

**ILLINOIS GRADE SCHOOL MUSIC ASSOCIATION**  
**Northern Division**  
**64th ANNUAL STATE FALL MEMBERSHIP MEETING**  
**Monday, September 23, 2002**  
**Maria's Restaurant - Morris, IL**

**MINUTES OF THE MEETING**

The 64th Annual Fall Membership Meeting of the Illinois Grade School Music Association, Northern Division, held at Maria's Restaurant in Morris, was called to order at 10:05 A.M. by President Wesley Russell. President Russell welcomed the membership and introduced members of the Executive Committee, the District Chairpersons including new District Three Chairperson Michael Brown, and new District Nine Chairperson, Deborah Shofner, and the Advisors.

Traffic conditions delayed the arrival of the Barbara Buehlman Award recipient, Stacey Larson, leading to a revision of the agenda by President Russell to allow the awards presentations later in the meeting.

A motion to accept the Minutes of the 2001 Annual Fall State Membership Meeting was made by Sandra Thompson. Second: Joseph Goble **Motion Carried**

Vice President Robert Page presented a report, calling attention to the sample medal display on the table. Mr. Page explained the color of the medal and pendant, including reference to the old medals and the manner in which they are to be used. Mr. Page announced that the price of the medals will increase to \$1.15, up from \$1.05. Mr. Page also showed the State Festival medals, the Participation Plaque, plus the Plaque for those receiving Honor Status at the Festival. Mr. Page announced that the old Jazz Band plaques have all been issued and that new plaques will now be used.

The Audit Report was presented and the records were found to be in order. Sandra Thompson moved to accept the Audit Report. Second: Alan Kiser **Motion Carried**

Executive Secretary-Treasurer Edward Jones presented the Financial Reports, stating that the Association had a cash balance of \$30,797.00 as of June 30, 2002. The report was filed for audit.

**Report of the Executive Board:**

- 1) Recommendations - That salaries of the President, Vice President, Executive Secretary-Treasurer, and Clerical Staff be increased five percent.
- 2) That an additional alternate date for the State Contest/Festival be established to allow the resolution of conflicts due to Spring Break experienced by some member schools.
- 3) Reaffirmed that, at Organization Contests, no playing shall occur other than in the designated Warm-Up area. Also that no groups will warm-up in the Performance Room.
- 4) Clarified that, at Solo Contests, only the Judge has the authority to clear the contest room, not the contestant.

The Report of the Nominating Committee was presented by Chairperson Edward Winkler, with the recommendation that the current officers, President Wesley Russell, Vice President Robert Page, and Executive Secretary-Treasurer Edward Jones, be retained in office for the coming year. Hearing no nominations from the floor Mr. Winkler moved to close the nominations. Second: Joseph Goble **Motion Carried**

Kent Norris moved that the recommended officers be elected/appointed. Second: Tom Lamb **Motion Carried**

**Old Business**

President Russell explained his charge to the Board to bring recommendations for the revision of Contest Comment sheets. Robert Page interpreted the three-page handout that included the Band-Orchestra Contest Comment Sheet, the Supplement to the Adjudication Forms-Band, and the Rubric sheet, explaining the intended use of each sheet. Though the sample sheets were for Band-Orchestra, note was made that sheets are to be developed for each performance category. The Rubric, as presented, is currently intended for State Contest/Festival use only. Mr. Page elaborated on how this tool can aid the judging process. Use of the descriptors on the Rubric will raise the expectations for performance levels at the Contests/Festivals. If developed for District level contests, the difficulty encountered will be that of making the sheet "easier." Therefore, the sheet is not intended for use at the District level.

A question from the floor was received regarding the "Balance" category on the Rubric sheet. President Russell recommended that "box" three be moved to replace "box" two, and that a new descriptor for "box" four be developed in order to solve the

perceived problem. The Rubric will be placed on the Web to generate comments and suggestions. It is the desire of the Board to finalize this Rubric at the Spring Meeting to allow a vote at the Annual Fall Meeting. Further information was issued indicating that the three sheet "packet" for each performance category will be placed on the Web, together with the names of the persons who will Chair the sheets in each category, to allow for input to these Chairpersons from the membership.

Comment was received from the floor that, reading from left to right on the Rubric sheet, a more consistent vertical alignment will add clarity to the sheet.

Victor Pazik mentioned that a Judges' Training meeting for use of the Rubric, such as those held in Indiana, would be beneficial.

### **New Business**

President Russell explained that the Board Recommendations are in the form of a motion, requiring only a Second to be acted upon by the assembly.

