

MCB Board Meeting Minutes

Wednesday, June 24, 2020

Online - VIA WEBEX/ZOOM

Present: Rachel Morr, Ellen Peden, Sue Gessford, Chase Guerin, Klaryce Guerin, Dave Selley

Joel Wiseman (conductor), Karen Shields (webmaster)

Absent: Travis Hein, Sue Bovid, Megan Carlsen

Ellen

Meeting was called to order at 7:04 by Chair, Dave Selley Start was delayed by Webex connection issues.

Minutes of the last meeting were reviewed by those present. Dave moved to approve the minutes, Sue Gessford seconded and the minutes were approved unanimously.

Treasurer's report: In Sue Bovid's absence, a full review was tabled, but a few items were noted. Most of the budgeted scholarship funds have not been distributed due to pandemic cancellations. A further review and decisions will be needed, over the remainder of the year, but may not be reconciled before the end of the Band fiscal year (Aug. 31, 2020) Sue Gessford and Ellen continue to communicate with the students and local educators about options. It was once again noted that MCB funds will not be transferred directly to students or their parents, but only to qualified vendors or educators.

Dave reported that the band did not receive the Alden and Vada Dow grant as expected due to other community priorities, and so theoretically puts the band at a \$2500 shortfall, but with band camps cancelled, the planned expenditures for that amount has also not been made.

Education: Per Sue G. and Ellen's efforts, some scholarship awards are being distributed. Aaron Brown was selected to receive the Stan Rowe (low brass) scholarship and wishes to use the funds to pay for private instruction. As the funds are held by the Midland Foundation, Sue Bovid requested a board vote to approve the request to pay Aaron's instructor, Sue Gessford. Dave moved to approve the payment, Ellen seconded and the motion was approved by 5 members present, with none opposed and Sue Gessford abstaining.

Bullock Creek was hoping to convene a band camp, and Sue G. has been working with possible partial payment for that activity, but it looks like this will not be possible, so all scholarship winners are being informed about what qualifies for MCB funding through scholarships. Sue will update as more students make their decisions.

Certificates for scholarships winners have been produced in the past seasons, and Mary Huss was the go-to person for that. Dave will follow-up with Sue G. and Mary to see if we can produce and send these out.

Band Picnic: Given the state of restrictions on gatherings, and to promote community health, no picnic will be held this year.

Next Season Plans: A variety of options were discussed regarding how to plan for and execute rehearsals and performances for next season, but until more information is provided by the Midland Public Schools and the Midland Center for the Arts, nothing definitive can be planned. As a "Plan B" Joel has suggested proactively looking at possible alternative (larger) rehearsal spaces, such as local churches. Joel also

suggested that if a normal performance venue or schedule is not possible, the board can explore other performance options such as outdoor venues, online streaming, recording or smaller ensembles. A challenge to not rehearsing at the school would be in securing percussion equipment. Joel will check on options with other groups.

Roundtable:

Rachel noted that while no one has yet stepped forward to fill her board position she remains willing to assist as much as possible, but still not planning for another term.

Dave noted that delaying board meetings until later in July and August may allow for more information to be available, and will try to schedule accordingly. Dave will continue to send emails and/or newsletters as needed to keep the members current with developments.

Meeting was adjourned at 8:17.