

**MINUTES**  
**OF THE**  
**MAINE PRINCIPALS' ASSOCIATION**  
**DRAMA COMMITTEE**  
**DECEMBER 14, 2017**

**MEMBERS PRESENT:** Shawn Carlson, Scott Gordon, Chad Bell, Steve Ouellette, Deb Levesque, and Brian Laramee.

**DIRECTORS PRESENT:**

Danielle Waite, Stearns High School,  
Chris Dougherty, Mount Desert Island High School,  
Rob Juergens, Windham High School,  
Rick Soloman, Westbrook High School,  
CJ Payne, Windham High School, and  
Matt Kopishke, Medomak Valley High School.

**MEMBERS ABSENT:** Ralph Caron, Mark Campbell, Carole Gilley, and Chris Moreau.

**COORDINATORS' PRESENT:** Robin Lisherness and Tom Heath.

**LIAISON PRESENT:** Kailey Smith

**STAFF PRESENT:** Holly Couturier.

**CALL TO ORDER:** The meeting was called to order at 9:38 a.m.

**APPROVAL OF MINUTES:** On a MOTION Bell/Levesque, minutes of October 23, 2017 meeting were UNANIMOUSLY APPROVED.

**CORRESPONDENCE:**

- No correspondence

**COORDINATORS' REPORTS:**

- Tom Heath reported:
  - Lost host site: Maine Girls' Academy is unable to host and as of now, no confirmation for another site.
  - 80 schools are registered for the festival: 38 Class A and 42 Class B Schools, all but one school have participated in the past.
  - Checks are coming in before the January 12 deadline.
  - Online registration worked well.

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- Robin Lisherness reported:
  - Beginning the process of assigning judges
  - Concern is 34 judges are willing to judge, but some are stating they only want to judge states. We need 33 judges; some judges may need to do both regional and states.
  - Doubling up on judges has happened in the past.
  - As long as the person has a theatre background, they can be a judge.
  - Steve Ouellette reached out to Yarmouth High School to see if they could host, no response yet.
  
- Kayley Smith reported:
  - Two new MDC people on the board and will have a mentor.
  - Tom edited the Rulebook to simplify and streamline.
  - Drafted a letter to go along with the Rulebook to go to Directors and Principals.
  - Made very clear what is disqualifiable in the Rulebook.
  - Robin: MDC Directors feel that there are too many DQs.

**REVIEW BULLETIN:**

- Went over adjustments made at October 23 meeting.
  - Updated “Script Selection” and “Standards for Freedom of Expression in Educational Theatre” on the bulletin.
  - E-mail the updated letter to all participating principals.
  - On a MOTION by Bell/Laramee, and VOTED UNANIMOUSLY, to put the letter under the “Script Selection” in the Bulletin.
  - On a MOTION by Bell/Levesque, and VOTED UNANIMOUSLY, to change the language “Tech checks will begin on Friday afternoon, or earlier time/date mutually agreed upon by the host site and the performing school”
  - On a MOTION by Laramee/Bell, and VOTED UNANIMOUSLY, to change language “All Schools are required to attend all performances except for the performing school immediately prior to their own and should strive to attend any other planned festival activities such as workshops and meetings.”
  - On a MOTION by Bell/Laramee, and VOTED UNANIMOUSLY, to change Bulletin “Critiques” section to match wording in the Rulebook.

**REVIEW RULEBOOK:**

- Reviewed updated Rulebook.
  
- Disclaimer discussion – the MDC is going to send out a letter in support of this section
  - More descriptive language of what “adult content” is expected
  - Any questions/concerns of the disclaimers, an email will be sent to the Drama Committee.

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- Critiques – MPA Representative needs to tell the judge keep it to three positive and three constructive feedback areas – in order to keep it to 3-minutes per judge. Robin will mention this to the judges as a suggestion.
- Disqualifications –
  - Time Violations – DQ??
  - Fire/flame/pyrotechnics - DQ
  - Live Animals - DQ
  - Weapons Violation - DQ
  - Ineligible student/adult – DQ
  - Substance Abuse – DQ
  - Musical Theatre – DQ
  - Copyright Violation – DQ
  -

\*\* This conversation is going to continue via a Google Doc that Tom will set up – all committee members need to comment on each of the areas above before Friday, December 22 \*\*

**REVIEW OF SITE ASSIGNMENTS AND THE MPA REP DESIGNATION** (along with what needs to be done to be ready for Regional Festivals):

- Camden Hills Regional Hills High School
  - Host: Tom Heath
  - MDC Rep:
  - MPA Rep
- Lawrence
  - Host: Kailey Smith, [ksmith@msad49.org](mailto:ksmith@msad49.org) 617-835-5485
  - MDC Rep:
  - MPA Rep:
- MDI
  - Host: Chris Dougherty, [cdougherty@mdirss.org](mailto:cdougherty@mdirss.org) 207-288-5011 ext 3135
  - MDC Rep:
  - MPA Rep:
- Noble High School
  - Host:
  - MDC Rep:
  - MPA Rep:
- Skowhegan Area High School
  - Host:
  - MDC Rep:
  - MPA Rep:

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- Stearns High School
  - Host: Danielle Waite [dwaite@millinocketschools.org](mailto:dwaite@millinocketschools.org) 207-731-4510
  - MDC Rep:
  - MPA Rep:
  
- Thornton Academy
  - Host:
  - MDC Rep:
  - MPA Rep:
  
- Westbrook High School
  - Host: Rick Solomon [solomonr@westbrookschoools.org](mailto:solomonr@westbrookschoools.org) 207-232-3872
  - MDC Rep:
  - MPA Rep:

**STATES**

- Windham High School
  - Host: Rob Juergens [rjuergens@rsu14.org](mailto:rjuergens@rsu14.org)
  - TD: CJ Payne [cpayne@rsu14.org](mailto:cpayne@rsu14.org)
  - MDC Rep:
  - MPA Rep:
  
- Oceanside High School
  - Host:
  - MDC Rep:
  - MPA Rep:
  
- Tom will connect with those hosting states on the Monday following Regionals with what they will need and need to do to be prepared for States.
- Tom noted: due to using all electronic scoring at all sites, need to have reliable internet and at least two printers.
- Steve said host sites need to have enough help to make sure everything is covered at all sites.
- Steve - MPA representative needs to communicate with Site Directors for any issues that may arise.
- Tom will put together a YouTube video on the electronic scoring.
- Certificates will be e-mailed to the school after Regionals and States, however the students will be recognized at the end of the festival.
- Host sites need to make sure that the Tech Directors know what is disqualifiable and that they can step in and help schools.

**OTHER:**

- Host – printing the certificates isn't a time saver
- E-mailing certificates will be less pressure on the host schools

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**NEXT MEETING DATE:** The next meeting of the Drama Committee is scheduled for Thursday, January 18, 2018 at 9:30 a.m. at the MPA office.

**ADJOURNMENT:** The meeting was adjourned at 12:17 p.m.

Respectfully Submitted,

Holly Couturier  
Assistant Executive Director

/tjm  
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