

# **West Michigan Jazz Society**

## **Board Meeting Minutes**

October 24, 2020 10:00 am  
Zoom

### I. Call to order/Roll Call 10:07 AM

Present: Michelle Needham, Jim & Peni Reed, Tim Froncek, Jordan VanHemert, Jake Vanderheyden, Shannan Denison, Mary Rademacher Reed, Kevin Jones

Not present: John Miller, Jerry Scott, Dan Ohlman

### II. Approval of minutes from last meeting

Jim motioned to approve the minutes; Michelle seconded. All in favor.

### III. Review and Approval of Financials

Tabled until next month. Jim shared that we are losing a few hundred dollars each month throughout the pandemic. WMJS has received donations to cover the expense of the Noto's gigs.

### IV. Open Business

A. Jazz at Millennium Park – Reserved for 2021

B. Federal/State Grants – Jazz in the Park & Educational

Jim met with Jennifer about grant consulting. WMJS is registered for Michigan grant search. Jim provided a complete financial record for Jazz in the Park to assist in searching for grants. The request will be for \$20,000 for Jazz in the Park. Jordan mentioned that WMJS should include a piece about diversity, equity, and inclusion. Also, to include a message about the mission statement and increasing access for different communities. Michelle suggested adding the Juneteenth event to the grant.

C. Volunteer Coordinator Needed

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

E. Fundraising Event 2021 – Tabled until MOY is planned

F. Black History Month – Virtual Talks/Concerts Featuring Black Musicians

Tim & Kevin discussed a plan for this event and also the Juneteenth event to help contribute to both events. Tim will send the board details for approval on event proposals. Kevin suggested that we could virtually broadcast the events with no in person attendance if we cannot host the events in person. Kevin is going to reach out to jazz professors from MSU (and some others) about collaborating with WMJS. Michelle noted that the WKTV program might work well to broadcast the events.

G. Juneteenth Event

H. Jazz Talks

Jordan noted that the series has been very successful so far online. WMJS has the second jazz talk onward archived publicly on Facebook.

I. Jazz Jams at Sandy Point Beach House

Jake is going to get a WMJS pull up banner to be used to market at indoor events in the future. Everyone (including the venue) thought that the event was a success.

V. New business

A. Noto's Supper Club Wednesday, October 28<sup>th</sup>

Jordan and Mary noted that the programming committee was not involved with booking the bands. Kevin also noted that to have well rounding programming, more inputs should be fielded so that the best programming is put in place. Jim shared the details of the first event and that the capacity would be reduced for social distancing.

B. WKTV/WMJS – JazzWorks Program

Michelle and Mary met with WKTV about a potential series on air with WMJS. Tom Norton approached WMJS about restarting their old program. They would do all of the work to produce the program and all of the work to distribute the program. They also would share in community donations, WMJS would also share in the costs. The program is 30-60 mins long, it could be weekly or monthly. There are some potential concerns with the rights to the music. Jordan suggested that WMJS starts with original music and builds up a nest egg to cover copyrighted music in the future.

C. Wine & Canvas Jazz Fundraiser

Shannan mentioned that we could potentially have the event at Noto's. The materials and instructors are included in the price to guests to help fundraise for WMJS.

VI. WMJS Board Committee Updates

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

Michelle suggested that WMJS board meetings are moved to the 4<sup>th</sup> Saturday mornings of the month at 9:30am. Michelle will contact John about updating the bylaws.

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

C. Jazz Program Committee – chair Jerry Scott – no update

D. Treasury Committee – chair Jim Reed

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

E. Marketing/Communications Committee – chair Jake Vanderheyden

Jake will work with Jim about more ads to advertise the new events. Michelle and Jake shared an idea for band members to advertise WMJS with a sign at their events.

F. Membership Committee – chair Kevin Jones

- a. Kevin has ongoing teaching commitments and needs help.
- b. Had drafted a membership email.
- c. Slightly confused about what the mail should say.
- d. Fees for recurring members should remain the same.
- e. Kevin believes that we need to be very careful about asking for money and cannot afford a membership.
- f. Treating them as if they're still members.
- g. Get Lauren's input as well. People will help Kevin with formulating a letter.
- h. Michelle suggests to put Noto's and Jazz Talk Info in there.

- i. List of upcoming events in all jazz notes/emails.
    - 1. Michelle met with Lauren to go over a few things...a few issues...?? what does that mean?
  - B. Scholarship Committee – chair John Miller
    - 1. No update. John was not present. \$60,000 or so in the fund.
  - C. Education Committee – chair Tim Froncek
    - 1. Everything is going slowly because of covid because of education.
    - 2. Jazz Jam session went well.
    - 3. Tim is at a crossroads of what he is allowed to do. What should be done.
    - 4. Tim and Jordan will get together to talk about a jazz-society sponsored educational event.
- VII. Adjournment, Next Meeting – Need to determine currently on calendar for day before Thanksgiving.  
Motion to adjourn from Jim Reed at 11:54am. Seconded by Jordan. Meeting adjourned at 11:55 a.m.