

NATURE COAST COMMUNITY BAND
BOARD OF DIRECTORS MEETING
SATURDAY, JULY 31, 2021

ATTENDANCE BY THE BOARD: Judy Williams, Jenny Gill, Victoria Durrance, Ty Ramsey, Craig Lilly, Marty Brown, Dee Morgan, Al Sergel, Clayton Doak, Susan Mahoney

Absent: Pat Johnson

ATTENDANCE BY THE BAND: Kaleb DuBose, Tom Williams, David Morgan

Call to order by Judy Williams 10:04

Quorum Victoria confirmed quorum

Housekeeping

Thank you to Jenny for opening her home for our meetings.

Judy made the board aware of Executive Board meetings. They do not include everyone to streamline board meetings. Board members will be made aware of all necessary details of these meetings.

Prior Meetings Minutes

May 25, 2021 Motion to approve: Susan Mahoney
Second: Ty Ramsey
No opposed

May 20, 2021 (With follow up) Motion to approve: Susan Mahoney
Second: Dee Morgan
No Opposed

Financial Report Pat Johnson was unable to attend

Business Items

Venue

Judy reminded us that we now use Lecanto Middle School as our rehearsal venue.

- We might have to move venues in the case of National Covid Mandates.
- Torrie is in contact with Principal Inga (LMS) to get a key to ensure access.

We are still unsure about venues for the concerts on March 6th, May 8th, and July 3rd.

Clayton asked about the missing concert venues.

- Jenny explained more about the Seven Rivers construction. They are not sure how long it is going to take. The church should know by November.

Craig asked if we have a backup for the concerts.

- Judy will follow up Al (at the auditorium) and ask him to “pencil us in” and “let us know if a paying offer comes up, to let us know.”

We no longer have a sound technician for Citrus Springs Community Center.

- Judy asked if we could hire the previous volunteer and is waiting for a response. David Morgan volunteered to cover sound for the day of the concert.

Rehearsal Schedule

We plan to return to rehearsal on August 24th.

- Judy expressed concern for members being punctual for rehearsal. Same thing with sitting out concerts (non-snow bird members).

Pat sent out a letter to former members and has received several responses.

- Response is about 50/50

Website

Pat has started from scratch to get the website back up and running. Pat is asking for suggestions.

- Judy would like a member-only tab that has EVERYTHING they need to know, a tab for meeting minutes, and a letter from Craig to welcome everyone.
- Susan and others brought up the possibility of bringing back the “Member Spotlight” section of the Facebook page and website.
- Victoria suggested we bring back the current concert recordings for practice.
- Board members were asked to send all remaining suggestions to Pat.

We have a handful of people who did not sign the photo release. Pat is going to reach out and ask those who haven’t filled it out before posting photos.

Communication with Members

Judy stated we need stronger communication with our members. Open and honest communication is requested. Please keep confidential things confidential.

Al expressed his discomfort with members sending emails to all members. Al suggested that we should not give out everyone’s information.

- Marty followed up by suggesting we only give the information to section leaders.
- Jenny expressed people’s discomfort with addresses being released as well.

- Craig asked about members getting others' emails through correspondence. Victoria will be sure to blind copy (BCC) people on emails.

President, Director, Secretary, and Section Leaders are the only ones who will send out emails to members.

- Victoria will ask returning members to leave current sheets on their stands.

By-Laws

Board members were asked to bring in a marked-up copy of the By-Laws. Judy stated the intention is to not have to change them every six months.

- Ty will head the committee with the assistance of Victoria Durrance, Kathy Thompson, and Al Sergel.
- Al thinks the change of by-laws comes with the change of the conductor. This should change in the future. It should not need to change with the conductor.
- The draft of New by-laws will be presented to the Board Members on the 24th.

Clayton suggested the existence of Executive Board only meetings needed to be added to the bylaws.

