

St. Cloud Municipal Band Annual Meeting Minutes

Date: Jan. 9, 2023

Meeting Location: Tech High School

**Board members present:** Mike Knaak, John Creasy, Harvey Binder, John Plantenberg, and Vicki Johnson

**Others present:** Andy Nelson, Lowell Larson, Joe Fox

**Board members absent:** Katie Johnson and Patric Lewandowski

*Meeting called to order at 6 p.m. with Chairperson Mike Knaak presiding.*

**Approve Agenda**

Addendum to the agenda was made via email sent to Board members on Jan. 9 to include the approval of the Oct. 17, 2022 minutes. *Motion to approve the agenda made by Mr. Creasy. Motion carried.*

**Approve May 30, Oct. 17, and Nov. 21 Minutes**

*Motion to approve the May 30, Oct. 17, and Nov. 21 minutes made by Mr. Creasy. Motion carried.*

**Welcome New Members**

Mr. Knaak welcomed new board members Havey Binder and John Plantenberg to the SCMB board.

**Election of Officers**

Mr. Knaak stated the SCMB board needed to elect new officers for calendar year 2023. Mr. Knaak stated Ms. K. Johnson had emailed the board prior to the meeting and indicated both her absence and her wish not to be nominated for any board position. Mr. Creasy nominated Mr. Knaak for President. Mr. Knaak accepted the nomination. No other nominations were made.

*Board members present unanimously voted to elect Mr. Knaak as president.*

Mr. Knaak stated the next open position was for vice president. Mr. Creasy asked if anyone had heard from Mr. Lewandowski regarding his interest or lack thereof in being nominated for vice president – a position he currently holds. Having not heard from him, Mr. Creasy nominated Mr. Lewandowski to serve as the board's vice president. No other nominations were made.

*Board members present unanimously voted to elect Mr. Lewandowski as vice president.*

Mr. Knaak then opened the floor for nominations for treasurer. Mr. Knaak nominated Mr. Creasy to continue on as treasurer. Mr. Creasy accepted the nomination. No other nominations were made.

*Board members present unanimously voted to elect Mr. Creasy as treasurer.*

Mr. Knaak opened the floor for nominations for secretary. Mr. Creasy nominated Ms. V. Johnson for secretary. Ms. V. Johnson accepted the nomination. No other nominations were made.

*Board members present unanimously voted to elect Ms. V. Johnson as secretary.*

## **Budget Update**

Mr. Creasy presented the SCMB 2022 year end budget to actual report and the 2022 statement of position. According to Mr. Creasy's report:

- 2022 reported actual revenue: \$5,666.54. 2022 reported budgeted revenue was \$24,530. The SCMB was under budget by \$18,863.46.
- 2022 reported actual expenses: \$22,848.43. 2022 reported budgeted expenses was \$23,180. The SCMB was within \$331.57 of the targeted expenses for the year.

Mr. Creasy indicated the 2022 revenue shortfall was due to not receiving the annual \$15,000 contribution from the City of St. Cloud. This money has not been seen by the SCMB since 2020. It is anticipated the SCMB will once again begin receiving funding from the city during calendar year 2023. To account for the shortfall, Mr. Creasy indicated the band needed to draw on some of its reserves.

Mr. Knaak indicated the city did agree to pay the SCMB \$1,500 per concert up to 10 concerts per year. Mr. Fox indicated the SCMB has 15 concerts scheduled per year, but the agreement between the band and the city was for 10 concerts. Any concert performed above the 10 contractually obligated concerts will be considered "free" for the city.

*Mr. Creasy made a motion to accept the state of position and budget to actual report as presented. Motion carried.*

Mr. Creasy presented the proposed SCMB 2023 budget. According to the budget presented:

- 2023 operating revenues are budgeted for \$26,050.
- 2023 operating expenditures are budgeted for \$23,180.

A question was raised regarding the proposed advertising budget. In 2022, the SCMB had budgeted \$1,425 for advertising but only spent \$715. This year, the proposed budget is \$700. It was explained the SCMB did advertising through the Paramount for the spring concert for approximately \$500. However, the band decided to not pursue additional advertising through the Paramount for the fall concert.

Mr. Knaak indicated a need for the board to discuss diversifying advertising strategies this spring.

*Mr. Creasy made a motion to accept the SCMB 2023 budget as presented. Motion carried.*

## **Winter/Spring Rehearsal and Performance Schedule**

Mr. Fox presented the winter and spring rehearsal and performance schedule. He stated the third Monday in February (Feb. 20) the SCMB will have a concert at St. Benedict's nursing home. As of Jan. 9, the other two nursing homes – Good Shepherd and County Manor – had said no to an in-person performance but would appreciate a recording sent to them similar to last year. Mr. Fox said he will re-check with all three nursing homes to confirm dates.

A suggestion was made to record the St. Ben's nursing home concert.

If the schedule stands, it was recommended by Mr. Nelson to move up the social. In addition, Mr. Nelson suggested using one of the non-concert dates to record a nursing home concert at Tech High School, possibly on Feb. 13.

Ms. V. Johnson asked if the proposed recording could be sent to other nursing homes around the area instead of just the "usual" ones we do. A suggestion was made by Mr. Plantenberg to either add or substitute a nursing home concert. He suggested playing at Woodcrest of Country Manor in St. Joseph. He stated there would be a possibility of this being a paid gig. It was suggested that adding any additional concerts/performances should be brought before the band for their consideration and willingness to expand the performance schedule.

Other venues for additional concerts such as Lake George and the Benton County Fair were thrown around. Ms. V. Johnson indicated her hesitation in having the band take on creating a new event and suggested that instead the band look for existing events in which we could participate.

There was a suggestion by the board to look into the possibility of a joint concert with Foley High School. Mr. Nelson will confirm with Foley if this can/will happen.

Mr. Binder made a suggestion to the board to consider looking at pulling music for concerts that is easier for the band to play – items that we could grab and do minimal rehearsals in order to sound professional. Mr. Larson indicated the band's music library has several of those pieces.

Mr. Fox added the spring concert is set for May 8 at the Paramount.

As far as the winter social is concerned, Mr. Knaak said in previous years the winter social has been hosted at the Eagles. The Eagles does not cater but does allow outside caterers. Mr. Fox said the plan was to go with Pizza Ranch and have individual boxed meals. It is anticipated the food cost would be between \$8-\$10 per person.

### **CMAB Chairs/Carts Grant**

The SCMB was a recipient of a CMAB grant to purchase commercial grade folding chairs and a couple of carts needed to haul them. Mr. Creasy said the band was awarded \$4,790 for this purchase.

### **Snowstorm and Equipment Move**

Due to weather events in December not everything could be moved out of the Media Services Building. In addition, the parking lot and access to the door has not been plowed out. Mr. Creasy said he will connect with the city to have this plowed out so the band could move the remaining items into city hall.

### **Update Membership List and Possible Open Seats**

Item was postponed until next meeting.

***Next meeting: 6 p.m. on Feb. 13 at St. Cloud Tech High School (TENTATIVE).***

*Minutes respectfully submitted by Vicki B. Johnson*