

NABBA Board of Directors Meeting April 5, 2018
Fort Wayne, Indiana

Thursday April 5, 2018...6:33 p. m. Meeting called to order and welcome by President
Randi Bulla

*In attendance: Randi Bulla (President)
Joel Collier (Vice President)
Dave Jones (Secretary)
Don Bookout
Anita Cocker-Hunt
Jeremy Gaddy (left meeting at about 7:10 pm)
Caleb DeGroot
Niael Horne
Jon Heaver
Sara North (arrived at 6:55 pm)
Tony Granados
Not in attendance: Paul Redwood, Jason Collier Ron Lutterbie (Treasurer)*

Randi Bulla reported that this year's on-line registration process went well. Randi also praised the efforts of the Old Crown Brass Band in helping with the logistics of this year's contest.

6:40 pm. Review of the Fall Board minutes by Secretary David Jones. Fall Board minutes had an addenda on October 3, 2017 to include vote on RFP for 2019-2021. Amended minutes were approved via Survey Monkey vote. Dave reminded members to approve minutes on line when requested.

Dave also inquired about the whereabouts of the missing digital minutes on the web site. There were several suggestions for leads on who may have these. Dave will take the action of following up on these leads.

6:45 pm. financial update presented by President Bulla for absent Treasurer Ron Lutterbie. Here is a summary of the 2018 projected contest financials:

- Solo and Ensemble entry income solos \$5190 ensembles\$1920
- Band entries Income\$58,900
- Estimated Partner income \$11,700
- 2018 had about 150 solo entries and 48 ensemble entries
- 2018 had 39 band entries
- Solo registration will remain at \$30 per solo and \$40 per ensemble for 2018
- A tenth adjudicator was added. so those expenses will be slightly higher
- Expense of recording are down due to having no DVD
- 2017, 2018 Award banners are being donated by Centre Stage THANK YOU!

Summary: Solo/Ensemble Contest net +\$1996,
Band net+\$3190,
Operations +\$23,112
Savings balance +\$26,046
YEAR END BALANCE +\$54,344 (as per report)

Total Balance after this year's contest will be approximately \$65,000

It was decided to re-imburse Ron for the expenses incurred in correcting the issue with IRS. It is now resolved.

Silver Bells account will be used as a "NABBA Grant" to help regional brass band events such as the one in Dublin, Ohio

7:00 pm -There was further discussion on the banners. Last year's banners will be available at the Center Stage both in the Embassy lobby. All the 2018-22 banners will be free of charge to NABBA from Center stage in exchange for an in-kind Partnership.

7:10 pm. Nigel Horne presented a proposal to completely re-write the NABBA rules. He suggested that this be done outside of the Board meeting structure and perhaps the new rules could be reviewed by legal experts. Discussion followed this and there was a consensus that this needs to be done with the goal a having a permanent set up rules that only need minor adjustments to run each year's contests. Nigel asked President Bulla to take the matter off-line to consider the options.

Caleb Degroote motioned to give Nigel and the Regulatory Committee to review and re-write all NABBA rules. Tony Granados seconded. Vote was 11-0 in favor.

7:20 pm Tony Granados led a discussion on the Youth sections. Our numbers keep growing as there are 7 bands at the 2018 contest, including the first high school affiliated youth band from Avon, Indiana. It is becoming apparent that the Youth Sections need restructuring.

There was then motion by Jon Heaver to re-structure the Youth bands into three section beginning in 2019. The three sections will be:

Youth Open

Youth First section

Youth Championship section.

Randi Bulla seconded

Vote was 11-0 in favor

7:25 pm Don Bookout led a discussion about possibly developing a Fourth Section for the Championships. The goal would be to have more bands attracted to competition as the performance level of each section keeps getting better. There was some concern that by doing this, it would only split the Third section. The discussion then led to an assessment as to why bands do and do not come to NABBA and compete. It was pointed out that we have 4 new bands at NABBA 2018 and a record number of 39 total.

Jon Heaver and Don Bookout will take the action of reaching out to non-competing NABBA bands via phone and e-mail on a fact finding mission to see if the Fourth Section would be an option for newly competing bands.

