

WV-ASTA Meeting Minutes

Charleston Civic Center, Conference Room A
Civic Center Dr., Charleston, WV 25301
March 8, 2018

1. Call to Order

Dr. Jeannine Sturm called the meeting to order

2. 2017 String Day Review

Rayce Leib said that this event went well, despite a few snafus (which nobody noticed). 90 kids participated and were split into younger and older groups.

3. 2018 String Day

Nathan Rihn volunteered to host and the use of Musselman High School's facilities for this event. There were some questions and concerns about ease of access with students from other parts of the state, but it was agreed upon that getting anywhere in WV is difficult. There was a special request for participating schools to send as many 1st violin players as 2nd violins.

4. 2018 WV Orchestra Festival

This event will have been held on May 18, 2018. Patty Brock mentioned that she brought copies of the application to the event, and that it had been slightly updated to show her cell phone, not her home phone.

Dr. Sturm mentioned that one of the judges, Dr. Erin Ellis from WVU, had already been selected, but the second judge hadn't been picked yet. Bennett, the cello professor from Shepard University, and Sandra Groce were all mentioned as possibilities. It was mentioned that judges for this event were to be paid \$100 plus travel expenses.

Dr. Sturm wanted a winner's sheet or log for archiving purposes

5. Extra Professional Development Opportunities

Dr. Sturm brought up the idea of additional professional development opportunities outside of the WVMEA conference. She mentioned that it was something that WVU could handle while we are at their honor orchestra event.

6. Newsletter

Dr. Sturm mentioned that there has only been two newsletters in the past two years. This was because she hadn't been getting news items from the other string teachers. She said that ASTA suggests two to three newsletters per year.

Eva DelGallo said that we need to share more so that others can get an idea of what's happening. Rayce Leib said that we needed better messaging of state events and wanted more email updates. Dr. Sturm finished the discussion with a request for more pics of kids.

7. WVU Cello Day

As of this meeting was slated to occur sometime towards the end of September. At least one year of cello study was requested of potential applicants.

8. WVU Viola Boot Camp

Will occur from June 18-21. Tuition aid will possibly be available.

9. Treasurer's Report

Ms. Brock reported that String Day did very well. She filed our state report and pay our corporation fee of \$25. She also said that we have to file a 990N for the IRS.

Dr. Sturm brought up the idea of using the extra money to either start a scholarship fund to help a student attend an event, or to commission a piece for next year's All State Middle School Orchestra. She asked Ms. Brock if that money had already been allocated for something else. Ms. Brock replied that it had not. Ben Podolski called a motion for a line item of \$2,500 for the commissioning of a piece for the All State Middle School Orchestra, which was accepted.

Dr. Sturm called a motion to start a scholarship. After discussion with the general body, the scope of the scholarship was refined for national-level events only, and that applications for the scholarship would need to be reviewed by committee. Further details of the scholarship were agreed to be ironed out later. Ms. DelGallo asked what yearly expenses the group can put aside. Ms. Brock replied that that amount was listed in the treasurer's report. Ms. DelGallo asked if the surplus was unusual. Ms. Brock replied that it was not and had been creeping up. Ms. DelGallo asked what amount Ms. Brock would feel comfortable with setting aside, which she answered with up to \$500, but that would require at least a vote.

Finally, Ms. Brock mentioned that signature cards needed to be updated because they mention officers that are no longer part of the organization.

10. All-State Orchestra Report

The All State Chairs said that things were going good. Justin Jones said that the forms may need tweaking. Mr. Leib asked what would happen if auditions ere to become regional, like with the band. There would be the possibility that we'd get more kids in the groups, but we'd have to pay the judges more. Dr. Sturm replied that we would have to quadruple in size before we can start to think about that idea.

Next year's auditions will be held at Bridgeport High School on January 5th, 2019.

11. Annual Awards

Annual awards was something that started last year. The deadline to nominate people is April 15th. The nomination link is on the website.

For outstanding high school senior, Mr. Podolski suggested requiring applicants be in All State for all 4 years, while consistently moving up in seating, and go on to study music after high school. Dr. Sturm replied that she'd rather have the requirements be more open.

Some nominations were taken. Mr. Podolski nominated Justin Jones as outstanding classroom teacher. Sandra Groce and Mary Wilson were nominated for outstanding studio teacher, and Eva DelGallo and Arlene Bennet were nominated for the distinguished service award.

12. Future Meeting Dates

Dr. Sturm reported that ere was some talk about moving the WVMEA conference up a week (to a date that wouldn't conflict with the ASTA conference), but there was concern that there would be trouble with booking All State conductors.

13. Elections

Ms. Brock nominated Dr. Sturm to continue as WV-ASTA president, seeing as how Andrea Houde is going for tenure and would be overworked. Andrea was nominated to continue as president-elect. Dr. Sturm nominated Dr. Jeffrey Lipscomb as secretary, which he was elected for. Kathryn Higgins and Patty Brock were nominated and elected to be co-treasurers. Mr. Rihn and Dr. Sturm were nominated and elected as String Day chairs. Seth Stemple was nominated and elected as the WV Orchestra Festival assistant.

For the WV Orchestra Directors Association, Nathan Rihn was nominated and elected as president, and Shelby Genberg was nominated and elected s vice-president.

14. Items from WVMEA

Dr. Sturm reported that for students to be eligible for All-State ensembles, their teachers must be members of the WVMEA, and must be at the conference. Membership must be current as of judging and acceptance. There are no problems with students paying by credit card, but application fees are non-refundable. There was also a heads up that state dues will be raised to \$30, and conference dues will also be up slightly starting next year.

The higher-ups want more participation in the Solo and Ensemble festivals. Ideas for incentives were talked about, such as a state level adjudication for all that earned superior ratings, or a plaque or a ribbon. Dr. Lipscomb mentioned those ideas seemed redundant because there is already an honors recital reserved for participants earning superior ratings. It was then agreed upon that pins, denoting different ratings, might be best.

Meeting was adjourned