

# **West Michigan Jazz Society**

## **Board Meeting Minutes**

September 23, 2020 6:00 pm

Zoom

### I. Call to order/Roll Call 6:13pm

Present: Michelle Needham, Jim & Peni Reed, Tim Froncek, Jordan VanHemert, Jake Vanderheyden, Shannan Denison, Dan Ohlman, Jerry Scott, Mary Rademacher Reed

Guests: Jan Basham

Not present: John Miller, Kevin Jones

Approval of minutes from last meeting

A. Jim motioned to approve with changes, Jake seconded. All in favor.

### II. Review and Approval of Financials

A. Shannan motioned to approve July financials; Jerry seconded. All in favor.

### III. Open Business

A. Private Concerts at Shannan Denison and Tom Norton's Homes

A.1. These events were very successful in fundraising for WMJS. A net profit of about \$550 was generated.

B. Jazz in the Park(ing Lot) at Noto's

B.1. New and renewing members were generated from the event. Donations were also collected. The event was about (\$335) loss overall after expenses (band, sound, advertising)

B.2. BMW motorcycle dealership is interested in sponsoring an event.

B.3. Menus for the event were confusing for guests.

C. Jazz at Millennium Park – Reserved for 2021

C.1. WMJS is planning on hosting if it is safe. Start looking for sponsors now.

D. Musician of the Year Event Watermark Country Club – On hold

E. Fundraising Event 2021 – Tabled until MOY is planned

F. New Events for Members

F.1. Jim & John are working on fundraising to hire bands to play at Noto's, similar to the existing Noto's supper club events with John Shea.

F.2. Jake suggested hosting a virtual concert series on the WMJS or continue to live stream events if we can host them in person.

F.3. Jake is working with Sandy Point Beach House to host an education-focused jam session (house band will be educators, primarily drawn from Hope College and GVSU faculty). First date is 10/22 6-9pm.

F.4. First WMJS virtual concert will be in October.

G. Volunteer Coordinator Needed

## H. Federal/State Grants

### H.1. Jazz in the Park

H.1.a) Jim and Jennifer are going to work on obtaining grants for all expenses.

### H.2. Educational

H.2.a) Masterclasses will be provided to students while we cannot physically visit.

## IV. New business

### A. Black History Month – Virtual Talks/Concerts Featuring Black Musicians

A.1. Michelle mentioned that WMJS could feature black musicians in February.

A.2. Tim mentioned that we could share content about education online about musicians and culture. This could also be included in jazz notes. Tim will follow up with more information.

A.3. Mary mentioned that we could send out optional jazz emails to members. Jake mentioned this would be a good volunteer task.

### B. Juneteenth Event

B.1. Kevin has connections to people that WMJS could collaborate with for an event within the city limits of Grand Rapids.

B.2. This event would help expand WMJS membership by hosting an event that is also educational. Tim will follow up with Kevin and Jordan.

## II. WMJS Board Committee Updates

### A. Executive/Strategic Planning – Board President is the chair

A.1. The committee met on 9/19 to discuss fundraising.

A.2. Jennifer will be coming on to help WMJS with grants for Jazz in the Park. The goal is to apply for grants to cover for all expenses. Educational funding would be from the collection.

A.3. WMJS will not be pursuing Venmo due to legal issues surrounding the platform.

### B. Nominating Committee – chair Mary Rademacher-Reed – no update

### C. Jazz Program Committee – chair Jerry Scott

C.1. Jerry is waiting to hear about the status of Jazz in the Park and Gumbo in 2021, along with our current WMJS events.

### D. Treasury Committee – chair Jim Reed

D.1. Planned Estate Giving – Work with Shannan Denison – Seminar/action plan

D.1.a) Shannan said we need to start by cleaning up the WMJS database. The next step is to send out a survey to find out what member/community interest is in a session.

D.1.b) WMJS needs 100% board giving so that we are eligible for more grants.

D.1.c) WMJS can add “legacy” members as part of a planned giving plan to honor those who have passed away that want to support WMJS.

D.1.d) Promote Amazon Smile. Visit [smile.amazon.com](https://smile.amazon.com) and select WMJS as charity to support.

### E. Marketing/Communications Committee – chair Jake Vanderheyden

E.1. Virtual Event “Jazz Talks” starting next week on WMJS Facebook page starting with guest Ivan Akansiima, hosted by Jordan VanHemert.

E.2. Social media

E.2.a) \$100 Facebook ad was very effective for Jazz in the Park(ing Lot)

E.2.b) Facebook donation application is pending still, Jake & Jim will follow up

E.2.c) Users for Facebook page. +Michelle Needham as a page moderator

E.2.d) Spread the word about the WMJS members only Facebook group. To be added the user must be verified in Wild Apricot as a current member. This has initiated new renewals/members.

F. Membership Committee – chair Kevin Jones

F.1. Promote that new members can join for half price.

F.2. Renewing members need to pay the full amount or wait to renew in January.

F.3. Approximately 250 members have not renewed

G. Scholarship Committee – chair John Miller - absent

H. Education Committee – chair Tim Froncek

H.1. Jazz history content will be provided to other committees (membership, marketing)

III. Adjournment

A. 7:54pm meeting adjourned. Jerry motioned to adjourn; Jim seconded. All in favor.

B. Next Meeting 10/28/20 at 6pm on Zoom