

Minutes, March 1, 2008  
Jr. Clinic

The meeting was called to order at 1:10 p.m. by President Pete Rogers. Present were Mike Carter, William Hunley, Jim Hix, David Westrich, Craig Valentine, Tim Michaels, Lisa Michaels, Chris Metcalfe, Holly Wight, Joel Tillman, Jamie Wilson, Larry Hicks, Andrew Bernard, Dawn Patelke.

Minutes from the January meeting were passed out to the membership. After reading by the members present, the minutes were accepted as printed.

Dawn reported the financial status of 2008 Senior Clinic, which ended up -87.38 (in the red). Preliminary counts indicate that there were 19 participating bands and 166 students at Junior Clinic, and that after final deposits are in, the clinic will be -205.88 (in the red).

Dawn reported that the application for 501(c)4 for TSSBDA had been submitted, that the IRS had received the application and should make a ruling in 8 weeks. She will keep the membership apprised.

Junior Clinic will be at Karns Middle School again next year. The date will be the 4<sup>th</sup> weekend in February.

Discussion progressed to discussion of junior clinic clinicians. Since we dropped a band this year at junior clinic, and Pat Rhoton graciously agreed to step aside, we would like to call her first for Junior Clinic blue band next year. Other contacts will be Shannon Pirtle at Livingston MS, and Costa Geros from Cherokee HS. Red band clinic contact order will be TSSBDA directors Holly Wight, Jamie Wilson and Don Hendricks. The advisability of having a 3<sup>rd</sup> clinician on stand-by in case numbers warrant a 3<sup>rd</sup> jr. clinic band was discussed. Andrew Bernard agreed to be that person.

Senior Clinic will be at Heritage High School again next year, the 4<sup>th</sup> weekend in January. Discussion ensued about engaging Robert W. Smith as a clinician for blue band for next year and/or commissioning a work from him (he was our first contact on the list voted on in January). Chris Metcalfe expressed how enjoyable his appearance had been at the Tennessee Tech 2008 Festival of Winds and Percussion, and what a great directors' clinic/discussion he had led. As Tim Michaels is a friend of Smith's, he agreed to be the contact person and to find out whether or not Smith would be available for our 2009 Sr. Clinic, and what his fees would be, both as a clinician and as a commissioned composer. Because he did such a marvelous directors' clinic at TTU, we discussed the possibility of finding a volunteer small ensemble that could perform for the students for a small concert so that time could be set aside for a similar discussion for us, should he be able to do our clinic next year. The feeling among directors was that if he could not be engaged for next year, we schedule him for whatever year he might be free.

There was discussion about whether or not we should try to standardize a schedule for Senior and Junior clinic. The feeling was that we wanted to leave the host freedom to

tweak the schedule during the actual clinic day, but we would like to suggest start times, end times, and concert times. The following was agreed on as a suggested schedule:

Senior Clinic: 9:00 - 5:00 Friday, 9:00 until 6:00 p.m Saturday concert.

Junior Clinic: 9:00 - 5:00 Friday; 9:00 until 4:00 p.m Saturday concert.

There was discussion about how to better maximize rehearsal time at clinic, by being more efficient with regards to the audition process. It was agreed that the host should provide the sight-reading music so that directors could be more quickly ready to start in whatever room they would be needed in, and that judges should use only one sight-reading piece. Judges should strive to finish each audition in 3 minutes. Auditions should start as quickly as possible after directors have arrived, possibly even starting larger sections as soon as judges are available, even if not every single expected band has arrived by 9:00 o'clock. Sections that are finished auditioning could start being seated in their respective bands. The goal would be to have an hour of rehearsal before lunch.

There was discussion about the importance of director supervision of students during lunch times, especially junior clinic students, who might be more prone to be rowdy or horseplay. The suggestion was made that directors strive to eat lunch in the hospitality room before or after the student's lunch times, so they could supervise their students during lunch, and the burden for policing behavior wouldn't fall on the host and his band parents.

There being no further business to discuss for the good of the association, it was moved to adjourn the meeting by Craig Valentine, and seconded by Mike Carter, and the meeting was adjourned.

Respectfully submitted,

Dawn Patelke  
Executive Secretary/Treasurer