

Midland Concert Band Board of Directors Meeting – Wednesday, June 15, 2016



Schutz Residence

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| <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Mary Huss | <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Denise Dowdy | <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> David Selley   | <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Matt Christiansen |
| <input type="checkbox"/> Andrew Reed          | <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Jim Schutz   | <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Mara Simanskey | <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Sharon Belisle    |
| <input type="checkbox"/> Kyla Reed            | <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Joel Wiseman | <input type="checkbox"/> Brenda Selley             |   |

The meeting was called to order at 7:00 PM by the Chair, Mary Huss. Also in attendance was Bob Adams. (Website), as were Ellen Peden, Pat Heider and Sue Bovid – incoming Board members.

**Previous Meeting Minutes:** No May minutes were recorded, but attendees had reviewed the April minutes, with no further suggestions or comments. Denise moved to approve, Mary seconded, and the April minutes were approved unanimously.

**Treasurer's Report:** (Denise) Summaries of April and May were distributed. The Auditorium line item does not yet include the expenses for the final concert – per Denise, this will likely be somewhat over budget. Denise mentioned that there should be an announcement in the program about memorials for Elaine Studebaker, and that maybe the board should establish a combined memorial fund to include Bill Crozier and Elaine – and perhaps others. Jim moved to approve the Treasurer's report, Sharon seconded the motion, and the motion was approved unanimously.

**Conductor's Report:** (Joel) Joel proposed a contest involving local art students and educators where they would submit art (multiple media) that reflects or interprets the students' perception of a concert recording. The art will be displayed during the concert, and a prize will be awarded – possibly in a partnership with the MCFTA. Joel will submit a more formal proposal in an upcoming board meeting.

**Education and Scholarship Program:** (Sharon) As of the meeting date, only one winner had used their award. Sharon will continue to follow-up with the winners. Sharon and Mary led a brief discussion about possible ways to change or increase participation in the scholarship program. The following list of considerations was generated:

- Can we generate scholarship lists to make available to the schools so that students and teachers are aware.
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- Should 7th graders program be expanded to provide camp opportunities? – nominated by directors as for the Outstanding Seventh Graders.
- Increase the award amount – lots of discussion around this point.
- Nomination by directors instead of waiting for students to respond.
- Eliminate the audition video – this is one of the hardest aspects to nail down for applicants and administration of the program.
- Give funds directly to Band Boosters or schools to use for individual development or band programs or equipment. Ask directors for a list of students and contact them directly.

No firm decision were reached, but it was suggested that anyone with a new idea is encouraged to write a brief proposal for formal consideration by the board – and this invitation can be relayed to the Band members as well. Sharon and Mary will organize a meeting including themselves and Rachel and Ellen to discuss further.

**School Mentorship program** – Rachel Morr has extended the invitation and details regarding available mentors to all eligible area schools (Middle and High Schools), but has received no response as yet.

**Director of Printed Materials:** (Matt) Matt questioned as to whether we had enough letterhead and envelopes, and the feedback was that there was plenty for now. Matt requested that any ticket format changes be communicated to him as soon as they are known so he can plan accordingly.

This last season, the programs covers were exhausted – 1800 were printed. Matt proposed increasing to 2,000, but this will be decided later, as other formats (smaller?) are also being considered.

**Director of Marketing:** (Mara) A larger discussion is needed to further reconsider having the MCFTA handle ticket sales. Per Mara – this could certainly help with marketing activities, since more information about purchasers could be gathered. There are still several details that would need to be worked out – particularly how to handle season tickets, or any concert pre-purchases. .

**Web and Social Media:** Bob reported that some maintenance updates to the website have been done, and as usual, suggestions for content and improvement are welcome.

**Director of Program Advertising** (Kyla) Absent

**Director of Special Projects and Tickets** (Andrew) Absent

**Director of Hospitality** (Jim) No new activity.

**Other:**

**End of Year reviews:** Mary proposed that the band and Board participate in end-of year reviews for both the performance of the Board and of the Conductor. One way to accomplish band member feedback could be similar to the conductor feedback forms used when selecting the conductor. Dave will send samples or bring examples to the next meeting. If this is to be done, it should be announced early in the concert cycle – around the 3rd or 4th rehearsal, and forms should be available by the first week or Holiday concert rehearsals.

**Association of Concert Bands:** Mary was looking at the resources provided by this Association, and noted that there are at least some suggestions regarding audience that can be explored. One suggestion to consider is to have Mary (Chair) post regularly to a blog that can be accessed by members and patrons – this could make announcements and opportunities for participation in festivals more easily accessed, or at least provide more options.

**Next meeting:** The next meeting is scheduled for Wednesday, August 10, at Mary's house on Sanford Lake. and will include a picnic following the meeting for members and guests.

Mary moved to adjourn, Jim seconded; and the motion was approved. The meeting adjourned at 8:20 PM.