Member Guidelines Booklet

- Again, Ty will head the committee with the assistance of Victoria Durrance, Kathy Thompson, and Al Sergel
- Judy wants the members to have this as soon as possible.
- Victoria requested removing some of the jokes.
- Al reminded us that this document is our P.R. tool and needs to be treated as such.

Member guidelines and by-laws will be changed together to ensure cohesive information.

Recruitment

Most had someone in mind to either ask or give more information to.

- Judy is referring everyone to talk to Craig about membership.
- Al asked if contact goes out to let people know we are rehearsing.
- Susan was asked to put out a press release in the Chronicle and Ocala press. Judy suggested that we reach out to the villages.

- We need to check with Pat to see where Join the Band forms go.

Retention - We need to retain members. Section leaders are depended upon for retention. We need to be in contact with Craig about their members. If someone has a concern we want them to feel as though they have agency in their roles. Make sure this doesn't fall under one person.

Section Leaders

Judy asked Craig what we want our section leaders to look like?

- Craig replied a section leader is to do what is asked by him, be at rehearsals regularly, take attendance, distribute music, arrive early to make sure section is organized and all parts are covered, set a good example for section members, fix wrong notes/rhythms/intonation, pick up/collect bow ties for performances, and recruit for their section. Section leader doesn't have to be the first chair.

Judy asked about inherited section leaders. It is up to you (Craig) to redefine the role of a section leader.

Judy asked other board members what they think a section leader looks like.

- Jenny - Correcting music when you hear something is wrong. Being open to questions from your section. Attendance needs to be optimal and you need to be prepared. Knowing your music. Be humble and kind. Be willing to do what your director asks. Model what the perfect band member looks like.
- Marty - Section leader needs to have music knowledge to help others.
- Clayton - Section leaders run section leaders.
 - Torrie expressed concern about sectionals needing direction.
 - Susan asked if Craig need to guide sectionals.
 - Craig reminded us that he has given lists to sections.

Craig requests that guidelines be set for missing rehearsal.

- Members need to make section leaders aware of tardiness to make sure seats are there. Al suggested that section leaders are the heads of that. They should know where their members are.
- Al restated that attendance is critical and added that people can't miss a majority of rehearsal and then perform.

Talent is wonderful. Dependability is critical.

Student Auditions (Al)

Al handed out proposed audition guidelines. Suggested these be added to the website. Al read through the handout with us.

- Victoria brought up concerns with asking students to perform at higher standards than the adults in the ensemble.
 - Al said that is a concern but not one to be resolved in the student audition performance.
 - Jenny said there is no reason to not hold new adult members to these standards and grandfather in current members.
- Susan motioned to approve with the added scales.
- Victoria expressed concern with the timpani requirement.
 - Al will change the requirement.

- Ty recommended we use etudes rather than concert selections.
 - Al will get to work on etudes for students to play.
- Jenny asked about how we handle homeschooled/private lesson students who do not have a band director for recommendations.
 - Al said whatever music teacher they have can write the recommendation.

Al will make recommended changes, send them to Victoria and she will get them out to everyone.

Susan motioned to approve with the added scales and amendments. Marty seconded. No opposed.

Veterans Concert

Judy and Craig are the lesions for the Veteran Coalition. We are included heavily in the November Parade. They are leaning to Nature Coast for the tribute to first responders and EMTs.

- Austin (Seven Rivers) has been talked to about streaming to a deployed unit somewhere in the world. Walgreens has agreed to mail a candy bar. They are going to try and integrate the unit with the band. Judy has asked for a unit with people in the area to involve the community. We are going to invite people who SHOULD be there to Coalitionte those who give so much for us.
 - Eventually, we want to pull the band into the 21st century in regards to streaming the performances.
- Marty suggested Talk to Bay News 9.
- Judy says she has talked to FOX News about coverage that day.
- Jenny requested a change of wording when asking people to stand during the Armed Forces March. (Change to Active Duty and Veterans)
- Veterans have asked for taps at the concert as well.
- Victoria will talk to her mother about connecting with the deployed unit.
- Susan asked to be notified when we know what Unit is being streamed.
- Judy will be reserving seats for the Women's Veteran Network and the Veteran Coalition.

