

NABBA Board of Directors Meeting September 15, 16 2017
Fort Wayne, Indiana

Friday September 15....6:01 p. m. Meeting called to order by President Randi Bulla

In attendance: Randi Bulla (President) Joel Collier (Vice President)
Dave Jones (Secretary) Ron Lutterbie (Treasurer)
Don Bookout Anita Cocker-Hunt (Sept 16 only)
Jeremy Gaddv Caleb DeGroote
Niael Horne Jon Heaver
Sara North Jason Collier
Bill Waterman Tony Granados
Not in attendance: Paul Redwood

Introductions were made by each individual member.

6:16 pm. Board attendance policy and expectations were outlined by Vice President Joel Collier

- Board members must attend more than 50% of all meetings to remain in good standing
- Board members are expected to serve on standing committees and contribute work on these throughout the year.
- Board members are expect to participate in appropriate conference calls throughout the year.
- Board members are to serve as announcers and participate in organization and running of the Championships event.

6:24 pm. Financial update presented by Treasurer Ron Lutterbie

- 2017 Solo and Ensemble contest netted \$1480
- 2017 Band Contest netted \$5978
- Year-end balance is \$56,192
- 2017 had 135 solo entries and 25 ensemble entries
- 2017 had 33 band entries
- Solo registration will remain at \$20 per solo and \$40 per ensemble for 2018
- 2017 was the first year of a flat band entry fee of \$1600 and \$1200 for youth bands. Suggestion to keep this the same for 2018.

There was some discussion about the band fees and it was suggested that there should be a lower fee for developing bands to encourage participation in the championship event. No action was taken on this.

7:05 pm. A presentation by Visit Fort Wavne about the RFP for 2019-2020 and 2021.

- A gift bag was presented to each Board member.
- Embassy Theatre representative Jared Duymovic (programming director) answered questions about improvements and upgrades to the theatre.
- Missy Eppley (Sales Manager) represented the Grand Wayne Center, which will act as a second venue and solo and ensemble venue.
- Josie O'Donnell presented a bid book and after some discussion and later negotiations the dates for proposed NABBA Championship would be:

April 4 to April 6, 2019
April 16 to April 18, 2020
April 15 to April 17, 2021

- The bid book contained a multi- year proposal for the venues and hotel rooms
- Dan O'Connell, President of Visit Fort Wayne, concluded the presentation by announcing a new hotel will be built in downtown Fort Wayne next to the Courtyard and will help with housing for future NABBA championships.

7:45 pm. BREAK

8:00 pm. Update on Banners by Randi Bulla

- Tors banners is shipping the 2017 banners next week and will then be distributed to each band.
- Centre Stage Uniforms of U. K. (Martin Gernon) has been contacted to provide 15 re-usable banners in three sizes in the future. They will produce these for free (except shipping) in exchange for an in- kind Partner Sponsorship. This will include a display area in the lobby of the Championship venue and an ad in the program.
- The consensus of the board was to accept the proposal of using Centre Stage for future Championships.

8:20 pm. Partner program update was presented by Dave Jones

- 2017 was the first year of the Partner program. All levels of Partners receive vendor space at the Championships, ad space in the program and are recognized on the NABBA web site.
- Paul Redwood will head up this years Partner program and has already contacted all of the 2017 Partners and has received confirmation that many, if not all will return in 2018.
- It was recommended that the Partner program expand to include a "Program" level Partner. These Partners would have a presence in the Championships program and web site, but would not have a vendor space.
- The 2018 Partner application was presented and accepted by the Board. Paul will now work on getting the form up and running on our website and possibly social media.
- ACTION... Later in the meeting Caleb DeGroote presented a further expansion and restructure of the Partner. Caleb has taken the Action of getting this going ASAP.

8:35 pm. 2018 Registration procedure was presented by Ron Lutterbie and Jeremy Gaddy

- Jeremy, Ron and Jason Collier will act as a three person registration committee.
- ACTION Jeremy will develop a new on- line registration procedure to be up and running by mid November.
- Registration was set to launch on- line for the 2018 Championships on November 15. **Registration deadline will be January 19,2018** with a late entry date of

January 26, 2018

- Registration will not be handled by the Embassy Theatre this year. So the registration will be handled by NABBA.
- 2018 contest band fees will be... Early is \$1600/1200, on time another \$150, late yet another \$50
- ACTION... All documents will be provided and shared in Google Drive by the Registration Committee.
- ACTION... Joel Collier will handle the music score procedure. Any changes and directives will be communicated and implemented involving bands and adjudicators. Adjudicators are said to prefer "paper", not digital scores.
- ACTION Caleb DeGroot along with Sara North will develop a SOP of a series of checks on the tabulation and award announcing procedure to avoid future mess ups. This action is also being looked at by the Regulatory Committee.

