



District VI- Connecticut Valley Music Festival Association

Saturday, November 18, 2023 - 10:00 AM

Attended: Kristen Chapman , Julie Ackerman-Hovis , James Pecsok, Ellen Boles, Danielle St. Amand, Alex Brady, Mike Conerty, Jamie Burnstein, Brian Stamblman, Mike Foley, Tom Nashaka, Kira Carmicheal, Mallory Fagoras, Steve Cady, Rebecca Towne, Rebecca Wood, Andrea Nardone, Bunny Seranita, Danielle Conerty, Steve Turro, John Loose,

- Welcome - James Pecsok, District VI President
 - [Any New Members](#)
- Secretary's Report - [August Meeting Minutes](#) motion to approve Danielle first, Mike second, So moved
- Treasurer's Report - Kristen Chapman \$5533 going into the festival. \$4358 pre door payments today. Spent on 2 pieces we didn't use, but will be purchased from a school in the district possibly. The August meeting had a mistake on check: Julie's check 1621. Added tax ID number into invoice due to a school having issue with school's paying. We are a non taxable organization. If your front office needs that number it is on the top of the invoices. Motion to accept by Mike, Second by Andrea, So moved.
- Webmaster's Report - Julie Ackerman-Hovis
sites.google.com/view/D6CVMFA
A company has said our domain name was a threat so our current site. The above link is how we can currently view them. Updated we are just struggling with being able to access them from school computers. Danielle C asks if there can be a forms tab. Julie would like to add that in the future. If you can't find something reach out to Julie. Alex motioned to approve, Danielle St.A seconded, So moved.
- [2023-2024 Year at a Glance](#) - looks good for now
- Fall Festival

Cars can be moved by 1 pm closer to school. Lunch for managers provided according to schedule along with those who ordered. Discussion about logistics for concert seating/ piano needs. Changing locations will be gym locker rooms for high school,

- Winter Festival Hosts/Managers (See table below)
Alex needs chairs for winter festival.
- Committees
 - Middle School Instrumental Committee Report Alex and Tom only ones. Talked about winter festival
 - Jazz Ensemble Committee Report- Conductor is used to working with middle school which is great. If you know a middle school conductor who also teaches jazz let Mike know for consideration of conductors in future. [Manager report not committee](#)
 - Middle School Choral Committee Report

- Clothing Bank
- Ellen - Fees
- Conductor is a friend of Kristen and works with middle. They have made great progress. Went with SSA or two part music which is less challenging, but groups are younger than usual and we were lacking baritone. Students are still being challenged. [Manager report not committee](#)
- Clothing bank brought up at MS choral committee as lots of students struggling to get concert clothes. Becca Towne will be spearheading that. If you have any clothing for students contact her!
- **Julie makes a motion to change the dress code to black top and black bottom for all future festivals . Pants, skirts or dresses should be at least to the knee and accompanied with black tights and black shoes. Andrea Seconds. So moved. Effective tomorrow.**
- Ellen brought forth that fees were high for her school. Mike voiced that some schools may be able to fall under the VPA to be covered by principals as a line item in their budget. Brattleboro HS spent \$4200 for this festival's fees and buses. Table this discussion for winter festival
 - High School Instrumental Committee [Report](#) - going well, easier music than in past but they are feeling super successful. If you have conductor ideas let a HS band person know. [Manager report not committee](#)
- Talked about the recommendation/audition process. Moving towards auditioning again but have it recorded and adjusted the repertoire. Looked through Standard of Excellence books to have repertoire ready for winter meeting. Alex motions for hs concert band to move to recorded audition with adjusted repertoire and rubric. ___ Seconded, So moved.
 - High School Choral Committee Report- Conductor is great from Holyoke. Very well prepared students coming into the festival. Only two schools auditioned for a cappella which is concerning. [Manager report not committee](#)
- Nothing further to add
- Winter Festival-

MS Band: December 11 is the deadline for student recommendations. Program should be more accessible for all level of students.

HS Jazz: Have a conductor who will bring some charts to the festival. Built resource folder for Jazz auditions. Encourage students who may not be sure if they are a fit.

HS Choir: Premiering one of the conductors pieces along with other songs that will have to be ordered. Recommendation based but should be able to sing their part on the audition song to you.
- [Handbook](#)
- District Recognition
 - Awards committee: Andrea Nardone, Danielle Conerty, Nick Pelton, Tom Nasiatka, Alex Brady
 - Deadline Extended: Nominations due at the fall festival using this [Google Form](#) due 12/1

Currently 0 nominations. Please fill out the form!

- Music-COMP PD for January Festival?
 - Music COMP reached out and asked if they could provide PD for 3 hours for \$300. Contact James if interested or a form may go out.
- Board Positions
 - President-Elect

Position has been vacant for a while. If you would like to know about position talked to James Pescok. Tabled till winter festival
 - Secretary

Danielle St. Amand nominated Ellen Boles. Alex Brady seconded. So moved. YAY!
- Adjournment

Bunny Motions to adjourn the meeting. Rebecca seconds. So moved. Adjourned.

Fall Festival

Hosts	Hartford
HS Concert Band Manager	Danielle Conerty
MS Jazz Band Manager	Mike Conerty
HS A Capella Choir Manager	Julie Ackerman-Hovis
MS Chous Managers	Danielle St. Amand & Kristen Chapman

Winter Festival

Host	Green Mountain (needs equipment)
HS Choir Manager	Andrea Nardone
HS Jazz Band Manager	Steve Cady
MS Concert Band Manager	Rene Bernard