Meeting Minutes , February 14, 2014

The meeting was called to order at 10:03.

Officers and members were introduced.

The treasurer’s report was given by Lynda Reid.

The Vice President’s report was given by Brent Colwell.

Auditions went smoothly. Working with the hotel has gone smoothly, and the membership is encouraged to thank the hotel staff.

The Jazz Organizer’s report was given by Larry Greer.

All went well. Mr. Greer recommended trying to use Room 418 every year, by booking as early as possible. We are prepared with backup electronics for the concert.

Lee Hudson gave the Symphonic Band Organizer’s report.

All went well, and everyone’s help was solicited for the convention center Saturday.

Norm Bergeron gave the Percussion Organizer’s report. All went well.

Phillip Lowe gave the Archive report.

He still needs program from 1975, 1976, 1977, and 1984, and recordings from 1988 and1989.

Old Business:

Email updates should be sent to the President.

The website will be used for official business.

As was the case this year, in the future TMEA will pull badges for preregistered TCCBDA students and directors.

The membership is encouraged to “like” the TCCBDA facebook page.

Brent Colwell reported on the pilot study for electronic audition submission. It worked seamlessly. The interface we are using is Dropbox.

TCCBDA anticipates having Paypal on our website by audition time next year.

Regarding the revision of all-state judging forms, Brent Colwell reported no complaints.

Brian Harris reported on looking into the possibility of a commissioned piece for the 45th anniversary of TCCBDA. It has been 17-18 years since we hosted a commission. Brian Harris requested feedback on instrumentation and level (where our home bands can play it). Discussion followed. General agreement was for full instrumentation with moderate percussion. Brian Harris took a list of suggested composers. Abel Ramirez asked about price parameters, and Derrick Logozzo asked about the possibility of doing it as a consortium. Sparky Koerner mentioned that a jazz commission is also a possibility.

Harry Blake reported on the committee studying clinicians’ choosing music outside our normal instrumentation (double reeds, alto clarinet, contra clarinet, etc.). The clinician needs to be aware of difficulty of keyboard/harp parts, and whether any unusual percussion is obtainable. The clinician should plan to use anything they ask for. Mike McGowan asked about the possibility of cross-cuing, and Brack May pointed out if we add keyboard, we need to consider the eligibility of the student auditioning. The truck accessibility is extremely useful for unusual instrumentation.

New Business:

The membership welcomed Eric Baker from Odessa College. Lee Hudson informed that the new band director at Navarro College is Jerry Whorton.

Brent Colwell spoke regarding participation in jazz auditions. Only 4 trumpets auditioned, 6 trombones, just the right number or saxes, etc. The number of trumpets auditioning was down in both bands. Brent Colwell suggested cutting the jazz wind auditions in half, by using the 2nd half of each page, as it would still be difficult music, just less of it. Discussion followed. Mike McGowan asked if we can use excerpts from the programmed tunes. Accessibility is not an issue, as the etudes are released the previous May 15. Richard Birk mentioned that TJEA is looking at updating the etude packet. Jazz etude books are also a possibility. The idea of using blues changes for improv, instead of a song form, was discussed. We will need to find out if our ideas are legitimate according to TMEA.

Lee Hudson moved, and Phillip Lowe seconded, a committee be formed to study this, and to have a proposal ready by TBA. The motion passed.

Craig Garrett moved, and Jill Stewart seconded, that our jazz judges from this past year make up the committee. Ken Booker will substitute for Mike McGowan on that committee. David Griffith made an addendum that Richard Birk be included on the committee, because of his involvement with TJEA. This also passed.

President May proposed hiring a guest artist who would perform one song with the jazz band and one song with the symphonic band, to enrich the student experience, and to increase our audience size. Derrick Logozzo suggested a corporate sponsor. This would not be in lieu of the student concerto. Phillip Lowe reiterated that our time slot is the biggest problem for gaining an audience. Brent Colwell pointed out that it would be difficult to spend funds on both a commission and a guest artist. The proposal died.

The need was discussed to revise TCCBDA Form 3 to include arrival and departure dates, as the TI:ME clinic starts Wednesday. Jim Laughlin moved in favor of this, and Lee Hudson seconded. The motion passed.