8:55 pm. Music Selection Committee report (Joel Collier)

2018 test pieces were approved by a vote of 13 yes and 1 abstain. The pieces are:

- Championship Section (16:00 minutes)
As If a Voice in Them-Oliver Waespi (Berlato Music)
- First Section (11:30 minutes)
Diversion on a Bass Theme- George Lloyd (R Smith and Company)
- Second Section (12:00 minutes)
Frontier Vision-Stephen Bulla (DeHask Music)
- Third Section (11:00 minutes)
Lake of the Moon- Kevin Houben (Scherando Music)
- Youth section (8:40 minutes)
Impromptu-Eric Ball (Studio Music)

9:10 pm. There was a discussion about Youth Section led by Tony Granados:

- It was suggested that the Youth Bands be divided into the following Sections: Youth Championship, Youth Intermediate and Youth Open. This would be for bands that are strictly age 18 and under.
- There was a suggestion as the number of collegiate bands continue to grow, that NABBA should consider adding a collegiate division.
- ACTION... Tony Granados will reach out to each Youth band with a survey and information about possible changes to the make up of the Youth competition.

9:30 pm. Randi Bulla presented a proposal to schedule the band competition as a 2- day event

- The idea is to put all all bands in the main venue. A mock schedule was presented to the Board. This would involve running some band events during the day on Friday and running the Youth solo and Ensemble event on Saturday.
- It was also suggested by several Board members that we go back to having the Championship bands play both the test and choice pieces back to back, therefore freeing up more time to schedule bands. There was some objections to this and it was not clear if this would accomplish the stated goal.
- ACTION.... Randi Bulla will have Pat Herak (our scheduler) run possibilities of scheduling all the bands in the main venue.

9: 55 pm. Committee assignments were given by Randi Bulla:

- Regulatory (Chairman, Nigel Horne) Bill, Don, Sara, Jeremy, Tony
- Communications (Chairman, Joel Collier) Jason, Randi
- Logistics (Chairman, Dave Jones) Ron, Anita
- Development (Paul Redwood, Chairman) Caleb, Jon

All committees will meet Saturday morning and report to the full Board later

10:05 pm. Meeting Adjourned for the evening

8:35 am. (Saturday) Committee Meeting

Regulatory Committee met separately

Communications, Logistics and Development met together

11:30 am. ADJOURN for Lunch

12:30 pm. Committee reports

Regulatory

- ACTION...Committee will have the 2018 rules posted to the NABBA web site
- ACTION...Committee will a SOP developed for announcing awards
- Motion ...Nigel moved to put 10-piece composition competition proposal by Oct. 1 ...passed by unanimous vote, Randi, Bill and Nigel will work on this
- ACTION...Caleb will do a set- up of new score transmission
- Bullet points from the regulatory meeting that we felt needed to be passed on into a different committee....

Randi

- A sheet for each volunteer to know their duties at each location
- SOP to be created assigned by Randi
- Faster awards process not getting scores but getting people to the stage
- Adjudicators' travel plans should specify the name and address of the hotel
- Time slots for early morning bands (issue was some bands played first two

- years in a row)
- Adjudicators need more time at end of solo competitions to finalize and check the results
- Have **Pat** Add time in schedule
- Job Descriptions for volunteers

Anita

- Don't start early on solos, heard grumbling
- Create an announcing sheet for each area; what exactly to say

Don

- The adjudicators' pencil sharpener needs to be handed out up front, not waiting until asked for
- Add to judge's packet (Don is making kits)

Paul/Caleb (development)

- Lanyard sponsors
- Reading band was wanted; they didn't know about it previously be a part of NABBA
- Have some clinics during the conference

Dave

- More stands in the youth section; Fountain City

Action... Regulatory Committee is working on an improved version of the 10 piece competition rules that will be fairer and more reflective of the actual make-up of the competition. These will be included in the 2018 rules.

Action...Jon will spearhead a development of a regional band and or solo and ensemble event. A goal of this effort is to engage more Western and West coast bands in NABBA related events. Anita and Dave will help with this effort.

There was a discussion and explanation of the 60%-40% split in judging band events.

