

FGMEA Board Meeting Minutes October 25, 2016

The October meeting of the FGMEA Board was held on Tuesday, October 25, 2016 at the FEA Office in Fairfax.

I. Call to Order:

Jennifer Blend, President, called the meeting to order at 4:38 p.m.

Board members in attendance were: **Sara Alipanah, Jennifer Blend, Sean Cator, Jeanette Essig, Kelly Harbison, Pam Hill, Joy Petty, Deb Rudd, Shane Smith, Alisa Waggoner, Mike Weiner, and Jackie Yoerges**

II. President's Report: Jennifer Blend

- A.** Board members who notified Jennifer that they would not be attending the October Board meeting are: **Beth Atkins, Cheryl Baker, Pam Beck, Katrina Chaney, Michael Dennis, Mary Frances Dini, Rachel Grimsby, Christian King, Tim Kloth, Danielle Menard Mazurowski, Bev Ogden, Patti Simbulan, Rod Tompkins, and Lisa Zargarpur**
- B.** Vacancies – We filled all the vacancies in the past month. Lisa Zargarpur will be on the in-service committee, Jackie Yoerges will be on the grants committee, Danielle Menard Mazurowski will be on the technology committee, Mike Weiner will be on the social media & Newsletter committee, and Shane Smith will be on the social committee.
- C.** Jennifer Blend discussed the possibility of the FGMEA schedule survey to general music teachers be in google docs format next year instead of survey monkey. The general consensus from our discussion confirmed that people feel more comfortable with google docs now than when FGMEA tried to switch to it many years ago. The saved data from 2009-present will be compiled in an easy to use format by **Danielle Menard Mazurowski**. **Kelly Harbison** will send this survey on the November teacher work days. We will also set a google account for FGMEA so the raw data can be kept here.

III. Vice President's Report: Kelly Harbison

- A.** **Kelly Harbison** reported information from the FEA assembly at Sherwood Center on October 19th.
 - 1. FEA is gathering data on the possible changes ERFC could implement in our benefits for FCPS retirement. There have been changes in recent years and FEA is concerned that there will be more, especially for new teachers.
 - 2. **Kelly Harbison** passed around the two possibilities for the school calendar 2017-2018 drafts. Both had students starting prior to Labor Day.

IV. Secretary's Report: Beth Atkins

- A.** The minutes of the September 27, 2016 Executive Board meeting were distributed via email to all general music teachers and were approved as corrected.

V. Treasurer's Report: Christian King

- A.** Christian distributed the Treasurer's Report to the Board via email. The bank account reconciles as it should. The balance forwarded from the September 2016 report was **\$9,412.56**. Deposits and credits totaling **\$195.97**, and withdrawals and debits totaling **\$18.71** resulted in an ending balance of October 25, 2016 of **\$9,589.82**.

VI. Fine Arts Office Report: Jeannette Essig

- A.** FAO office also requests special's schedules for their data and records. They are still coming in, but slowly. **Jennifer Blend** asked if there are significant changes to a school's schedule, after they've sent them in, would they like the new schedule sent. **Jeanette Essig** said yes and please save your schedule with your school name.
- B.** Funding for Fine Arts Academy courses are being cut. Jeanette will send out survey to see who is interested in Rachel Grimsby's course, Conversational Solfege, for the spring 2017.
- C. Jeanette Essig** continues to educate others in our county how general music teachers are different than classroom teachers in strategies, teaching style, and classroom management. She will continue to advocate for our programs and educate those who are unaware of the music classroom process.

VII. Committee Chair Reports:

- A. Past President- Michael Dennis** has nothing new to report, but has heard of some scheduling concerns. He would like to have the FGMEA schedule survey reports before making any plans of action. This was conveyed to **Jennifer Blend** on October 24th to report to the board meeting.

