

WHEATLAND MUSIC ORGANIZATION
VIRTUAL BOARD OF DIRECTOR'S MEETING
May 12, 2020

BOARD MEMBERS PRESENT:

<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Tom Ball	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Roger Little
<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Scott Cavner	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Jo McLachlan
<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Kim Croy	<input type="checkbox"/> Marco Menezes
<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Greg Hoff	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Barb Oakley
<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Carrie Harris	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Maria Reiser
<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Marilyn Hummel	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Don Short
<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Mary Ane Krum	

EMPLOYEES PRESENT:

<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Lola Tyler	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Brooklyn Young	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Liz Rykse
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The meeting was called to order at 6:39 PM.

Proposal Maria, second Jo, to approve the Consent Agenda. Motion carried unanimously

PUBLIC COMMENT – None. Mary Ane was asked if someone could listen in to the meetings. The consensus at this time is that the virtual meetings are closed to the public. Lola will post that people with input can call the office to submit their ideas or concerns.

EXECUTIVE DIRECTORS REPORT

1. The staff are all tired of working from home.
2. TAW refunds are being processed. Some people are donating the funds back to WMO.
3. Lola is working on two grants – to be explained in Fund Development Committee report.
4. Volunteer sign up starts Monday.

OLD BUSINESS

1. Board Governance:
 - A. the Committee has reviewed the submissions and put 5 prospects forward for this year. If anyone has skills information on any of the prospects that wasn't listed in the spreadsheet, please let Greg know.
 - B. Risk Management committee will be re-populated. Jo will be contacting people re: their interest and availability. Potential candidates were discussed briefly.
2. Fund development:
 - A. Donations policy: Following discussion, proposal Don, second Marilyn, to adopt the policy that donations to WMO, including memberships, are non-refundable. This is consistent with other non-profit groups around the country. Motion carried unanimously. Kim asks that we consider any request that someone may make due to covid19 hardships. Lola will develop a request for refund form. These requests will be then reviewed by the committee on an individual basis, and referred to the Board, if necessary, for a final decision.
 - B. Maria reviewed the letter that will go to donors that have purchased memberships in the event the festival is cancelled. Different benefits will be available for Level 1-3 and Level 4-5, including 50% discounts on Level 4-5 for their 2021 memberships. A temporary policy will cover this issue.

C. The Committee and Lola have been working on two grants through the Michigan Council for the Arts and Cultural Improvements. Both are due by 6/1/2020, with funds available after October 1, if awarded.

1. Proposal Jo, second Don, to submit a grant under Capital Improvement for the Song Stage. We will need updated materials and labor costs. The current plan is that WMO purchases the materials as our matching funds. Motion carried unanimously.
2. Proposal Tom, second Chili, that we submit for the Operations grant, as we did last year. We received \$18,000 last year. Josh/Kennari will be assisting in the preparation of this grant. This can be used for staffing, operating expenses, etc. Motion carried unanimously.

3. Community Education:

- A. TAW virtual concert: 5/23/2020 from 7-9 PM. Frank Youngman will be hosting. Four groups will be performing. There will be opportunities for donating to musician's support funds. The budget for this has already been approved. Dan Bracken is working on technical support with public broadcasting. This concert will be available on the webpage, Facebook and Youtube. WMO will have an ongoing Youtube option for future concert activities.
- B. Dan Hummel is working on a virtual sky-watching presentation similar to what has been scheduled at TAW. It will run at 4 PM 5/23/2020.
- C. Following discussion, proposal Chili, second Mary Ane, that WMO apply for an Emergency relief grant that would fund expanded virtual music lessons. Bruce Bauman is currently doing virtual fiddle lessons. This would allow continuation through the summer months and would expand the lessons to include Frank Youngman on ukulele. Funds would cover the instructors and offset increased staff and utility costs. Motion carried unanimously.

NEW BUSINESS

1. Archiving: See report – Dependent on COVID19 guidelines as to start date, the CMU intern will begin work this summer. Maria is checking with CMU on potential start dates. Original plan was for him to start 5/18/2020.
2. FARM Fall Conference has been cancelled and re-scheduled for fall of 2021, again at Crowne Plaza in Grand Rapids. Our registrations will be held over.
3. FESTIVAL 2020:
 - A. T-shirts have been ordered. If necessary, they can be held over until next year. Discussion occurred re: a memorial shirt, probably black, for "2020 - The Festival that Wasn't". No final decision made. Tiles will be ready. Mary has a design in mind, but needs a decision by July so she can begin making them.
 - B. If social distancing is still in effect, we can't hold the festival. We can keep the staff busy through the next few months, regardless.
 - C. Roger relates the uncertainties that we will be facing in decision making – restrictions & regulations, public confidence and finances.
 - D. Proposal Mary Ane, second Don (he said only to facilitate discussion), that WMO cancel Festival 2020. Discussion:
 1. We still have time to make a decision. The next board meeting is 6/9 – a good deadline for making the decision.
 2. Whatever ticket sales we might have, wristbands aren't mailed until July. Refunding monies would not be a problem.
 3. Someone (Marco?) need to track the Governor's guidelines as they are released and communicate that to us.

4. Lola will contact and attend the 5/18 Remus Twp. Board meeting to gather input as to what Remus area businesses feel about holding the festival or cancelling it.
5. Proposal Marilyn to table this motion until the June meeting. This motion takes precedence over any other motions that have been made or are under discussion.
6. Proposal Jo, second Don, to move the June Board meeting to 6/2/2020. Motion carried unanimously.
7. Discussion of potential complications of volunteer sign up and ticket sales going forward before we make any festival decision on 6/2.
8. Lola will post a message on social media and the WMO answerphone that we will make the decision at the 6/2 meeting, and that all volunteer sign up and ticket sales will be delayed until that decision is made.

ADJOURN: Proposal Maria, second Mary Ane, at 8:17 PM.

Respectfully submitted,

Marilyn Hummel
Secretary to the Board