

WMJS Society Board Meeting

10-23-19

Meeting called to order at 6:19 by President Michelle Needham

Present: Jerry Scott, John Miller, Dan Ohlman, Jim Reed, Peni Reed, Jake Vandenheden and Michelle Miller

Secretary: Shannan Denison and guest Barb Keller

Absent: Tim Froncek, Mary Reed, Jordan Vanhemert

Re: Jordan Vanhemert: it was decided to take him off the board for now and have him start in the new year when he can attend meetings, etc.

Old Business:

Minutes from September seconded by Jerry Scott and approved unanimously.

Financials presented by Jim Reed. Because of change of venues for both events this past year we are down collectively for the year. Rainouts cause us a significant loss at Jazz in the Park.

Dan Ohlman made a motion to accept the financials and Peni Reed seconded. All were in favor.

Jazz Gumbo Update: Jim Reed expressed that we received a lot of compliments on the food and venue. The Casino Club wants us to be there and they are allowing us to order any booze we want as long as we use it up. Jerry Scott mentioned that some audience members asked for people to remain quiet during the performance. Jerry mentioned it during the intermission and the sound was better. It was brought up that several of the people were board members. It was agreed that everyone would be respectful and talk softly.

Reception for Eric Wendlandt: Tabled because Mary was going to speak to Eric. Possibly do it in January with MOY announcement and membership drive in January.

Holiday Party: Reservations are starting to come in. Silent Auction items, Send Jake Bidsheet, Send email invite for a table of 8 will include two bottles of wine, sponsorship table for 8 \$750 will include a priority seating table and two bottles of wine.

Volunteer List: Michelle asked that everyone update the excel spread sheet she sent out with the different volunteer responsibilities, etc. Once we have an updated list of what we need then it will be easier to enlist new members and existing members into different volunteer roles.

Grand Rapids Federation of Musicians Grant update: Jim and Peni Reed visited with Andrea Giva, Secretary/Treasurer of the GRFM. WMJS will be compensated 50% of the union musicians and that the forms needed to be turned in 15 days prior to the event. Jim requested that we go retroactively. Musicians need to fill out the green sheet in order to get reimbursed by the Grand Rapids Federation of Musicians Grant. Kurt Ehinger is looking into what it takes to become a member which would reimburse half of his fees for the summer Park series.

Strategic planning notes were reviewed. John Miller mentioned that there is a difference between memberships and members. Sponsorships created for Jazz in the Park and we need to create a sponsorship package. Sponsorships for Jazz in the Park need to be requested for 2020 before the end of the year. Jake Vanderhyden and Michelle Needham will contact a few different non-profit fundraisers to find out what the potential cost would be.

Jazz in the Park 2020: First show on June 8th, 2020. There will be 10 jazz in the park concerts, last show will be August 10th. There will be an option for rain dates after.

Contact Forms on Website have been updated.

Jim Reed suggested that an executive committee be established to further the goals of WMJS.

Back up plan for Dave VanWyk and Kurt Ehinger. Jim will ask Kurt and Dave about what's their back up plan if any.

Committee Updates:

Programs Chair: Jerry Scott mentioned that it would be nice to get some lodging sponsors to bring in out of town musicians.

Marketing Committee: Jake V. reported that the two \$50 ads on FB which did yield some positive response and included more link clicks (82) and event responses (40). Jake will look into Event Brite as an option to link FB and pre-event sales for the next Jazz Gumbo.

Membership Committee: New members should be pro-rated until the first of the year.

Next Meeting November 20th at 6:00 PM.

Next Gumbo is November 18th at 6:30 Edge Evans Hyde and Terry Lower and friends.

Meeting Adjourned at 8:04.

Minutes respectfully submitted by Shannan Denison