

St. Cloud Municipal Band Annual Meeting Minutes

Date: Feb. 27, 2023

Meeting Location: Tech High School

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

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

**Board members absent:** Patric Lewandowski

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

**Approve Agenda**

*Motion to approve the agenda made by Mr. Creasy. Motion carried.*

**Approve Jan. 9 Minutes**

*Motion to approve the Jan. 9 minutes made by Ms. K. Johnson. Motion carried.*

**Spring Social Update**

Mr. Fox provided information to the board on the upcoming "winter social." Due to scheduling issues, Mr. Fox was proposing the annual "winter" social be held on May 15 at Pizza Ranch in Waite Park. This would also be a fundraising opportunity for the band with the band earning 10% of the proceeds of every meal purchased between 4 p.m. and 8 p.m.

The cost to members would be \$10 with the band covering the rest of the meal costs.

Since it will be occurring after the spring Paramount concert, the band could advertise for the fundraiser at the concert.

Ideas were floated around about developing fliers or pamphlets with some information about the band and the band's history to distribute both at the concert and the social/fundraiser. This would be something to coordinate with Paul Habstritt, head of the marketing committee. In addition, there was an idea to have a poster developed for the event, have a small group of musicians perform during the meal/fundraising time, as well as having a tip jar.

Mr. Fox is waiting to hear confirmation on the proposed musical performance. It was suggested that after the event, the board do a debrief of how it went and if well received, get on the books for a Pizza Ranch fundraiser for next February – around the time of our normal social.

**Facilities and Budget Update**

Mr. Knaak stated that thanks to John Creasy and Bob Kern everything was moved out of the media services building and the storage building ahead of the big snowstorm the week before.

Mr. Knaak also stated the band will need to contact the city regarding compensation for the two nursing home concerts we performed at. Mr. Fox said we had signed a contract with the city, however, the band had never received a completed copy of said contract. Mr. Creasy will work to send the inform/email the city regarding compensation for the last two concerts and determine a payment schedule – possibly a quarterly one – with city staff.

## **Rehearsal Dates**

Mr. Knaak and Mr. Fox reviewed the band's upcoming rehearsal schedule. As it stands, the band will not be rehearsing on Monday, April 10 at the request of the Tech High School band director. Rehearsals on May 8 and 15 have also been cancelled due to the Paramount concert and fundraiser, respectively.

## **Nursing Home Feedback**

Board members reported feedback from the nursing homes was very positive. Mr. Larson indicated we had some definite pitch problems – especially at St. Benedict's – given the temperature.

Ms. V. Johnson had asked if the board was still interested in doing a recorded nursing home concert as previously discussed. It was determined that no recording will be done this year.

## **CMAB chairs/carts grant**

According to Mr. Creasy chairs have not been ordered yet but will be soon. Mr. Creasy has arranged for the chairs to be dropped off at a separate location when delivered due to the need for the chairs to be assembled.

## **Other Business**

Mr. Knaak brought up some long-term concerns for the band that he would like to see addressed by the band board over the next several months. The first issue is regarding a long-range plan for space. Mr. Knaak stated the storage facility and practicing at Tech have been fine, however, he is wanting to band to consider a long-term home for the band similar to Fox Hall. He proposed possible fundraising efforts and having a business sponsor as ideas to assist the band in acquiring a facility.

The second issue Mr. Knaak raised was regarding ways to grow the SCMB. He mentioned this would be a two-fold effort – growing both the band's audience and the band itself. Mr. Knaak proposed for a meeting to discuss community outreach. Mr. Plantenberg had asked if there was an instrumentation guidance on how many members/instruments should be in the band. Mr. Creasy said they do have a list maintained with ideal instrumentation.

Mr. Larson stated Mr. Nelson was looking at a possible joint concert with Foley High School. He did state that spring is the best time to reach out to high school conductors to coordinate a possible joint concert for the next school year.

Mr. Creasy expressed a concern with the dwindling number of Peak music stands that were available. These stands were purchased with a grant and distributed to members for non-Paramount concerts. Band members were charged a \$20 deposit fee for these stands. Mr. Creasy said there is currently one stand left and 15 stands that are currently "missing" – never returned by members who had left the band. Mr. Creasy said he is currently reaching out to Eckroth for pricing information on new stands.

Ms. K. Johnson brought up the SCMB board contact list which was missing a few members' information.

Ms. K. Johnson also brought up the band committees. She asked if it was time to start reassigning members to carry out the duties of these committees.

Mr. Larson indicated that the band would need to develop a fall concert theme soon. He said the music committee will meet within the next two weeks to determine a theme.

**Adjourn**

*Mr. Creasy made a motion to adjourn the meeting at 6:36 p.m. Motion carried.*

***Next meeting: 6 p.m. on March 27 at St. Cloud Tech High School.***

*Minutes respectfully submitted by Vicki B. Johnson*