

KMEA Marching Band Committee
Tim Allen, Chair
July 11, 2020, 10:00 am
Teleconference

MINUTES

I. Chair Tim Allen called the meeting to order shortly after 10:00 am.

II. Attendance

Dist. 1 Beth Stribling P	Dist. 5 Patrick Brady P	Dist. 9 Pauletta Smith P
Dist. 2 Cory Mullins P	Dist. 6 Austin Bralley P	Dist.10 Curtis Ervin P
Dist. 3 Grant Jones P	Dist. 7 Michael Stone P	Dist. 11 Jason Bowles P
Dist. 4 Brian Ellis P	Dist. 8 Jenny Hipple P	Dist. 12 Cory Zilisch for Mike Arthur P

Also present were Band Chair Joe Craig, Band Chair-elect David Centers, President George Boulden, President-elect David Graham, and Executive Director John Stroube
At approximately 10:20 am, Stephen Bishop joined to substitute for Brian Ellis

III. Brady moved and Smith seconded a motion to approve the agenda

IV. Due to technical difficulty the action to approve the minutes from June 5, 2020 was not properly recorded.

V. Reports

- a. Tim Allen, KMEA Marching Band Committee Chair, spoke of his intent that the meeting be devoted to ways to provide an SMBC, and that there be no motion or vote today on whether to proceed or cancel the state championships for 2020.
- b. George Boulden, KMEA Marching Band Evaluator Coordinator, indicated he had no update since June 5.
- c. John Stroube, KMEA Executive Director, SMBC manager, spoke about the upcoming release of results from the aerosol study, described the process of getting KMEA guidance documents approved, and the newly revealed 6-hour per week limitation by the KHSAA on students who are meeting for conditioning.

VI. There was no unfinished Business

VII. New Business

- A. Tim asked what still needs to happen in order to make competitive marching band possible. He listed full band rehearsals outside, bus transportation, sufficient number of contests available, and spectators
- B. Tim opened discussion about a possible proposal for allowing contests with spectators to be taken up by a task force. Possible tenets were: 50% capacity, spectators required to wear masks, temperature checks before entering stadium, families can sit together but separated from other

groups by 6' (48" of empty seats), clearing the stadium after each class, allowing closer to 100% total attendance, concessions, and full band rehearsals allowed.

Discussion was held. John Stroube reported that the KHSAA was considering concessions, and KMEA could likely use the guidelines they develop. Curtis Ervin said UK was hoping to have 50% at Kroger Field and Rupp Arena. John Stroube said Whitney Hall was looking at every other row and two seats between parties, resulting in about 30% capacity. Tim Allen speculated that temperature checks, spectators in masks, and distancing could probably mirror what comes to be allowed for football. Michael Stone talked about the concern over having too many students on campus at once. Cory Zilisch expanded on the problems Michel had mentioned. Tim said clearing the stadium between classes could help keep the number of students simultaneously onsite would be diminished. In such a case, prelims/finals configuration would probably not be practical. Jenny Hipple expressed concern about a diminished number of bands that would enroll. Joe Craig mentioned that waivers might be required. Jason Bowles mentioned that reduced audience capacity was prohibitive to hosting a contest, and there was concern about policing safety compliance. Beth Stribling reminded all that the topic on the table was the SMBC, not local contests. Joe Craig noted that KMEA rules would no longer be enforceable at any contests that occur. Jenny Hipple asked that guidelines be crafted by the task force about how to limit the number of bands on a campus at any one time. Tim asked whether uniforms should be optional, and David Centers said a statement approving marching without a uniform would be helpful to bands. Curtis Ervin suggested separate "lanes" be created for bands seeking effect scores, and bands that were not.

Tim Allen asked whether contest hosts still want to host, and if only a handful of contests are available, how do we proceed? He referenced a recent survey to band directors about what they speculated they would do, and would be allowed to do. Austin Bralley related a concern about the financial viability of a contest under the circumstances. Joe Craig said his biggest fear was not being able to have band during the school day. Jenny Hipple suggested that a means to compete safely is the big responsibility for the Marching Band Committee at this time. Beth Stribling suggested that there are programs that are depending on KMEA to cancel so the weight of the decision is not on them. Grant Jones suggested that the unique times may impose a unique role on the MBC. Austin Bralley said he was conflicted, understanding varying points of view about a championships.

D. Tim Allen asked about other possible options in case spectators and transportation are problematic

1. Video-streamed performances?

Bands record themselves at own stadium at scheduled time

Live streamed to judges and an audience (pay-per-view?)

Issues:

Different stadiums - different video perspective

Disparities in quality

Copyright

There were no comments from committee members.

2. What if the regular season were not possible, but by late October we could have quarterfinals, semifinals, and finals?

There were no comments from committee members.

E. Tim Allen mentioned that if the SMBC is able to happen

1. Concerns
 - Availability of Regional, Semifinal and Final venues
 - Bands not allowed to stay overnight for week 2
 - Long distances for west bands
2. Possible solution:
 - Eliminate draw for semifinals
 - Band performance times based on travel distance

Beth Stribling asked if such a plan would be acceptable to bands that want to have a statewide culminating event for marching bands. She also asked if a regional site could host just one class to allow for scheduling flexibility. John Stroube responded that we would need two additional sites in the east and two in the west.

F. Tim Allen asked what might happen if week 2 can't happen at UK

- Could we cancel week 2 and let quarterfinals determine class regional champions, which solves travel issues and gives at least something to work toward

David Centers asked if this solution might be applied regardless of the availability of UK to help limit the time of exposure for traveling bands. There was further discussion about the logistics.

G. Tim Allen asked if regular season contests could be subsidized and altered to ease contest hosts' monetary concerns

- Use KMEA emergency funds to pay for judges
- Reduce number of judges to 4 (M, V, ME, and VE)
- Eliminate on-field, percussion, and guard judges
- KMEA solicits contests hosts

Comments were favorable.

VII. Tim Allen asked about

- Limiting the number of sanctioned contests required to qualify for SMBC.

VIII. Tim Allen asked how we proceed. Opinions varied about taking a straw poll vs. setting a date for a vote.

MOTION BY ZILISCH, SECONDED BY BRALLEY TO VOTE IN ONE WEEK ON CONTINUANCE OF THE 2020 MARCHING SEASON.

MOTION BY STRIBLING, SECONDED BY STONE TO AMEND THE PREVIOUS MOTION TO HAVE THE VOTE ON THE COMING WEDNESDAY. Discussion was held.

VOTE ON WHETHER TO AMEND: 1Y, 2 Y, 3 Y, 4 Y, 5 Y, 6 Y, 7 Y, 8 Y, 9 Y, 10 Y, 11 Y, 12 Y
MOTION TO AMEND PASSES UNANIMOUSLY

MOTION BY STRIBLING TO AMEND THE PREVIOUS MOTION TO SPECIFY PLANNING A REGIONAL/STATE MARCHING BAND EVENT. THERE WAS NO SECOND.

Discussion was held about the configuration of a survey for head band directors.

**VOTE ON AMENDED MOTION: 1Y, 2 Y, 3 Y, 4 Y, 5 Y, 6 Y, 7 Y, 8 Y, 9 Y, 10 Y, 11 Y, 12 Y
MOTION PASSES UNANIMOUSLY**

IX. The next meeting was scheduled for Wednesday, July 15 at 12:00 EDT.

George Boulden shared his sentiments about the circumstances.

Discussion was held about updating KMEA guidance for marching bands.

X. Motion by Smith, seconded by Stribling, to adjourn. The meeting was adjourned at approximately 1:53 PM EDT.

Respectfully submitted,

John Stroube