7:35 pm Break

7:50 pm Randi Bulla led a discussion about adding a third day to the 2019 competition:

- The goal is to have all the bands on the main venue (Embassy) stage
- Dates are clear for the next three years in Fort Wayne
- This is financially feasible given the current status of NABBA finances
- This would allow Master Classes and more time to socialize and possibly bring back the band and Partners reception.
- The structure of the three day event would be Friday, Saturday and Sunday with

the goal of being done no later than 2:00 pm on Sunday to allow for travel.

There was some discussion. Several Board members wondered about the Sunday morning conflicts with Church services. Some concerns were voiced about the structure of who plays when. There were also some concerns about losing some bands because of the new format.

It was determined the Board should first decide about the three day contest, then let the scheduler worry about the details. So a motion was made by Tony Granados and seconded by Jon Heaver to expand the NABBA Championships to three days (Fri, Sat, Sun) beginning with the 2019 Championships.

The motion passed with 10 yes votes and one abstention.

8:11 pm. Regulatory Report...Pat Herak Proposal was presented:

1. Change Maximum Stage time to:
 - Championship 25min set piece/25min own piece
 - First Section 35 min
 - Second Section 35 min
 - Third Section 35 min
 - Open Section 35 min
 - Youth Section 30 min
 - Youth Open 30 min
2. Bands should be prepared to play as early as 3:00 pm on Friday and as early as 8:00am on Saturday
3. Revisit number of solo rules- this may help with the development of regional solo competitions.
4. Solo registrants must list an "accompanist" or "no-accompanist" otherwise the application will be counted as incomplete.
5. Revisit the number of ensembles rule. Currently only 2 from each band. Especially the ten piece ensembles, because they have their own set of rules. This all needs better clarification.
6. NABBA should reach out to Michael O'Connor and Jacob Guilbeau about region contests in the Southern and western United States

Pat's proposals will be incorporated into the re-write of the rules upcoming by Nigel Horne's committee.

There was some discussion about regional contests and events held in Oklahoma. There was also discussion (again) about "blind judging" Randi will poll the judges as to how they feel about this issue. The Board seems to be split on this.

Board members are to give feedback on the running of the 2018 competition quickly so that I can add them to the on-line "suggestions box".

There will also be a return of the NABBA suggestion box in 2019.

8:35 Partner's program update by Caleb Degroote

- Number of Partners is up to 14 music industry Partners
- There are also more Corporate Partners and non -Brass Band based Partners
- Revenue from the 2018 Partners program should be \$11,700
- Communications with Partners, Board members and the Embassy need to be improved.

8:40 pm. Communications report by Joel Collier

- The 2018 NABBA app is launched and is getting much traffic.
- The Brass Band Bridge is back and in a pdf subscription form for at least the next

- 2 years, Tony Granados will work with Joel on the Brass band ride
- The programs for this years are done and look good
- Facebook posts are continually being monitored and some were taken down for inappropriate comments.
- We should be working on contest scheduling 6 months in advance of the contest.

8:50 pm Logistic report-Dave Jones

- Because of spring break of schools in the FW area, OCBB member Terry Fisher did a great job in honoring requests for rehearsal space for bands. This will be the same issue in 2019. Those band directors who kindly donated their band room and Spring Break time were given 2 gratis tickets to the NABBA Championships at will call.
- It was decided not to use the band shell in the Anthony Wayne Ball room (2nd venue) this year. This will save NABBA about \$950.00
- This year's percussion equipment was an in kind Partnership with Conn-Selmer, IPFW and Snider High School.
- Old Crown Brass band again helped with moving in and out and setting up of all the venues.

9:05pm Randi Bulla on various issues:

- Partners will be announced at Award Ceremonies
- Elections for those Board members whose term is up and new members will be held in June. The Exec. Comm. Is not up for election this year.
- Fall Board meeting dates of Sept 7-8 were established. Sept 21-22 is the alternative date. Location is to be determined. The meeting will not necessarily be in Fort Wavne.
- Randi announced she is starting an Adjudicator's training and mentoring program. This will help define, attract and train new adjudicators. This will also improve the quality of judging, given the continued level of performance of NABBA.
- There was some discussion about having bands move up if they win their section 2 years in a row (there would be exceptions and an appeal process) There was no decision on this issue. This will be studied further and could possibly be implemented for the 2020 NABBA Championships.
- Sign- up sheets for announcing were passed around for this year's contest. This took several rounds through the Board.

9:40 pm Motion to adjourn by Randi Bulla and seconded by Dave Jones Vote10-0 in favor.

Submitted by
David Jones
NABBA secretary