B. Membership: Pam Hill

1. Concern from FGMEA member: In light of the below and attached (FGMEA September board meeting minutes): Has there been a discussion of why membership is so low? How can we possibly foot the bill for the things we are doing without more membership dues? Won't that reach a breaking point at some time? Additionally, do we actually pay the full cost of the guest clinician for ACCF? And if so, why do people get to attend for FREE (the belong to FGMEA requirement was dropped, I understood) If we are footing the bill. I just don't see how this organization is sustainable if everyone can participate for FREE And not JOIN. The numbers there are worse than the drop off in FEA membership countywide!
2. Answer from FGMEA board **Jeanette Essig** provided the FAO information, **Jennifer Blend** checked the numbers from previous minutes, the board discussed further ways to promote membership in FGMEA: MEMBERSHIP: In September we had 71 members and as of today, October 31st, we have 102. We have surpassed our membership numbers from October 2016. We will continue to promote and advocate that teachers need to join our worthy organization at future opportunities (read-through, in-service, etc...). Ideally, we would like for all teachers to support FGMEA and promote what we do for our teachers. We hope our members are doing the same, educating teachers and positively promoting

our organization. ACCF: FGMEA and the Fine Arts Office (FAO) split the cost of this event. The FAO pays for some of the higher priced things such as, the clinician fees, sub leave, and music, both the scores and licensing fees. FGMEA pays for the clinician's travel, housing and hospitality fee, hospitality for all the teachers, and extra music fees if any apply that the FAO didn't cover. Because FAO is paying for sub leave, they cannot exclude anyone not being in FGMEA. FGMEA's revenues come from membership, t-shirt and CD sales at ACCF as well as the occasional gift. And with this, we are able to offer grants for teachers, food and snacks, In-service clinicians, and All County Chorus obligations.

C. Choral Festival: Sean Cator & Mary Frances Dini

1. **Sean Cator** reported that Dominic DiOrio requested an earlier start time so he could make it to another event in NY that is premiering one of his pieces. The board discussed the possibility and felt that keeping the original time of 3:00 for the ACCF concert was best for students and staff. **Sean Cator** will let Dominic DiOrio our decision.
2. The ACCF music committee is stuffing music packets tomorrow at Lane Elementary School.

D. Grants: Bev Ogden

1. **Bev Ogden** gave her report to **Joy Petty**, who communicated to our board that the grants applications are due on November 11th. The form can be found on our website: www.fgmea.org. We have received one application as of Oct 25th, 2016.

E. In-service

F. Social Media/Newsletter

1. **Mike Weiner** has found a few people to do blogs for our FGMEA website to keep information fresh and interesting.

G. Social: Alisa Kieffer & Shane Smith

H. Ways & Means: Deb Rudd

1. Motion: **Deb Rudd:**
 1. **I move to order ACCF t-shirts for the November order to not exceed \$3,000.00.**
2. **Motion passed** - Deb will order 250 smalls, 175 mediums, 25 large, 5 extra-larges, and 3 XXL's for the first round of ACCF t-shirts.

I. Technology: Rod Tompkins and Danielle Menard Mazurowski

1. **Rod Tompkins and Danielle Menard Mazurowski** sent an email report that they are updating the ACCF calendar and making sure the format of the Blackboard site is ready for uploading information. This year, ALL info will be on Blackboard. Teachers will only need to sign into one website with your FCPS log in.
2. They will send post the minutes in the minutes section of the FGMEA website and send an email letting members know it is there.

VIII. New Business

IX. Unfinished Business:

A. Jeanette Essig followed up on our last month's discussion about using credit card payments at ACCF for CD sales. **Sara Alipanah** made the following motion.

- 1. I move that Audio Associates shall collect credit card payments for ACCF recordings on the Saturday of festival and any monies collected be applied as credit toward the total bill for the production of festival CDs and/or Digital Downloads cards.**
- 2. Motion passed**

X. Adjournment Jennifer Blend adjourned the meeting at 5:35.