

**BLOOMINGTON COMMUNITY BAND**

**BOARD OF DIRECTORS MEETING**

**JANUARY 23, 2023**

This mee(ng of the Bloomington Community Band was called to order on Monday, January 23, 2023 at 5:55 pm. It was held at Noodles Restaurant.

***Board Members Present:***

Richard VanArsdel, Chair

Richard Denning, Manager/Vice Chair

Dan Beeker, Treasurer

Ron Hardesty, Assistant Treas.

Tim Bitzer, Personnel Officer

Dominic Thompson, Director

Joe Car, Associate Director

Don Talbott, Website, Tech

Phyllis Solnzeff, Historian

Jenny Smith, Publicity

***Others Present:***

Doug Davis

Gary Wiggins Andrea

Smith

***Absent:***

Jenn Strayer, Librarian

Gretchen Weber, Secretary

I. REVIEW OF ACTION ITEMS AND APPROVAL OF DECEMBER'S MINUTES

The Board reviewed the minutes from the previous mee(ng. A motion was made to approve the minutes and it passed unanimously.

II. TREASURER'S REPORT

Gary said the budget is good. The end of year check was incorrect so an additional check for \$5,000.00 was issued to the account. Rich Denning said we received

almost \$2,000.00 from two donors, close to 1,000.00 each, in response to College Mall concert in December. The donors' names were Ross Lottenbach and Mark Weidemeyer.

There was discussion about the need for someone to send thankyou letters to them. Gary mentioned there were some expenses regarding brochure ads at end of year. Tim mentioned there was also money donated for directors' gifts, individual contributions amounting to \$1,000.00 and miscellaneous gifts of \$3,000.00. There was discussion that this (gifts) should be considered as individual contributions. The BMI Music Report would be due in seven days; Janis was finishing up. Subgroups/for Royalties – 01-31-2023. There's an annual fund we pay that's required each year of \$295.00.

### III. OLD BUSINESS

Regarding Seamus J., Tim said he had talked to his father. Tim explained to him that Seamus needs to have Laura, section leader, address Dominic and the band if he wants to say something. It was agreed that perhaps section leaders should inform newer members about Seamus.

It was decided that dues would not be waived for members in Percussion. However, if Allison provides a proposal, it will be considered at that (me).

### IV. NEW BUSINESS

The Board voted unanimously to elect Richard VanArsdel, Chair and Tim Bitzer, Personnel Officer. Doug mentioned having all members help with Percussion when possible. The board decided not to pay a pit crew. Dan mentioned reorganizing the trailer. If there's confusion, have Allison direct. Tim suggested a "Stand configuration" – (military). Dan mentioned having a color-coded system.

Dominic said the **first rehearsal for BCB would be March 13, 2023**, 12 weeks before first concert. Richard Denning said he hoped we might get to play at Woolery Market., earlier in May.

Contract renewal (Dominic) 10% increase to \$440.00/month.

About half of the band had answered survey/review. Rich V. and Tim said the number one complaint was about talking/cha\er. Tim mentioned a three strikes policy and suspended for season. Doug mentioned "Rules of the Road," and having Dominic step off of the podium until quiet. Dan suggested having section leaders address members. Andrea noted that the by-laws include "conduct unbecoming;" members can be dismissed for the season, if  $\frac{3}{4}$  band members vote accordingly. There was discussion about dismissing members for missing three practices/concerts in a row. Richard Denning brought up band size and the need to possibly limit section numbers. Andrea stressed the need for people to inform section leaders ahead of (me regarding absences.

One idea was to allow people to attend practices but not all concerts. Dan mentioned having sec(on leaders decide who attends performances (rotate). Tim mentioned having a committee to set standards regarding concerts/rehearsals. It was seconded and Doug and Tim agreed to be the committee.

Richard Denning and Dominic brought up sectionals.; Dominic recommended possibly having them monthly. Dan mentioned having “unofficial” sectionals too.

Board wants “Socials” held on nights other than the same nights as Board mee(ngs, and when trailer needs loading. Dominic mentioned ending rehearsals ½ hour earlier on mee(ng nights. Tim thought online meetings should be considered and/or not having meetings every month if possible. It was suggested members email information/ concerns ahead of time to save time at meetings.

Don Talbott said he had “cleaned up” the “Cloud” issue. (T interface).

It was decided that Recruitment of Board Members would be handled later in the year; exit surveys – Board suggested easy transitions, including what office involves, etc. Tim mentioned showing the new Board copier, library, familiarizing them. Doug mentioned a file for each band member.

Don T. suggested volunteers spend a Monday evening stuffing music folders, getting concert order emailed from Jenn.

We still need a new equipment manager. John Herber and Mark Angelo were suggested. Maybe Nancy Wells would agree to be Librarian and have Jenn be Equipment Manager, since Equipment Manager remains unfilled. Doug also said Mike Grove had a stroke.

Joe suggested a “community forum” to address members regarding expectations, the direction of the band, get feedback, etc.

#### Open Floor Agenda Items

Director: Dominic said he was thinking of the theme being music from less well-known composers. He contacted Dr. Pratt, who sent Dom. a terrific list.

Andrea mentioned radio spots (last year).

Webmaster: Don said might switch to Venmo. Norbert’s wife is a graphic designer.

Manager: Rich Denning has dates scheduled. May 29: Memorial Day; June 25, 6:00 BFM; Court House – 4<sup>th</sup>/July; Dec. 9, College Mall.

The board decided a committee should consider nursing home concerts/size, too large?

Publicity: Andrea and Jenny thought we could use tripod, but update and add pictures, design. Jenny wants to talk to Don about pictures, etc. Ryan at White Rabbit agreed to do brochure for 2023. Jenny will be speaking at MCPL Feb. 15 (1 minute talk) at the Meet the Media event. Jenny will be talking to White Rabbit about a BCB magnet or decal. Board members agreed to help with contacting businesses for advertising in the brochure.

Personnel: Tim proposed planning a band trip. He suggested Holland, MI or Bloomington, IL, further in the future possibly Europe. Andrea mentioned Orlando and combining with other bands (community bands or HS). Tim mentioned having a partial number of people going, if some aren't interested. We need to find loaned-out shirts. New members will now have to order and pay for shirts (1816).

#### Voice of the Board Reports

Tim mentioned trying to shorten meetings. Doug said Scott Miller, trombone (wife Emily) had a stroke; he's not completely independent but would like to rejoin BCB, which was agreed to.

The chair adjourned the meeting at approximately 7:20 pm.

Respectfully submitted, Jenny Smith, in Gretchen's absence.