

Southern Wisconsin Bluegrass Music Association, Inc.

Minutes of March 4, 2010 Board Meeting

Attendant: Jean Knickelbine, Catherine Rhyner, Julie Cherney, Jim Knobloch, Lane Venden, Jim Hodges.

Regrets: Jon Peik

New board members for consideration: Bruce Stein, Mary Helmke

Meeting started at 5:10 pm

First minutes taken by Julie Cherney:

1) Jim H. made a motion to accept Mary H as member. Catherine seconded, passed unanimously.

2) Jim H. made a motion to add Mary H as the secretary of the board. Catherine seconded, passed unanimously.

Following minutes taken by Mary Helmke

3) Jim H moved to add Bruce Stein to the board, seconded and passed unanimously.

4) Moved to add Bruce Stein as for assistance with Public Relations matters for the Association along with Jean K.

Bruce will check into listing the jam classes in free listings and submit articles for the newsletter.

Bruce is also on the committee of the Brooklyn Bluegrass Festival in June. Julie C. offered to help with P.R. which Bruce accepted.

5) The board acknowledged the resignation of James Brocksmith from the board per his email of 2/26/2010.

6) February minutes and revised retreat minutes were approved

7) The board meetings will be commencing at 5:15 pm on the first Thursday of each month. This time adjustment was agreed upon unanimously in order to accommodate members' personal schedules.

8) Board nomination feedback: Arvid Berge declined, Jim K has not had a chance to ask Larry Schultz. If Catherine sees him before Jim K, she will ask Larry about coming onto the board.

Lane V is going to ask Shauncey Ali (fiddle instr) to consider joining the board.

A quorum is 5 as per the bylaws, need to find more board members. Jim H asked if his wife, Betty could be a board member. Discussion followed that it is better to not have personal partners on the board together. This will be continued at the next board meeting.

9) Sticker sales ideas: SWBMAI stickers are \$5.00 each. Festival season is coming up and there will be requests for donations for the stickers.

Jim K suggested running an ad on the website.

Jim H suggested selling the stickers on Craigslist. It was agreed that Jim will try it and see how it goes.

10) Membership renewal mailing: Membership period ends last of March (can this be done on Quikbooks or Quiken per Jon Peik or do as have been doing til now.

Catherine encouraged mailing reminder. Notice last year went out in March with a followup in April. Membership is under 300, which includes individual band members. More discussion is needed and this will be tabled until the next meeting in April. The budget allows \$375.00 for mailings. Jean suggested a notation regarding membership renewal be added on the next email issue of the Fireball Mail.

11) Membership growth ideas: ways to broaden membership base

Court other types of music, dance, etc

Try to incorporate other associations or groups

Other styles of music open the door to electric instruments. Mission statement: Listen, learn, play.

Jean has a sketch of the 'family tree' for music from Bill Malone. This topic will continued at the April meeting.

12) Raffle news from Lane – no new info yet

13) Del McCoury Band/Fundraiser March 20, 2010 at the High Noon Saloon:

Original Nob Hill Boys will be paid to secure attendance. Del McCoury Band may not appear for meet and greet at high Noon but would do so preceeding Stoughton Opera House appearance that night. Sweetgrass had pulled out, Jean was continuing contact.

Motion by Mary H to cancel Jamboree for March 20, 2010. Seconded by Jim K and unanimously okayed by board.

Jean will contact the Del McCoury Band, If they indicate they will be having a meet and greet prior to the show, it will not be as a part of an SWBMAI concern.

Jean will speak with John Fabke regarding the Nob Hill Boys and see if there is a cancellation fee. If no cancellation fee, she will offer free membership.

Jean will let Sweetgrass know the event has been cancelled and thank them for the consideration.

Jim K will speak with Kathy Dethmer at the High Noon and explain that the event is canceled, but we hope to schedule another event there in the upcoming months.

Julie C will contact Sybil at WORT to cancel planned radio spots and withdraw 4 pairs of tickets for station premium for their donation drive.

Budget money had been set aside for spring fund raiser. The name of the event will be changed to fundraising event. \$1600.00 had been allotted. Modification of the budget wording and from 'spring' and 'fall' to 'fund-raising'.

14) Boris Frank and the Henry Vilas Zoological Society: Catherine has left messages for Boris' office and will keep trying.

15) Chris Power has agreed to teach two 1-hour sessions at \$25.00 each at the West High School Mandolin Club. Catherine is going to go back to Chris and see if he would be okay with 4 sessions for \$104.00, his usual rate for his lessons.

Lane is checking on getting a mandolin for those classes. Bruce S will be taking care of the publicity for this.

16) Jim H visited Bill Graham and thanked him for all the support he has given the Association. It was discussed and found that the \$10,000 he donated in 2005 or 2006, was given with no stipulations. Catherine reminded all that Bill has been thanked at many events and that Carolyn Hegeler was very good about sending timely thank-yous to Bill.

17) Jim H told the board about the Rock County Thresheree Sept. 3-6. Has a natural amphitheater with a stage and sound system. Jean & Jim H will be attending a meeting this Sunday. Hope they will allow the Association to have a table or tent where we can sell memberships and stickers, Perhaps have some of our bands and/or musicians playing there. Our goal is to have exposure for the Assoc. and bluegrass music – lots of potential.

18) Punch Brothers at the Memorial Union – huge email ticket sales.

19) Jim K found that raffle tickets should be sent out for distribution, not for sale. We cannot sell directly, members do so. They are then welcome to contact the board if they need more raffle tickets. Can't ask for the money from the tickets, but request that stubs be sent with the payments or something like that in a cover letter. Jean asked we send any sample cover letters so we can see how it should be worded. The drawing MUST be held publicly without paid admission.

This meeting was closed at 7:00 pm. Next meeting 5:15, Thursday, April 1, 2010.