

# **West Michigan Jazz Society**

## **Board Meeting Agenda**

March 25, 2020 6:00 pm  
Remote Zoom Meeting

- I. Call to order/Roll Call 6:12pm meeting called to order
  - A. Present: Jake Vanderheyden, Jerry Scott, Michelle Needham, Tim Froncek, Jim Reed, Peni Reed, John Miller, Dan Ohlman, Mary Reed
  - B. Guests: Lauren Starke
- II. Approval of minutes from last meeting
  - A. John motioned to approve, all in favor.
- III. Review and Approval of Financials
  - A. WMJS incurred a (~\$3,000) loss for 2019. A lot of expenses needed to be pulled ahead in January 2020. February was light because of Jim's absence, we will make up for that in March. Jim mentioned that we should adjust the budget now if we need to.
  - B. Jim motioned to accept the financials; Jerry seconded this motion. All in favor.
- IV. Open issues
  - A. Jazz Gumbo update

We did fairly well for January and February considering the typical drop in attendance because of seasonality. March and April were cancelled due to the COVID-19 crisis. Our sponsors for March and April have shifted their donation to September and October. Jazz gumbo (Mardi Gras) in February went well, the Mardi Gras Party was successful.
  - B. Grand Rapids Federation of Musicians Grant Update

Ad space in exchange for helping with advertising and expenses related to the event. They also inquired about scholarships for students. Jim is going to talk to them about helping cover the expenses for sound.
  - C. Musician of the Year Event Watermark Country Club

Due to the COVID-19 Crisis, event has been postponed to a tentative date: Monday October 4<sup>th</sup>, 2020. Peni is going to check rates and availability for other nights of the week.
- V. New business
  - A. COVID 19 Impact on Coming Events

WMJS will not be hosting any events until the end of May 2020. Jim said that Kent County parks are thinking that it would be a miracle if we can host any events in June. He said groups will be the last thing that comes back to Millennium Park. We should definitely cancel June dates, but July is still a maybe. At the next board meeting WMJS will discuss the timeline once we have an update.
  - B. Jazz at Millennium Park – Park, Band Shell, Food Trucks, Bands, etc.

July 6<sup>th</sup> slot may be the first date for Jazz in the Park, to recover from social distancing efforts since the event draws large crowds. We may be able to delay the concert dates into later dates (August 17<sup>th</sup> and 24<sup>th</sup>). The Secchia family and universal forest products are donating to the park for the bandshell. WMJS can offer them sponsorship level membership for their equivalent donation of product.

C. Collaborations (ie GR Noir, Listening Room, Holland Jam Session at HAAC)

Jam session at HAAC article is in the current copy of jazz notes, collaborations tabled until the crisis ends. They may be live streaming in the near future.

VI. WMJS Board Committee Updates

A. Executive/Strategic Planning Committee

Committee met in March over the phone to discuss short term changes and cancellations.

B. Nominating Committee

Michelle mentioned that everyone should continue to recruit new board members. Peni will be up for a second term renewal.

C. Jazz Program Committee – chair Jerry Scott

See notes above about Jazz in the Park. Budgets will be adjusted around the changes to WMJS schedule.

D. Treasury Committee – chair Jim Reed

1. Budget for 2020 – Updates needed
2. Fundraising and grants – Packet needed for board members to use. (Shannan)
3. Planned Estate Giving – Work with Shannan Denison – Seminar/action plan

E. Marketing/Communications Committee – chair Jake Vanderheyden

1. Update on Facebook nonprofit profile for donations
2. West Michigan Jazz Society Summit/Congress idea
3. Website and Membership Levels

F. Membership Committee – Need Chair (Board Member) for this Committee

1. Incentives from establishments, on hold until venues are recruited
2. Lauren is going to call all lifetime members. Membership is an issue currently. Lauren suggested to offer a referral incentive for current members. Jake suggested offering a free jazz gumbo ticket for each new member registered.

Current Membership numbers:

1 Benefactor	2 Musicians
14 Complimentary	75 Permanent Lifetime
57 Couple	67 Single
6 Donor	4 Student
2 Jazz Bands	1 Student Musician

G. Scholarship Committee – chair John Miller – contact form

The WMJS fund balance has decreased recently due to the crisis. Two scholarships have been awarded for this year. Jim noted that we need to encourage more people to contribute to the fund.

H. Education Committee – chair Tim Froncek

Update tabled until next meeting.

VII. Adjournment, Next Meeting

A. Jerry Scott motioned, Jake Vanderheyden seconded. Adjourned at 7:40pm