Other Business

Kingdom of the Sun is looking for a new director. Craig is on the shortlist.

- Craig reassured us that NCCB is his first priority. Craig is slotted to be the associate conductor of Kingdom of the sun and will try to ensure no future conflicts.

Judy asked us to consider adding to the Mother's Day concert to honor Doreen for her service to the band.

- No opposed.

Fundraising

Al suggests we need new timpani.

- According to Al, Lonestar is \$12,000 for brand new drums.
 - Craig suggested we look for better used to save money.
 - Percussion will get together with a list of needs.

Judy asked about an action plan for new equipment. We have some grant money earmarked for instruments.

- Judy knows of a contrabass clarinet potential player willing to buy the instrument if he can play in the band.
- Jenny will talk with a former student about donating instruments.

Judy will not ask the band to go sell a product. She maintains that it is not the job of the members to fundraise.

Craig suggested a bingo tournament.

- Judy says Bingo is big with the Lion's Club and she will reach out to them. Marty suggested the Homossasa Lion's Club and Ruth Levins.

Judy suggested we reach out to the Women of Citrus Hills and the like (Rotary, etc.) for donations and to reach out to places such as Grand Living.

Jenny suggested a silent auction.

Al suggested we go to companies to get them to sponsor concert programs.

- (Cost of concert programs ~\$300.) Not with ads, but with a "Sponsored by:" line on the front cover.

Torrie suggested we get more involved with the All-County Concert Band.

- Will require more information from directors as it becomes available.

Al suggested we do an audition-type process to feature a high schooler in the concert as a soloist. Jenny suggested we spread a wide net for potential players.

Judy proposed we use the March concert as a fundraiser.

- Example: We pick 5 community leaders and we put buckets to have the community vote on who conducts the band. Whoever has the most money gets to conduct. (Work with the Chamber of Commerce.)

Public Relations

Victoria is making stickers for Friends, Members, and sponsors.

- The band is buying materials and Victoria is donating her time.

A new picture of the band is needed.

Susan will look into Bay News 9 Calender and other PR avenues (Sugarmills magazine and other community publications.)

Library

Ty was advised to communicate with Emily about librarian things. October and December concerts are already pulled.

Conductor Report

Craig had nothing to add.

Comments from Band

Tom Williams had concerns about prior minutes.

He has concerns about student auditions and was concerned about making sure the auditions are being run correctly. He expressed concerns about making sure we are following whatever procedure we use. Tom's opinion is that Craig needs to meet with ALL potential members and the potential member does not play until they audition with Craig before rehearsals.

- Judy reassured Tom that the new audition process proposed by Al will address all of his concerns.

Kaleb DuBose asked if there is a running list of high schoolers who have previously auditioned with the band and to make sure we do not reaudition anyone. He was contacted about high schoolers that have been in the band for multiple concerts during this year's audition process.

- Moving forward we will keep better track of those auditioning for the ensemble.

Kaleb asked about the French Horn section leader. We need to select one. Kaleb will not be at the October concert.

- Craig will contact Lydia and Al (as well as other members) in coming back to the ensemble.

Dee Morgan asked about getting back Historian stuff from Lydia.

- Judy asked anyone who has contact information for her to try and reach out to Lydia. Judy volunteered to meet somewhere to pick up materials.

Susan asked for the meeting schedule. Judy recommended we meet once a month. Ty suggested we move away from Saturday. Meetings will be on Wednesdays at 6:00. Jenny suggested we use Seven Rivers Church for meetings. She will talk to Kathy Thompson about using the band room.

- The next meeting is tentatively scheduled for August 25th, at 6 o clock in the Seven Rivers.

Torrie asked about a rubber stamp for sending out correspondence.

[Adjournment](#)

Craig Moved to adjourn. Marty Seconded.

Respectfully Submitted by:

Victoria Durrance
NCCB Secretary
(813) 997-9825