The Board recommended that:

1) The word "Appearance" be eliminated from comment sheets in each instance where it appears. Second: Tom Lamb

**Recommendation Adopted**

2) That the word "General" be removed from "General Interpretation and Musicianship" on each comment sheet where it now appears. Second Debra Shofner **Recommendation Adopted**

3) The word "Blend" be added to "Balance" on the Wind and String Ensemble Comment Sheet, category three. Second: John Armstrong **Recommendation Adopted**

4) The word "Musicianship" replace the word "Style" in each instance where it appears on comment sheets. Second: Peggy Hawse **Recommendation Adopted**

5) The categories on the Vocal Solo Comment Sheet shall be as follows:

I - Intonation/Tone Quality II - Pitch Accuracy III - Interpretation and Musicianship IV - Dynamics

V - Rhythmic Accuracy VI - Technique/Diction VII - Stage Presentation

Ellen Singer, Committee Chairperson, spoke to the rationale for changes, especially the Pitch category. Second: Ann Marie Markle **Recommendation Adopted**

6) The categories on the Vocal Ensemble Comment Sheet and the Choral Contest Comment Sheet be as follows:

I - Intonation/Tone Quality II - Pitch Accuracy III - Balance/Blend IV - Interpretation and Musicianship

V - Rhythmic Accuracy VI - Technique/Diction VII - Stage Presentation

Second: Victor Pazik A question was raised, asking that if the performers are singing the correct notes, are those not pitches? The question suggested that Pitch Accuracy and Intonation be combined. It was explained that the "descriptors" will clarify the intent of the sheet when they are utilized. **Recommendation Adopted**

7) The category four on the Piano Solo and Ensemble Comment Sheet be changed to read "Rhythmic Accuracy." Second: Joseph Goble **Recommendation Adopted**

8) The word "Blend" be added in category three on the Band-Orchestra Comment Sheet. Second: Alan Kiser **Recommendation Adopted**

9) The categories on the Swing/Show Choir Comment Sheet be as follows:

I - Intonation/Tone Quality II - Pitch Accuracy III - Balance/Blend IV - Interpretation and Musicianship

V - Rhythmic Accuracy VI - Technique/Diction VII - General Effect/Choreography

Second: Ann Marie Markle **Recommendation Adopted**

10) The Jazz Band Comment Sheet category four shall read "Interpretation of Style/Musicianship" and that the format of the sheet conform to that of other comment sheets. Second: Peggy Bonner **Recommendation Adopted**

11) The President, Vice President, and Secretary-Treasurer receive a 5% increase in salary as follows: President - \$151.20 (\$3175.20), Vice President - \$189.00 (\$3969.00), and Executive Secretary-Treasurer - \$378.00 (\$7938.00).

Second: Peggy Bridges **Recommendation Adopted**

12) The part-time clerical secretary for the Secretary-Treasurer's office receive a 5% salary increase - \$207.90 (\$4365.90)  
Second: Kent Norris **Recommendation Adopted**

Fee Increase - President Russell spoke to the issue of a fee increase, pointing out that any change voted now will not take effect until next year. He explained the options from the form presented to the Board, indicating that the fee per school proposal had been rejected. The Recommendation was that the School District fee of \$70.00 remain and that the Director's Fee be increased to \$10.00. Second: Larry Henry In discussion the question was raised regarding the adequacy of this increase. Mr. Jones responded that the anticipation is that it will. In addition, medal costs were explained. **Recommendation Adopted**

During the discussion of establishing State Contest/Festival dates for 2003, the sites and dates available were presented. It was recommended that the alternate Date of May 3rd be added for State Organization Contest/Festival, contingent on finding a host. Second: Cindy Bridges **Recommendation Adopted**

President Russell commented on the past "Festival" and the positive reaction to the clinic session from both parents and the clinicians. In response to the question regarding the criteria for going to the Festival, the explanation was given that, having received a Division I rating at the District Organization Contest, a group is eligible to attend the Festival site, pending sufficient room. The Awards system for the Festival was explained, including that the Honors Status will be posted on the Web.

As the result of the change in procedure for receiving information regarding the State Contest/Festival and the manner in which Organizations will register for that event, it was recommended that the language in Article X - Communications be changed, eliminating the sentence "The state contest information letter and entry form will be sent to all administrators and directors," replacing it with "A Contest/Festival Information Packet will be presented to the directors of Organizations receiving a Division I rating at the District contest who indicate the intent to attend the State Contest/Festival."  
Second: Ellen Singer **Recommendation Adopted**

Relating to the recommendation just adopted, it was further recommended that the language in item #10 under By-Laws, DISTRICTS, be adjusted to conform to the language in Article X - Communications, as amended. Second: Ann Marie Markle **Recommendation Adopted**

#### **Other**

Five Year Plan - Boundary Lines: Lisa Kiener-Barnett was appointed Chairperson, together with Committee members John Armstrong and Ellen Singer, who will submit recommendations for changes if and as needed.

