

West Michigan Jazz Society

Board Meeting Minutes

June 24, 2020 6:00 pm
Zoom

I. Call to order/Roll Call at 6:20PM

Present: Jake Vanderheyden, Jerry Scott, Michelle Needham, Jim Reed, Peni Reed, John Miller, Dan Ohlman
Mary Reed, Jordan VanHemert

Absent: Tim Froncek

Guests: Lauren Starke, Kevin Jones, and Jan Basham

II. Approval of minutes from last meeting

Jake corrected the May 2020 meeting minutes to reflect the cancellation of the MOY event in October. Jim motioned to approve the old minutes, Jerry seconded. All were in favor of the minutes with this edit made.

III. Review and Approval of Financials

Jan mentioned that the next edition of jazz notes will be quarterly. Jake suggested that jazz notes will be issued quarterly for the remainder of 2020 to conserve expenses. John motioned to accept the financials, Jerry seconded this. All were in favor to approve the financials.

IV. Open Business

A. Jazz at Millennium Park – 2021

Jim said that the park expected WMJS to cancel all events this year, but they are willing to start booking in 2021 (June 7th). Jazz in the Park series will be 10 weeks (skip 4th of July weekend), ending on August 16th, 2021. August 23rd, 2021 will be reserved as a rain date.

B. Musician of the Year Event Watermark Country Club Tentative 10/5/20

Jim mentioned that if capacity is limited that we will not break even on costs. The event is currently cancelled as of the May 2020 board meeting. Jake suggested that in the Fall of 2021, Paul Brewer (2020 MOY) and the future 2021 MOY, could be honored concurrently at an event to boost attendance. Jan suggested that we schedule a date at Watermark in May to have another fundraising event in the middle of the year. This event in May could possibly serve as the postponed event for Paul.

C. Art Prize Sunday Series – Cancelled for 2020

Tabled until ArtPrize festival is active. Jake mentioned that the organizer, Monk M. will reach out again for future collaborations.

D. Collaborations (GR Noir, Listening Room, Amore Trattoria Italiana)

Tabled until venues open or re-open.

E. Women Who Care Update

We did not receive the core funds, but individual members did donate a sum of \$825 to WMJS.

F. “Drive Thru” Jazz Festival

Donations from Jazz in the Park(ing Lot):

Amore- \$300, Kaczmariski Hearing & In The Blue LLC - \$300 combined, WMJS - \$300

Many t-shirts and small donations were received. Kaczmarek Hearing and Amore were issued WMJS memberships for their contributions. Future events could be hosted in a social zone or another venue that has outdoor space. Another restaurant or geography will be considered. All restaurant guests got a membership card application. Jake shared details about successes of the event, all expenses broke even.

V. New business

A. The Sunday Goodtime Hour – Late July or August

Michelle spoke with the host and they will have WMJS on the show via Zoom later this summer.

B. Email/Meeting with Kevin Jones

Discussed the document provided to the board surrounding diversity & inclusion issues. A committee may be formed to address this topic further,

C. Amazon Smile and Facebook nonprofit status

Jake was able to setup WMJS as a nonprofit to accept donations on both platforms.

VI. WMJS Board Committee Updates

A. Executive/Strategic Planning Committee – nothing to report

B. Nominating Committee – Peni Reed up for 2nd Term. Give Jordan VanHemert, Kevin Jones and Shannan Denison opportunity to share about themselves, then excuse them and vote on New Board Members and Positions.

-Jim motioned to elect Shannan Denison, Jordan VanHemert, and Peni Reed to the WMJS board. John seconded. All were in favor.

-John motioned to elect the WMJS president, Michelle, for another term. Jake seconded. All in favor.

-Jerry motioned to elect WMJS VP, Dan, for another term. Peni seconded. All were in favor

C. Jazz Program Committee – chair Jerry Scott

D. Treasury Committee – chair Jim Reed – WMJS is still down in membership dues.

1. Planned Estate Giving – Work with Shannan Denison – Seminar/action plan - N/A

E. Marketing/Communications Committee – chair Jake Vanderheyden

1. Update on Facebook nonprofit profile for donations -see above

2. West Michigan Jazz Society Summit/Congress idea on hold for now

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

1. Membership down – Lauren was doing some work on this reaching out to people.

G. Scholarship Committee – chair John Miller

1. Fund balance decrease – Need to encourage more to contribute

2. Two scholarships have been awarded, as long as the school they are attending is in session this fall. Jim will work on sending their information in to Donna for jazz notes.

H. Education Committee – chair Tim Froncek -nothing to report

VII. Adjournment, motioned by Michelle, seconded by Jim. All in favor. Meeting adjourned at 8:04pm

Next Meeting will be Wednesday July 22nd, 2020 at 6pm on Zoom.