

## **FGMEA BOARD MINUTES**

### **March 14, 2006**

The March meeting of the **FGMEA Board** was held on Tuesday, March 14, 2006 at the FEA Office in Fairfax. The meeting was called to order by **Charlie Ring, President**. Board members in attendance were: Charles Ring, Joy Petty, Debbie Key, Loretta Schmitt, Nancy Pope, Michael Utell, Wendy Peterson, Heather Young, Bev Ogden, Marianne Tagge, Jessica Stowe, Mary Woods, Heather Young, Carolyn Dorey, Camille Brady, Julie Derges Kastner, Mimi Youkeles, Adam Martinelli, Cynthia Carlton, Cindy Noble, and Elaine Stanford.

#### **Loretta Schmitt Secretary**

The February minutes were electronically sent to the board members. The minutes were electronically corrected and sent to the cluster chairs via email to be disseminated to the FGMEA membership.

#### **Elaine Stanford, Fine Arts Office**

- **“Mary Had a Little Blues”**
  - Dr. Galvan has been contacted numerous times regarding the change in lyrics for “Mary Had a Little Blues.”
  - **Dr. Roger Tomhave, Fine Arts Coordinator** has posted the following:  
“Please move any further discussion regarding “Mary Had a Little Blues” to the Public Folder for General Music Teachers. The song has been approved.”
- Dr. Galvan will need to have written permission from the publisher when she comes in May if she wishes to change the words to “Mary Had a Little Blues.”
- **Fall Inservice**
  - Elaine is seeking ideas for the inservice in the fall.
  - She has received a proposal from Alfred Music to bring John Jacobson.
  - Suggestions for the inservice include:
    - Technology
    - Major publishing companies to introduce new texts
    - Laptops with a recording device for quick assessment

## **Charlie Ring, President's Report** **Announcements**

- We are sad to share that Lee Larsen, music teacher at Union Mill, lost his father in a fatal car accident.
- **Lee's home address is:**  
**14622 Farming Way**  
**Centreville, Virginia 20120**
- **Congratulations to Lucinda Sexton and Linda White** for receiving a grant on inclusion from **VMEA**.
- Inclusion Strategies That Work: Ideas and Resources for General Music Teachers of Special Needs Students will be presented by Dr. Alice Hammel Thursday, March 30, 2006, 4-6:00 P.M. At Daniels Run Cafeteria. RSVP To: Linda. White @fcps.edu or Lucinda.Sexton@fcps.edu.
- **Kudos to Camille Brady** and her fifth grade chorus. They will perform at the Washington Monument in May.

### **2007 Proposed Budget: Staffing Initiatives:**

- **Staffing Initiatives, Elementary Schools**                    **\$1.0 million**
  - **Time-to-Teach (TTT) Adjustment**-This initiative changes the Elementary school staffing formula to include itinerant art teachers, who are currently centrally budgeted in Instructional Services. This will add a total of 9.8 physical education (PE), music or art teachers to elementary schools.
  - School-based positions are primarily increasing due to the staffing initiative for the **Time-to-Teach (TTT)** formula to include the itinerant art teachers, which moves these positions from the Art and Music Program into Core Elementary Instruction. The actual increase in art teachers due to the formula adjustment is 9.8 full-time equivalent positions.
- **Explanations of Costs**
  - **The FY 2007 budget includes \$15.8 million and 154.7 positions. The difference in positions, 158.0 less than in FY 2006, results from elementary art teachers being included in the Time-to-Teach staffing at the schools; therefore, their cost is captured in the Elementary Core Program.**

The initiative seems to imply a conflict and a potential loss of ten minutes in general music.

- Charlie has written Kathy Smith, School Board Member.
- Charlie will contact Roger Tomhave for clarification.

**The FGMEA Report and Survey Results has been completed and FGMEA officers will meet with Roger.**

- All **General Music Teachers** will receive a hard copy of this document.

**Nancy Pope, Past-President**

Nancy presented the nominating committee recommendation for the slate of officers for 2006-2007. They are:

President	Charles Ring
Vice-President	Joy Petty
Secretary	Loretta Schmitt
Treasurer	Debbie Key
Cluster Chairs	Carolyn Dorey, Camille Brady, Cindy Noble, Marianne Tagge

**Debbie Key, Treasurer's Report**

- We have a **balance of \$10,555.76**
- The service charge recorded on the previous bank statement was refunded per the bank's agreement.
- Due to one outstanding check, #**2040** issued in September for **\$69.02**, the balance on this month's BB&T bank statement is **\$10,624.78**.

**Committee Chair Reports:**

**Wendy Peterson, Heather Young Choral Festival Co-Chair**

- Elaine has procured clipboards for choral festival. **Thank you Elaine.**
- Sign language for "Can you Hear Me" will be aired on Channel 21. Watch for a posting from Wendy so that you may ask your librarian to download the video. **Thanks to all the members and non-members** who were willing to help with this project.
- **Kudos to Wendy and Heather** for the great compilation of art work for the choral festival program. It made it easy to review and vote.
- Elaine has already spoken with the Channel 21 producer to make sure the filming runs smoothly during the Choral Festival performance.
- Heather will distribute the ACC Co-Chair Job Description to General Music Teachers.

