

West Michigan Jazz Society

Board Meeting Minutes

November 27, 2021 9:30 am

Zoom

I. Call to order/Roll Call 9:42AM

Present: Jim Reed, Peni Reed, Michelle Needham, Jordan VanHemert, Jake Vanderheyden, Kevin Jones, Dan Ohlman, Jan Basham, Shannan Denison, Mary Rademacher

Absent: Scott Freeman

II. Approval of minutes from last meeting – missing, no update

III. Review and Approval of Financials – missing, no update

IV. New business

A. Membership Renewal Update for 2022

A.1. Scott, Lauren, & Michelle will meet following the board meeting to discuss a plan for renewals.

B. Update Dance and Jazz Meeting with Over the Top – Shannan

B.1. Tap dancer collaboration possibility with live jazz

V. Open Business

A. Musician of the Year Event Watermark Country Club – 12/6/21

A.1. Need Silent Auction Items and Sponsorships

A.2. Need to make a final push for ticket sales, due Nov. 30th

A.3. WMJS already presented the trophy, but the letter from the mayor is needed

B. Jazz Gumbos – 3rd Mondays except 12/21 thru May 22

B.1. Signup Genius for Board Members/Volunteers at Jazz Gumbos

B.2. 102 in attendance, 88 guests for Dinner in November.

B.3. Increased advertising on Facebook seems to have helped bring in new guests.

C. Speaking of Jazz

C.1. Programming resumed in November

C.2. Panel discussions for BHM will be scheduled in February

D. Black History Month

D.1. GR Noir Event (band, logistics, sponsors, live stream, etc.)

D.1.a) Proposal is to sponsor a marquee event (no live stream this year)

D.2. Kevin, Jordan, Jim, and Jake met in a subcommittee meeting to review Kevin's proposal.

D.2.a) Social Media posts daily, weekly panels on Speaking of Jazz

VI. WMJS Board Committee Updates

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

- A.1. By-Laws Review and Approval
 - A.2. Meeting with Liam led to productive conversation for planning out approach for WMJS
 - B. Nominating Committee – chair Mary Rademacher-Reed
 - B.1. Board Member Opening
 - C. Jazz Program Committee – chair Jordan VanHemert
 - D. Treasury Committee – chair Jim Reed
 - D.1. Planned Estate Giving – Shannan Denison – Update
 - D.2. New Volunteer – Liam Bailey (Board, Diversity and Equity, Non-Profit and Fundraising Experience) Update on meeting with Liam Bailey, Jim Reed, Michelle Needham and Shannan Denison to discuss grants, fundraising, etc.
 - D.2.a) Michelle will setup a meeting with Liam & Jake to implement communications
 - D.3. Need to meet and update people on account
 - E. Marketing/Communications Committee – chair Jake Vanderheyden
 - E.1. Newsletter – Dec/Jan issue is complete and will be mailed out soon.
 - E.1.a) WMJS needs to start on content for Feb-Mar edition for BHM.
 - E.2. Advertising – deeper advertising has helped with traffic as expected.
 - E.3. Facebook Donations – still no response. WMJS needs to find a way to escalate.
 - F. Membership Committee – chair Scott Freeman with Lauren Starke (volunteer)
 - F.1. Scott was going to set up meeting to work on membership/volunteer needs and plans
 - F.2. Volunteer signup sheet
 - F.3. Potential volunteers reaching out – setup plan
 - G. Scholarship Committee – chair Jim Reed with John Miller (volunteer)
 - H. Education Committee – chair Kevin Jones
 - H.1. Kevin will organize a meeting with Dr. Jim Sawyer about interest from GRJO about education initiatives.
- VII. Adjournment at 11:12AM Peni motioned to adjourn, Dan seconded. All in favor.
- VIII. Next Meeting – December 18th, 2021, 9:30am
- IX. Tabled Business for a Later Date
- A. WatercolorsGR July 2022
 - A.1. Need to set up another meeting with Renee Johnson.
 - A.2. They are working on their 501c3.Fundraising Event 2022
 - A.3. Event will be July 2022 in either Ah Nab Awen Park or Millennium Park
 - B. Wine & Canvas Jazz Fundraiser
 - C. WKTV/WMJS – JazzWorks Program – Availability for meeting with Tom N
 - D. Private Home Concerts
 - E. Listening Room – Shannan update