

Mississippi Bandmasters Association  
Fall Meeting – Ridgeland High School  
August 26, 2017 - 2:00 p.m.

- Sharon Laird, President of the MBA, called the meeting to order and made opening remarks and introduced the Executive Board
  - Len Killough, 1<sup>st</sup> Vice President
  - Jerry Pickering, 2<sup>nd</sup> Vice President
  - Lane Thompson, Immediate Past President
  - Kim Hallmark, current Member at Large
  
- Ted Burns gave the invocation
  
- Each Director present introduced themselves
  
- Lane Thompson presented the candidates for the new 3<sup>rd</sup> Vice President, District 3 & 4 as well as a new Member at Large: (1) Shawn Sullivan, Starkville High School, (2) Kelli Wallace, Cleveland Central High School. There were no nominations from the floor. Demario Jefferson, Justin Harvison and Vance Wiggington spoke on behalf of Shawn Sullivan; and Mr. Lacey and Clay Fuller spoke on behalf of Ms. Wallace.
  - By a vote of 66 to 39, Shawn Sullivan was voted in as new 3<sup>rd</sup> Vice President
  
- Mr. Thompson also presented one nominee for Member at Large, Quinton Parker from Vancleave High School. Susan Schumann and Matt Pickering spoke on behalf of Mr. Parker. As there were no nominations from the floor, Mr. Parker will be the new Member at Large.
  
- On motion made and duly seconded, Shawn Sullivan and Quinton Parker were approved as new 1<sup>st</sup> VP and Member at Large.
  
- Mr. Thompson thanked Kim Hallmark for serving as 2016-2017 Member at Large.
  
- Jerry Pickering read the minutes from the December 2016 meeting. After motion made and duly seconded, the minutes were approved as read.
  
- Len Killough presented handout for MBA. On motion made and duly seconded the report was approved as presented. Mr. Killough also presented the financial statement for marching championships. On motion made and duly seconded it was approved as presented.
  
- Ms. Laird introduced Jeff Cannon as the new State Band Events Coordinator for the Mississippi High School Activities Association and asked that he give the MHSAA report.

- Mr. Cannon reported:
    - tools are now in place to begin rotating judges for state concert evaluation
    - one day has been added to each site for state concert evaluation to allow more time slots in order to shorten the days for judges and to allow for more tie slots
    - when submitting your requests for preference for a performance time for state evaluation, please three options, and these will be considered on a first come, first serve base and each request will be time stamped
    - judges for state evaluation will be brought in a day ahead of time this year to school them on the evaluation sheets
  - Mr. Cannon asked for any questions from the floor
    - Donnie Newman asked for a clarification on the distribution of medals for state concert evaluation. Mr. Cannon responded there a rules in place that determine the color of the medal given to each concert or symphonic band, and while the rules have not always been fairly applied in the past and after discussions with Mr. Hinton at MHSAA, medals will be distributed according the the rules established until such time the body requests a change in the rule.
    - It was brought up for the body to consider reinstating Solo and Ensemble, possibly having retired band directors to serve as evaluators and to schedule it towards the end of the school year.
    - One of the smaller class directors asked stated that instrumentation is sometimes compromised in smaller classes and asked that the judges be given instruction to keep this in mind when judging the smaller class bands. Mr. Cannon noted this has been discussed each year with the judges, but he will make a special effort to reiterate this in the future.
    - Every year we have issues with directors asking to go down a class or be evaluated for comments only. Also asked that criteria be established and put on the bandmaster website. Mr. Cannon noted that requests should be made in writing to the MBA executive board.
  - Mr. Cannon stated he would like to attend each district's band clinics and meetings and asked that they contact him with the dates and times if they would like him to attend.
- Mr. Killough requested that all requests online include a W-9 form with their check requests because a different address is used each year. When paying multiple fees be sure to indicate the various areas where fees are included and for what school so that the fees can be applied to the appropriate school for the appropriate categories.
  - Ted Burns stated the sites for State Marching Evaluation along with the judges for each site. Class 6A championships will be at Germantown High School and held on October

28<sup>th</sup>, and all other classes will be on November 4<sup>th</sup> at Pearl High School and Clinton High School.

- Mr. Cannon reported:
  - Timing penalties have been in the rules for several years but have not been enforced; however, they will be enforced at this year's championships and in the future.
  - Lions Band won its 33<sup>rd</sup> International Championship this summer. There were 856 students who auditioned and all only nine alternates were brought up into this year's band.
  - Lions Band tryouts will be at Pearl High School on November 18<sup>th</sup> and 25<sup>th</sup>; however, the colorguard, dance and drum major tryouts will not be until January 6<sup>th</sup> and 20<sup>th</sup> at the request of many directors who feel they do not have sufficient time to prepare during football season.
  
- Mr. Rigdon announced that forms to request Wednesday night housing in Natchez should be submitted no later than December 1<sup>st</sup>.
  
- Kim Hallmark asked that anyone interested in judging at State Band Clinic let her know within the next two weeks. There will be two high school students and one middle school student from each school and they these should be submitted on line and checks mailed to me. Once the all-state band has been chosen, if schools have more than two students, the band program will be responsible for all student fees.
  
- Ms. Laird announced:
  - USM and Ocean Springs High school will be presenting concerts at this year's State Band Clinic in Natchez.
  - If you would like to volunteer to serve as a band chairman, judge or help with registration at State Band Clinic please notify anyone on the MBA Executive Board.
  - There will be a committee formed to pursue a MHSAA Championship for Show Bands
  
- Old Business
  - Motion was made to approved the non-voting executive secretary position to serve a five-year term with annual review by the executive board. This is the second vote by the body which is required for final approval according to the bylaws. On motion made and duly seconded this position passed.
  - After discussions, it was voted to table until December 2017 the motion for the blue band be a dedicated band for middle school students.
  
- New Business
  - No new business

- On motion made and duly seconded, the meeting was adjourned.

Minutes presented by:

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Shawn Sullivan, 3<sup>rd</sup> Vice President  
Starkville High School