

# **West Michigan Jazz Society**

## **Board Meeting Minutes**

February 27th, 2021 9:30 am

Zoom

### I. Call to order/Roll Call - 9:40am

Present: Jim & Peni Reed, Jake Vanderheyden, Kevin Jones, Mary Rademacher, Dan Ohlman, and John Miller

Absent: Shannan Denison, Jordan VanHemert, Michelle Needham, Jerry Scott, and Tim Froncek.

### II. Approval of minutes from last meeting

Jim motioned to approve, John seconded. All in favor.

### III. Review and Approval of Financials

Jim mentioned WMJS received a large credit on our insurance expense in 2020. Membership funds have been coming in, but he will report back on total membership. WMJS still has a \$1200 donation for events is still in the budget.

John motioned to approve, Peni seconded. All in favor.

### IV. Open Business

#### A. Black History Month Event Update

- GR Noir sold out there in person capacity. The live stream produced by Jim Alfredson was great and had great engagement online. As of today, 1.7K individual views as of today. Jim noted that it was the best virtual concert he has seen. The video presentation was not available due to personal conflicts with our videographer. It will be released soon in coordination with GR Noir. Kevin noted that he donated back any payments to the band to make sure the musicians were compensated well.
- GR Noir had some feedback for us on communication, such as mentioning that we would be asking for donations online during the event. WMJS will continue to plan and communicate with partners more in the future. Kevin suggested that on events that we have a project lead in the future to plan the itinerary and communicate with everyone involved.

#### B. Speaking of Jazz with WMJS

March is booked, Kevin noted that March is Women's history month it may be wise to have some Women in jazz panels. WMJS will address the calendar soon.

#### C. Jazz Jams at Sandy Point Beach House – Resume?

The jam session will continue following all protocols, through May. WMJS will re-evaluate in May again.

Jake motioned, Peni seconded. All in favor.

#### D. Schedule/Guest Ideas Jazz at Millennium Park – Reserved for 2021

- The park and WMJS are both planning on the event, pending state regulations. Jim noted he needed to reach out to our parking staff and start coordinating logistics.
- WMJS is planning on rebooking the 2020 lineup, depending on their availability.

E. Federal/State Grants – Jazz in the Park & Educational – Add Juneteenth Event

Jim noted that WMJS has applied, we will know in April if we receive the grants. Shannan and Jennifer have been coordinating most of the applications.

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

Kevin and Jake suggested to host the event as a hybrid, in the spring.

G. Fundraising Event 2021 – Tabled until MOY is planned

H. Juneteenth Event

Kevin noted that parameters should be established such as the venue and the committee to plan it. It should be a visible and accessible event. Possible venue could be at Rosa Parks circle downtown or Calder Plaza (for accessibility) with remarks from community members. Reach out to other organizations such as NAACP, GRCCT, Grand Rapids African American Museum (George Baird), or the Urban League. Mary noted that Ed Clifford books music at Rosa Parks Circle. Black owned vendors could also be invited to the event to setup. Kevin mentioned that as a nonprofit we may be able to get matching funds. Grand Rapids downtown inc. runs relax at Rosa, another contact.

I. Noto's Supper Club – Resume?

Jim said he could reach out to Noto's about this. Mary also noted that Tony Noto's wife passed away, she can send a card on behalf of WMJS.

J. Wine & Canvas Jazz Fundraiser – on hold

K. North American Saxophone Alliance Conference

Jordan will follow up on the donation from WMJS. WMJS will evaluate further sponsorship during the concert the event.

L. WKTV/WMJS – JazzWorks Program – Availability for meeting with Tom N

Mary will follow up with Tim and possibly schedule another meeting.

V. New business

A. GRCCT – Art Prize Jam Sessions – 9/19, 9/26, 10/3 2-5pm

WMJS is not in a great position financially to commit to an event currently.

B. Listening Room – Open Talks for Event?

Could be a potential location for live streaming or hybrid events.

I. WMJS Board Committee Updates

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

A.1. Discuss need to do committee meetings throughout the month to coordinate and come up with plans to bring to the board

B. Nominating Committee – chair Mary Rademacher-Reed

WMJS board members elections will be in June, terms start in July. Recruiting needs to start now.

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

D. Treasury Committee – chair Jim Reed

D.1. Planned Estate Giving –Shannan Denison –

E. Marketing/Communications Committee – chair Jake Vanderheyden

E.1. Newsletter Update

- There were a few members who did not receive their copies of the newsletter.
- In the Q2 newsletter, we should consider including Juneteenth, Pride month, Women's history month etc. for our articles and coverage. WMJS should also pursue setting up at related events in the community.

F. Membership Committee – chair Kevin Jones (Lauren Starke, Membership Coordinator)

F.1. Membership Renewals 1/1/21 – Need committee meeting/action plan

F.2. Kevin needs to meet with Lauren with some suggestions on what we can do going forward.

G. Scholarship Committee – chair John Miller

G.1. Online Scholarship Form

G.2. Received two Scholarship Submissions

H. Education Committee – chair Tim Froncek – no update

II. Adjournment, Next Meeting – March 27, 2021, 9:30am

Jake motioned to adjourn, Mary seconded. All in favor. New meeting link will be provided as WMJS canceled membership with Zoom due to costs.