Regarding a Percussion Crew for 2015:

TMEA will pay for the cost of their room. They can be students from the Percussion Organizer’s school. Norm Bergeron expressed the need for the Percussion Organizer to have the percussion students’ cell phone numbers so they can be contacted on Wednesday afternoon.

President May requested a motion to have the immediate past president collate policy changes. Todd Quinlan will become the webmaster. The question was raised whether it would be the responsibility of the secretary or the immediate past president to get information to Todd Quinlan. Richard Birk moved, Ben Irom seconded, and the motion passed.

Regarding editing the student concerto for time:

Harry Blake questioned the 8 minute limit. General agreement is the concerto should be between 8 and 10 minutes. The proposal was re-stated that the concerto be under 10 minutes. Mike Matchael moved, Harry Blake seconded, and the proposal passed.

Nominations were taken for clinicians for next year.

Jazz nominees:

Aric Schneller

Jim Riggs

Akira Sato

Joe Eckert

Dan Haerle

Alex Parker

Brad Leali

Richard Birk moved that nominations cease. Kris Chapman seconded. The motion passed.

Symphonic nominees:

Eugene Corporan

Tom Bennett

Don Lefevre

John Whitwell

Jim Keene

Bobby Francis

Doug Stotter

Harry Blake moved nominations cease. Ben Irom seconded. The motion passed.

Audition Judges for 2015 were named:

Flute : Lynne Brandt

Double reeds and low clarinets: Ken Booker

Clarinets: Brent Colwell

Saxes: Joe Waldrop

Trumpets: Eric Baker

Horns: Harry Blake

Trombones: Larry Campbell

Euphoniums: Brent Colwell

Tubas: Lee Hudson

Percussion: Norm Bergeron

Piano: Ben Irom

String Bass: Lee Hudson

Jazz Brass: Sparky Koerner

Jazz Reeds: Kevin McNerney

Jazz Rhythm: Norm Bergeron

Regarding electronic auditions: This coming year we would like to try bass clarinets, trumpets, and the whole jazz band. Richard Birk moved, and Sparky Koerner seconded, that jazz band would be included in the electronic auditions. Richard Birk moved, and Lee Hudson seconded, that bass clarinets and trumpets would be included in the electronic auditions. Both motions passed. As we are moving toward more of this, a training session will be offered at next year’s TMEA for our membership.

CD submissions will still be acceptable.

It was mentioned that attendance at the TCCBDA meeting during TBA is a concern.

Offices to be filled for the coming term:

The executive committee nominated Brent Colwell for President, Derrick Logozzo for Vice President, Ken Booker for Symphonic Band Organizer, and Harry Blake for Audition Organizer. All were elected by acclamation.

President May nominated Steve Hart for Symphonic Band Music Organizer. Harry Blake spoke briefly about the responsibilities of that office. Phillip Lowe seconded, and Steve Hart was elected by acclamation.

In additional new business:

Mike Matchael suggested the judging panel chairpersons pick the cuts. Discussion followed. The suggestion was not acted upon.

Jim Laughlin suggested a college student composition competition for jazz band, rather than a commission. Richard Birk moved, and Sparky Koerner seconded, that Jim Laughlin will chair a committee to look into this. Brian Harris pointed out that submissions would need to include a live band recording.

Roy Allen asked if we could do the same thing for concert band, but the discussion was generally negative. Brian Harris moved, and Phillip Lowe seconded, to table the discussion regarding symphonic band, and that motion passed.

Phillip Lowe requested an earlier performance time on Saturday. Discussion followed. Brent Colwell will explore this request with Frank Coachman.

Regarding tomorrow’s move, the truck will arrive at the hotel at noon. The hotel is giving us till 1 pm to get out.

Jim Laughlin reported that Downbeat is considering adding a Community College section.

Norm Bergeron requested and moved that the percussion section have auxiliary auditions. He will chair a committee to look into this and present recommendations at the TBA meeting. Brian Harris seconded this and the motion passed.

Derrick Logozzo asked if there was a list of contacts for Texas Community Colleges.

Richard Birk moved and Brian Harris seconded for adjournment. The meeting was adjourned at 11:56 a.m. The membership thanked President Brack May for his service.