***Minutes***

***VCDA District VII Director’s Meeting***

***February 8, 2014***

***Sr. District Chorus Event / All-VA Auditions***

The meeting was called to order at 10:06 by Darren Goad.

Chandra Harman was thanked for a marvelous job of hosting us. She asked for help in setting up the stage for the concert. She told us that luggage will be put in the gym and locked up during the concert. She also needs people to pass out programs.

New Business:

*VMEA Redistricting:* State officials are looking at numbers in the various districts, as well as distances within the districts. Terry Hall told us that redistricting would not be decided upon until the meeting in June of 2015. The process is still in the early stages. Officials are going to start from a clean slate. They are trying to base things on what’s best for the students, not on loyalty to a certain District. Terry also told us that consideration is being given to combining All-VA Choir and All-VA Band into one event.

*Assessment:* David Carroll will host District Assessment on Friday, March 21st at Patrick Henry High School in Glade Spring. A sign-up sheet was sent around.

*Use of Holiday Inn for District Chorus Event:*  Raejie Harman gave us a report on the use of the Holiday Inn in Bristol for a combined Jr./Sr. District Chorus event. She brought up several points:

* + We would lose rehearsal time, because we cannot start as early.
	+ A floor could be blocked off for All-VA auditions.
	+ There would be four rooms for rehearsals.
	+ The biggest issue is what to do about pianos.
	+ We cannot run our own concessions. That would have to be done through the hotel.
	+ Students would have to eat off the site.
	+ Concerts would have to be done separately – Jr. first, and then Sr. – because of the parking.

Several concerns were raised in the ensuing discussion. Among these concerns are:

* + Directors are very concerned about the costs becoming very high. The costs of the hotel space, conductors, pianos, etc. could really raise costs. Raejie reminded us that some of the costs would be absorbed by the hotel.
	+ Losing sectional rehearsal time.
	+ Fairness of some schools having to always stay at the hotel.
	+ Having enough chaperones for all the students. We may have to use more parent chaperones.
	+ Having middle and high school students all together, especially as we will need to take meals off-site.
	+ What’s going to happen if the redistricting does take place, and we lose some directors.

Darren said that if we have any further questions or concerns, to email himself or Raejie. We are planning to vote on this issue at the March meeting.

*Prep Time:* Concerns about prep time (or lack of) that our students are getting for the District Events were raised. We all have the problem of snow days. The use of online Mp3 files was brought up, and most everyone was highly in favor of that. Tim Woolwine and Dave Carroll were willing to work on that. Dave made a motion that a committee of directors would be appointed to make sound files for District music. Jamie Eggleston suggested every director pitch in a little money to give this person/persons a stipend for their time. The motion was seconded, and the motion passed.

2014 / 2015 Auditions and Events:

 Auditions: November 8, 2014

 Ft. Chiswell HS / Carter Edmondson Backup: Lee HS / Cari Belcher

 Registration 9:00 AM / Director’s Mtg 9:30 AM / Start 10:00 AM

 Piece *“Laetatus Sum”*

 Event: February 13-14, 2015

 Union HS / Kelly Sorah Backup: Giles HS / Tim Woolwine

Directors: SATB: The motion was made and seconded, and the motion passed to ask the following people to direct: Eric Thorson, Craig Jessup, Jeffery Ames, Robert Matthews.

 SSA: The motion was made and seconded, and the motion passed to ask the following people to direct: Nancy Volk, Shelbye Wahl-Fonts, Judy Bowers.

 Fall Meeting: Our fall meeting is scheduled for Saturday, September 6, 2014. It will be at 12:00 Noon at the Riverfront Café in Chilhowie.

*All-VA:* The results of the All-VA Chorus auditions were read.

The meeting was adjourned at 11:28 AM.

Respectfully submitted,

Suzanne D. Spirup