President Russell recommended that the Jazz Band Comment Sheet be adjusted, under Soloists, to read "Musicianship and Creativity in presenting written or improvised solos." Second: Cory Walavich **Recommendation Adopted**

Robert Page moved that the Descriptors on the Band-Orchestra Organization Comment Sheet be accepted as indicated on the hand-out sheet. Second: Joseph Goble **Motion Carried**

Ellen Singer described the Descriptors for the Choral Organization Comment Sheet as determined by Committee, and moved that they be accepted. Second: John Armstrong **Motion Carried**

Ellen Singer related the criteria for recommending an addition to the Descriptors in category seven of the Show/Swing Choir Contest Comment Sheet and moved that the change(s) be implemented. Second Ann Marie Markle **Motion Carried**

Lisa Kiener-Barnett moved that the Descriptors for the Jazz Band Comment sheet as proposed be implemented. Second: Alan Kiser **Motion Carried**

President Russell announced that Alan Kiser had volunteered to act as "Web Master" for the Organization. Appreciation was expressed by the assembly.

#### **Motions From The Floor**

1) Philip Hash moved that Bands attending the Festival Contest may choose not to perform a march. Second: Kent Norris Following much discussion, both for and against the motion, President Russell called for a show of hands in the voting process. Counting 65 voting members, the **Motion Failed** due to the lack of a majority.

2) Victor Pazik moved that two Festival Sites be hosted to accommodate the interest of the membership, and geography. Second: Peggy Bonner Following discussion, the **Motion was Withdrawn**

- 3) Linda Stokowski moved to continue piloting the IGSMA State Contest/Festival format with sites as needed to accommodate the level of interest and location/travel times of the participants. Second: Victor Pazik **Motion Carried**
- 4) John Armstrong moved to make the Jazz Band Contest Comment sheet consistent in appearance with all other Organization comment sheets. Second: Joseph Goble **Motion Carried**
- 5) Joseph Titus moved to remove from the Constitution, on page 8, the language describing the use of organization cards and their description. Second: Sandra Thompson **Motion Carried**
- 6) Robert Page moved to amend the Constitution reference of entry cards to cards/forms, on page 8. Second: Ann Marie Markle **Motion Carried**

#### **Presentation of the Cloyd Myers Memorial Award**

Lisa Kiener-Barnett, a member of the Selection Committee, made the presentation of the Cloyd Myers Memorial Award, with comments regarding the recipient prior to the actual presentation of the Award to Wesley Russell. Biographical data was related by Mrs. Kiener-Barnett, including the numerous accomplishments and awards which Mr. Russell has received in the past, together with references to his leadership and inspiration as President of IGSMA. Comments of appreciation were expressed by Mr. Russell in receiving the Award, indicating that "It is an honor to have my name on that plaque." Mr. Russell was enthusiastically acknowledged by the assembly in their applause for him.

#### **Presentation of the Barbara Buehlman Young Conductor Award**

Ellen Singer related the qualifications for the Barbara Buehlman Young Conductor Award, and in doing so related information relative to the outstanding accomplishments of the 2002 Award recipient, Stacey Larson. The initial presentation of the Award was made at the District Eight Membership Meeting. Miss Larson arrived at the conclusion of the luncheon, at which time those in attendance acknowledged her with their applause.

President Russell indicated that the Barbara Buehlman Award Selection Committee will remain intact for the coming year. The Cloyd Myers Memorial Award Selection Committee for the coming year will be chaired by John Armstrong, together with committee members Lisa Kiener-Barnett, Joseph Goble, and the previous two recipients of the Award.

Lisa Kiener-Barnett moved that the Constitution, on page five, be revised to indicate the addition of "the previous two recipients of the Award" to the language appearing there. Second: Cory Walavich **Motion Carried**

President Russell referred to the "How To Host A Contest" book, originally authored by Barbara Buehlman, and extended appreciation to John Armstrong for his contributions in the preparation of the text for the current revision.

Joseph Goble moved to adjourn the 64th Annual Fall State Meeting of IGSMA at 12:20 P.M. Second: Joseph Titus **Motion Carried**