1:30 pm. Request For Proposal 2019-2021 Presentation by Milwaukee Festival Brass

- 2 members of the Milwaukee Festival Brass presented a bid for the 2019, 2020 NABBA Championships. All questions on the RFP were answered on a handout given to each Board member.
- All NABBA dates advertised on the RFP are available.
- Madison Brass Band and Illinois Brass Band and Chicago Brass Band would assist in volunteers for these events
- Performance venues would be Pabst and Riverside Theatres.
- The Intercontinental Hotel would act as main hotel with other hotels in the vicinity.
- Restaurants are nearby.
- Room rates were presented in the bid for the Hilton, Inter Continental and Pfister Hotels
- After some discussion, a copy of rates for the Pabst and Riverside were handed out. These were standard rates and not in a package deal.
- President Randi Bulla asked the Milwaukee presenters if they had contacted Visit Milwaukee about this so that a more complete package and comprehensive bid could be presented. The answer was yes.
- Randi then asked could be a "better" presentation involving Visit Milwaukee that would include a package deal and the extras that should be expected for a city

- that wants NABBA. The Milwaukee presenters said they could do this.
- Randi postponed the vote on the RFP so that the Milwaukee group could put something together via video conferencing or some other means.
- The date of the new vote is to be September 30th
- The Board thanked the ladies from Milwaukee for their time and their presentation.

The RFP vote was then removed from the agenda and will be replaced by a Sept. 30th on-line vote.

2:30 pm. Committee reports continued after a Break

Development

- Action...Caleb DeGroot will develop a new Partner program to reflect a new concept in developing Individual, Strategic, Sustaining and in-kind partners. This should be accomplished in two weeks.
- There was discussion about "title sponsors" for the NABBA Championships.
- Paul Redwood will coordinate the 2018 "Partner" program and work directly with vendors.
- Action...Jon will spearhead a development of a regional band and or solo and ensemble event. A goal of this effort is to engage more Western and West coast band in NABBA related events. Anita and Dave will help with this effort.
- There was some discussion of having reading bands at these regional events.

Communications

- Joel is in charge of the Brass Band Bridge. The goal is to have two issues per year and announcements as needed. Please send all communications through Joel.
- Action... Caleb will take charge of a makeover and redesign of the NABBA.org website
- Action...Jason and Randi will take bids for the development of an AP for the 2018 Championships. Template will be designed by Joel.
- Social Media...Joel will keep control over the content of the NABBA Facebook and Twitter pages. Twitter account is most active during NABBA Championships.
- Program was discussed by it was not clear who exactly will do the 2018 program. By using the APP it was thought that fewer "paper" programs were to be needed.

Logistics

- Action...Dave will make sure there are more stands for the Youth Section Bands
- Action...Dave will upgrade timpani heads and will work with Caleb to make sure all timpani are regulated and adjusted throughout the Championships.
- Action...Dave will work with the Embassy to "deaden" sound in Hoosier room warmup site.
- Action...The Logistics committee will look into "centering" the Adjudicators in the middle section of the Embassy balcony. There is some suggestion to moving the judges back to the top of the Embassy.
- There was some discussion on adjudicator scoring... from one section to the other and from year to year. Some Board members want more consistency in the actual numbers that are presented. Others recognize the subjective nature of the event. No action on this, although it was suggested that further training of judges continue

4:05 pm.

- Randi Bulla announced one of the adjudicators for the 2018 Contest will be Sally Wagner of Maryland...The others are not contracted yet.

- Randi announced an opportunity for an In-Kind Partner event with "The Northern Division of The Salvation Army" in Minneapolis..They are doing a Kettle Kick off Large Brass Band. There was suggestion that some of the bands in the area might want to participate in this event.
- Randi reminded Board members of up to \$300 for their travel and lodging expenses for the NABBA Board meeting. They are to contact Ron about this.
- Randi reminded the Board of the pending Sept 30th RFP vote

4:24 pm. Meeting was adjourned...Next meeting is Thursday April 5,2018 in Fort Wayne

Addenda October 3,2017

The vote was held via Survey Monkey for the RFP 2019-2021 on September 30 and October1,2017

The results of the vote:

11- Fort Wayne

1- Milwaukee

0- abstain

3 - "absent"

So Fort Wayne, Indiana will continue to host The NABBA Championships in 2019, 2020 and 2021

The dates for the championships will be as follows:

- April 4 to April 6, 2019
- April 16 to April 18, 2020
- April 15 to April 17, 2021

A new request for proposal for hosting the championships will be posted in 2020.

Submitted by
David Jones
NABBA secretary