

St. Cloud Municipal Band Annual Meeting Minutes

Date: Sept. 18 2023

Meeting Location: Tech High School

Board members present: Mike Knaak, John Creasy, John Plantenberg, Katie Johnson, Patric Lewandowski, Harvey Binder, Vicki Johnson

Others present: Lowell Larson, Andy Nelson, Joe Fox

Meeting called to order at 5:58 p.m. with Chairperson Mike Knaak presiding.

Approve Agenda

Motion to approve the agenda made by Mr. Lewandowski. Motion carried.

Approve July 10, 2023, minutes

Motion to approve the July 10 minutes made by Mr. Lewandowski. Motion carried.

Germany Trip Update

Mr. Fox provided an update on the 2024 Germany trip. He said there were 79 people that had signed up – meaning the band is at capacity for members/guests that would be allowed to travel with the band. He said they would have to look at cutting people or will need to explore the option of contacting the travel agency to see if it was possible to get more seats on the tour buses/additional rooms in the hotels. Mr. Fox said they have 46 musicians signed up with a good mix of instrumentation.

Mr. Fox said the buses can haul a trailer however the maximum number of passengers on the bus is 80. There is a concern about luggage/storage.

Nov. 27 Concert in Little Falls

Mr. Nelson said there was enough interest in the band to play with the CLC band in Little Falls, so he has confirmed the joint concert. He said it would be similar to last year with the SCMB playing four or five pieces.

Collaboration with Stearns History Museum

Mr. Knaak said he has been in talks with the Stearns History Museum regarding some programming opportunities. He said next year the museum will celebrate its 40th anniversary (at its current location). He said they currently host a Breakfast Club on either the second or third Wednesday of the month. These events usually have a few people come in and present on a topic. They have asked if members of the SCMB would be interested in doing this as a show and tell opportunity. It would be approximately 90 minutes and will include a Q&A portion as well.

In addition, Mr. Knaak said the museum would be interested in having the SCMB play a concert at their plaza on a Thursday night in September. He said since this would be their 40th anniversary at the current location it would be great if our music selection could be from the 80s if we choose to do this.

Mr. Knaak also discussed collaborating with the museum on some of the band's archives. He said several members have various pieces of band memorabilia stored in a variety of locations. He asked if the museum would have any interest in that. Mr. Knaak was told the

museum would be very interested in old photographs. Mr. Knaak was curious to get feedback from the board regarding these three topics.

Mr. Lewandowski had asked about the band memorabilia and if it was turned over to the museum who would maintain ownership of the items. Mr. Knaak said there would be a contract drawn up that would detail this.

Mr. Plantenberg said there are a good number of band members and relatives of band members that have a lot of the band's memorabilia around town. He said it would be wise for the board to spread the word so the band would have a sizeable donation to provide to the museum.

Mr. Plantenberg also inquired about the museum's possible interest in doing a lobby display at the Paramount for our fall and spring concerts. Mr. Knaak said the museum staff is definitely wanting to be more active in the community. And if the band is planning on doing a concert at the museum in September, they certainly could use the spring Paramount concert as a way to promote the event.

Mr. Knaak will continue to explore and research these options with the museum and will report back to the board on his progress.

Ambassador Program

Mr. Nelson said he is working on setting up this program for the spring concert. His tentative outline for the program would include advertising to area schools within a 20-30 mile radius of the SCMB. He was proposing that band directors nominate up to four students – ideally juniors and/or seniors – who if selected would come to three rehearsals and perform up to three songs with the band. There would be some criteria around attendance of these rehearsals.

Mr. Nelson said he would invite directors to nominate their students in November and would notify selected students by December.

Ms. K. Johnson said given the spring concert is on a Monday night, some schools might not be able to participate. Mr. Lewandowski asked about complementary tickets for parents of the student performers.

Mr. Lewandowski motioned to approve continuing with the Ambassador Program as presented. Motion carried.

Draft Proposal for Committees

Mr. Knaak drafted up some committee responsibilities for the SCMB. This was based upon the work that both Ms. K. Johnson and former board member Lucy Gerold-Amundson worked on previously. He asked board members to review the proposal.

Draft Proposal for Marketing

Mr. Knaak drafted up the responsibilities for the band's marketing committee based on previous board discussions as well as documentation drafted up by Mr. Nelson. He asked board members to review the document as well.

Adjourn

Mr. Lewandowski made a motion to adjourn the meeting at 6:53 p.m. Motion carried.

Next meeting: 6 p.m. on Oct. 30 at St. Cloud Tech High School.

Minutes respectfully submitted by Vicki B. Johnson