

# **West Michigan Jazz Society**

## **Board Meeting Minutes**

April 24, 2021 9:30 am

Zoom

### I. Call to order/Roll Call 9:40AM

Present: Jim & Peni Reed, Michelle Needham, Shannan Denison, Jake Vanderheyden, Kevin Jones, Jordan VanHemert, Dan Ohlman, and John Miller.

Absent: Mary Rademacher, Jerry Scott, and Tim Froncek.

Guests: Jan Basham

### II. Approval of minutes from last meeting

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

### III. Review and Approval of Financials

Jim will send them soon, but due to technical troubles he could not share the document today.

### IV. Open Business

#### A. Speaking of Jazz – Updates

Jordan and Kevin reported some upcoming guests, WMJS will continue to promote the program.

#### B. Jazz Jams at Sandy Point Beach House – Updates

Jake noted that the jam session was cancelled last month, WMJS sponsored having a show still, with no sit-ins. Hopefully it will be outdoor for the summer and hopefully the COVID-19 situation will improve.

#### C. Jazz at Millennium Park – Reserved for 2021- Updates

1. The current guidelines only allow for 300 people at an outdoor event. This will be too low of attendance to pickup the usual contributions to support the cost of the series.
2. Michelle noted that two food vendors have contracts, but there are still more pending.
3. WMJS is planning on having Kurt Ehinger back to run sound.
4. Jim needs more parking attendants for the series. He has two, but needs a total of six.

#### D. Juneteenth Event – Updates? Set up a planning meeting to discuss and assign tasks?

Jake will send out a meeting request to those that expressed interest in planning the event.

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

WMJS did not receive the grant that was applied for.

#### F. Noto's Supper Club – Update on resuming

No update as the COVID-19 situation has been tough on restaurants again.

#### G. Musician of the Year Event Watermark Country Club – no update, as gathering is still not recommended.

- H. Fundraising Event 2021 – Tabled until MOY is planned
  - I. Wine & Canvas Jazz Fundraiser – On hold
  - J. WKTV/WMJS – JazzWorks Program – Availability for meeting with Tom N – on hold
  - K. GRCCCT – Art Prize Jam Sessions – 9/19, 9/26, 10/3 2-5pm – Depends on finances or getting sponsorships to help cover the costs.
  - L. Listening Room – Open Talks for Event? On Hold
- V. New business
- A. Board Member Nominations
    - A.1. Jim noted that June is not a deadline to fill open board positions, WMJS should focus on finding quality additions to the board to make sure we have the right candidates.
    - A.2. Michelle noted that we should evaluate the timing of new board members to align with the calendar year to avoid adding more to meetings during the busy season.
- I. WMJS Board Committee Updates
- A. Executive/Strategic Planning – Board President is the chair
    - A.1. Letter to members
    - A.2. By-Laws Review and Approval – Setting up meeting for next week
    - A.3. 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
    - B.1. A slate of nominees shall be submitted to the Board by the Nominating Committee no later than the April Board meeting. Nominees shall be approved by the Board at the May meeting. The Annual Meeting of the Society shall be held during the month of June for the purpose of electing members of the Board of Directors and Officers and for such other business of the Society that may be necessary.
  - C. Jazz Program Committee – chair Jerry Scott
    - C.1. Lineup was confirmed and announced, press release will be coming soon.
    - C.2. Shannan noted that we should host private home concerts again throughout the summer.
  - D. Treasury Committee – chair Jim Reed
    - D.1. WMJS has received the most high-level contribution memberships without any solicitation. The upcoming mailing will hopefully attract more supporters.
    - D.2. Planned Estate Giving –Shannan Denison – there will be a piece in the upcoming newsletter.
  - E. Marketing/Communications Committee – chair Jake Vanderheyden
    - E.1. Newsletter Update – WMJS will publish a May-June issues early in May. The JITP lineup will be announced amongst other points.
    - E.2. The mailing list issues have been resolved before the upcoming mailings.
  - F. Membership Committee – chair Kevin Jones (Lauren Starke, Membership Coordinator)

F.1. Membership Renewals 1/1/21 – Update

F.2. Lauren provided an update on membership, it is still much lower than usual. The JITP announcement and mailings should help bring back members who have not renewed.

G. Scholarship Committee – chair John Miller

G.1. Received three Scholarship Submissions online

G.2. WMJS should be able to award all three a \$1,000 scholarship to their colleges.

G.3. WMJS can add them to the newsletter and a possible episode on speaking of jazz.

G.4. John noted that Raymond James should be notified when the board member changes occur. Shannan also suggested that she could help manage the fund.

H. Education Committee – chair Tim Froncek - no update

II. Adjournment, Next Meeting – May 22, 2021, 9:30am

John motioned to adjourn the meeting, Jim seconded. All in favor. Adjourned at 11:00 AM.