



Knightwind Ensemble, Ltd.

Minutes – Meeting of the Board of Directors

June 8, 2017

Oakwood Center, Room O2600 (10361 W Innovation Drive)

Board Members present: Chris Burns (President), Ellen Manning (Vice President), Ellie Dorsey (Secretary), Erik Janners (Music Director), Matt Bantz, Jim Skaleski

Board Members Absent Excused: Jim Nelsen, Craig Williams

Others Absent: Peggy Lundberg (Treasurer)

Call to Order: 6:55pm by President Chris Burns

Meeting Minutes Approval for Board Meeting (April 29, 2017)

Meeting minutes for the last Board Meeting were approved by the Board via email and were disseminated to membership by President Burns on May 21, 2017.

Agenda Approval for Board Meeting (June 8, 2017)

President Chris Burns presented the agenda via email prior to the board meeting. Secretary Ellie Dorsey moved to approve the agenda with flexibility. Jim Skaleski seconded. Motion carried.

Financial Report

Treasurer Peggy Lundberg submitted her financial report to the board via email prior to the meeting. A working budget for the 2017-18 fiscal year was provided for Board review. Several edits were made, including increasing the budget for supplemental musicians and music for the 2018-2019 season, and removing the line items for concert recordings and postage. The marketing committee will also be consulted to determine how much will be needed to cover marketing for the Winter 2018 concert.

Staff Reports

Music Director – Erik Janners reported that the Memorial Day concerts were a success. The audition page on the website is live – auditions will be held on Sunday, August 13, 2017.

Committee Reports

Fundraising – Maureen Gerard provided an update via email prior to the board meeting. The We Energies grant application requesting support for the February 2018 concert was denied. Three other grant options are being explored – Associated Bank, Heil Family Foundation, and Hal Leonard. Other grants to be explored can be sent to Maureen for review.

PR/Marketing – Gail Kablau submitted a report via email prior to the meeting. Bookmarks and free CDs available at both Memorial Day performances were popular with attendees. Now that he is back in the area full time, Jim Skaleski noted that as Webmaster he can take charge of updating the website. President Burns noted that there will be a joint meeting this summer with the PR/Marketing committee and the Fundraising committee to organize campaigns for the 2017-2018 season.

Educational Outreach – Pam Harrison submitted a report to the Board via email prior to the board meeting. Educational outreach activities have concluded for the 2016-17 season, and Pam received student surveys from Golda Meir band students regarding their experiences with their Knightwind volunteer. Feedback was overwhelmingly positive, with students reporting improvement in a variety of technical skills and speaking highly of the volunteers they worked with. Pam will meet with Jamie Shores (Golda Meir) and Pete Thompson (South Milwaukee) over the summer to discuss their feedback regarding the program and to strategize outreach opportunities for the 2017-18 season.

Old Business

Golda Meir Summer Storage

Matt Bantz reported that equipment has been moved to a different storage location in Golda Meir, but it is all in the facility in a secure location. Vice President Ellen Manning will review the building permit to confirm the ensemble is covered through the next year.

New Business

Officer Elections

President Chris Burns, Vice President Ellen Manning, and Secretary Ellie Dorsey are all willing to continue in their respective roles on the Executive Board. Music Director Erik Janners moved for all three Board members to continue in their roles. Motion carried.

Other Fundraising Ideas

Matt Bantz suggested that the band could staff concessions at Brewers games as a fundraising opportunity. Volunteers would need to attend one training session prior to staffing a game, and proceeds from the concessions sold at staffed games would go to the Ensemble. The Board agreed that this would be an excellent way to raise money and to get more people in the Ensemble involved in fundraising. Matt will get more information about this to see if the Ensemble can do this for any games this season.

President Burns also suggested looking into restaurants that provide a percentage of proceeds to area organizations during designated times. He will look into opportunities to do this as well.

Member Feedback – Golda Rehearsal Space

After one year rehearsing in the space at Golda Meir, President Burns reported on feedback from membership regarding the space. The most common complaints are about how loud and warm it gets

during rehearsals. However, it is a free space and our connections with faculty and staff are positive, and despite these concerns feedback from membership has been generally positive.

Staff/Committee Chair Review

No formal staff review was done this year, as the process was noted to be overly tedious last year. President Chris Burns will reach out with feedback to staff and committee chairs via email in the coming weeks.

From the Floor

Memorial Day Uniforms

Music Director Erik Janners questioned the necessity of having a required uniform polo for only the Memorial Day concert. Vice President Ellen Manning moved to change the uniform requirements for the Memorial Day concert to include either a Knightwind Ensemble polo or a plain white polo shirt, and optional black socks. Music Director Erik Janners seconded. Motion carried. The Membership Handbook will be updated accordingly.

There were no other items for discussion raised from the floor.

Next Meeting: August 9, 2017 at 7:00pm

Adjournment: President Burns moved to adjourn. Music Director Erik Janners seconded. Motion carried. The meeting was adjourned at 7:54pm.

Respectfully Submitted,
Ellie Dorsey
Secretary