon. The change in the OA audition process to add a 3 minute prepared piece was decided on by the board, but it should have been voted on by the membership. Damion said that it was his mistake, and it will be corrected. There was a concern about how the OA is being perceived. He/she is an accompanist, not a concert pianist.

2010 All-State dates are March 17-20 at Samford University. There were some questions about possibly changing the dates due to it falling on some school's spring break. Would participation drop? Another stated that nobody has the same spring break. Suggestion was made that we could possibly flip the dates for All-State with State Performance Assessment. Damion said that he would look at these suggestions and comments.

There was question about the number of singers in the SATB choir (down more than 100 from last year). Damion explained that only about 20 tenors had an acceptable score. He had to go back and reassess the cut-off scores to add more singers to the group.

- If this were to happen again, maybe there could be a call to directors to have certain students re-audition. There was a statement of concern about this suggestion. Another comment was made about possibly having the students re-audition for the part in question.
- One factor to consider this year was that there weren't many that auditioned. Damion addressed the vast amount of no shows for the auditions. A member voiced the opinion that we needed to keep the standard high, so we need to strive for quality over quantity. One member stated that the clinician from last year said that there were too many in the choir.
- Why did we not have as many audition? One thought was that the music choices could have been an issue.
- What kind of impact will this have financially on AVA? Damion said that we would be fine.

There was a request from the floor for the board to consider making All-State Show Choir participants also audition and make the All-State Choir due to the logistics of the students during the All-State festival.

Damion thanks everyone for their valuable input.

New Business

There was concern that the show choir clinician should not have to worry about the lack of discipline within the group and correct bad behavior. Please prepare your students for this type situation by reinforcing how they need to conduct themselves.

A MOTION to adjourn the meeting was made. Motion was seconded and carried. Meeting was adjourned at 10:04 am.