### **All-County Choral Festival Co-Chair Job Description**

**If you are an individual who loves Choral music and wants to promote the growth of the Choral Arts in Fairfax County, then we want you!**

The All-County Choral Festival chairperson along with the Fine Arts Office and FGMEA Executive Board is in search of a Choral Festival co-chair for the 2007 and 2008 Festivals.

The position of Choral Festival co-chair is not one to take lightly, so please read the following “job description” to see if you are the “One” to fill this position.

The following duties are required in accordance with FGMEA:

There shall be two Choral Festival Chairpersons. One of the Choral Festival Chairpersons shall have served in that capacity at least one time previously. This position is a consecutive 2 year commitment. In cooperation with the Fine Arts Office, the Choral Festival Chairpersons shall:

1. set dates and secure a suitable site for the county-wide rehearsals and the concert.
2. with Board approval, secure a clinician and an accompanist for Festival, and make any necessary transportation and housing arrangements for said clinician and accompanist.
3. coordinate all site and county-wide rehearsals.
4. communicate information regarding rehearsal, music preparation, regulations, procedures, dress, and selection process to participating teachers.
5. remain in communication with the Fine Arts Office and the FGMEA Executive Board.
6. with the help of a Music Selection Committee, choose music for the Festival.
7. organize a county-wide in-service to rehearse Festival music with the clinician.

In addition to the FGMEA bylaws, the individual shall also:

1. have 5+ years experience teaching elementary choral and general music.
2. have 5+ years involvement in Choral Festival in some capacity.
3. attain membership in FGMEA.
4. attend monthly FGMEA Executive Board meetings.
5. collaborate closely with current Festival co-chair.

If you are interested in the 2007/2008 Choral Festival Co-chair position, please email Heather Young, [heather.young@fcps.edu](mailto:heather.young@fcps.edu), by **March 31, 2006** with:

- your name
- job title/location
- daytime and evening phone numbers
- brief description as to why you would be a good fit for the job

Marianne Tagge, cluster VII & VIII shared a member concern. It stated: "I have been in the county for 25 years and have seen many ACC productions. This is a HUGE undertaking for all, especially very time consuming for the "lead: people. Could ACC festival be turned into an event such as our All-District Band is managed? Students are chosen and meet at a selected Cluster school for rehearsals throughout the spring and then perform. I would like to see a change made to the ACC Festival format. It seems always to be "on the other end of the county" and a lot of time goes into organizing and teaching the music. I would like to see a "smaller production" done with our talented Fairfax people doing the conducting. Of course, I also think a stipend should be allotted for the conductor/accompaniment. \_\_\_\_\_ FCPS General Music Teacher

The board commented that many clusters hold pyramid concerts with the schools they feed into as a way of presenting smaller productions. We have revisited this idea of a smaller format before, but since Sixth Grade All-County Choral Festival is an optional activity for teachers, we want to continue the structure of a county wide event. We acknowledge that ACC is a great deal of work, but worth the effort in the end. A clinician and date have been secured for 2007.

### **Cynthia Carlton, Julie Derges Kastner, Grant**

There was a great deal of discussion on various possibilities on how we could best use the grand funding. Discussion included:

- Use the money for funding music in the Fine Arts music library
- Continue with the grants for individuals who may not have sufficient funding at his/her respective building
- Have the applicant ask for a certain amount of money to fund the specified project opposed to a fixed grant.

### **Motion**

Loretta Schmitt moved that the Grant Committee meet and bring a proposal to the board in April regarding use of grant funds.

### **Debbie Key seconded the motion.**

Additional discussion was held. It was indicated that there is always a crunch time with all General Music teachers due to the hectic schedule and many additional responsibilities. This may a reason why there aren't more applicants.

### **The motion passed.**

**Motion**

Mary Woods moved to continue the grant offering by rewriting the grant description with different wording so that it can accommodate the board's desire for more flexibility with the funding.

**Adam Martinelli seconded the motion.**

**The motion passed.**

**Mike Utell, Resource**

**Motion**

Mike moved that the resource created Music Substitute List be available to all music teachers.

**Camille Brady seconded the motion.**

Discussion ensued.

**Amended Motion**

Mike Utell moved that the FGMEA/Fine Arts Office endorsed music substitute list be given to all General Music instructors.

**Mary Woods seconded the motion.**

**The motion passed.**

**Mike Utell tabled his second motion until the April Board meeting.**

With no new business, the meeting was adjourned. The next board meeting will be held, Tuesday, April 4, 2006.

Respectfully yours,

*Loretta*

Loretta Schmitt  
Secretary