

Sacramento Concert Band Council Minutes –December 11, 2017 Meeting

The meeting of the Sacramento Concert Band opened at 5:35 p.m., Monday, December 11, 2017, in the Chorus Room at Rio Americano High School, Sacramento, California.

People present were:

Bob Allshouse
Les Corbin
Norm Hill
Karen Hung
Barbara Murray
Jim Murray
Grant Parker
Linda Powell
Jill Somers

Minutes

Norm discussed the minutes of the November 13, 2017 meeting that had previously been distributed to the council by email. After adding a sentence about the website, the minutes from the meeting were approved.

To Do List Review

Linda reviewed the To Do List, and the members reported briefly on the items they had finished.

Concert Checklist

Jill led a discussion about pending issues with items on the Concert Checklist.

Jill said she would ask Grant to remind the band during rehearsal about formal wear as the standard for members at the concert. Men are to wear black tuxedos or suits with white shirts and black bowties. Women need black formal wear. When Grant came in from setting up the theater for our dress rehearsal, he agreed with black formal wear for the concert. He suggested, and the council agreed, that we would follow the standard from last year in allowing holiday accessories for the second half of the concert. He cautioned, however, that any headgear such as Santa hats or antlers must not obstruct the view from any player to the director.

Jim reported that he had been in touch with the director of the custodial staff and that we will have an assigned custodian who will be trained in operating both the lighting and the audio systems. He had requested, and the school agreed, to have additional bathrooms open for the concert.

Publicity

Jim reminded the group that our sign about the concert went up at Rio. He said that the school secretary had been very good to work with in making arrangements. The Sacramento Mayor declined our invitation to attend. Norm suggested that instead of the Mayor, in the future, we invite the member of the Board of Supervisors who represents the Carmichael area. The group agreed that was a good idea.

Jim described the ongoing publicity efforts. The Library system agreed to send our flyers to branch libraries in our area. He described his and Barb's contacts with the area newspapers about the concert. He reported that three assisted living facilities had been very interested in the concert. He cautioned the group, however, that we will need to be ready to help people in wheelchairs. After discussing the mobility problems for assisted living residents, the group suggested that for the Spring concert, priority should go to contacting senior independent living facilities. However, the new theater is ADA compliant and can handle wheelchairs.

Barb reported that the Sacramento County Board of Supervisors has included an announcement of our concert in their public events calendar.

She said we will be using volunteers at the concert for a number of functions that performing band members cannot do. They will be in the lobby, on the second floor, and on the main floor to help people in wheelchairs. Each volunteer will receive a gift of a canvas bag imprinted with the Sacramento Concert Band logo. She and Jim will pay for the bags. They have the signs for the lobby but still need balloons. She would like to receive the flyer for the Spring concert by January 31 so we can get into the county events calendar.

Grant expressed appreciation for all the work on publicity. He said this was the most work he had seen for publicizing any of our concerts.

Discussion turned to the program inserts that we ask people to fill out and to use in the raffle for CDs from prior concerts. We request people's email addresses so we can notify them about future concerts, and we ask how they heard about the concert. After the concert, the inserts will go to Jim and Barb so they can evaluate the publicity efforts. Then the inserts will go to Bill who maintains the email publicity list.

Program

Bob circulated a copy of the concert program. He said he needed the electronic version of a new ad for Tim's Music that would have the new address. He gave the prices for black and white programs as well as in color and suggested that the much higher cost for color was not worthwhile. He said that if people have additional ads, he needs to receive them by close of business tomorrow, Tuesday, December 12. He explained that he could still make changes to the program, but the time for any changes was quickly running out. Les agreed to follow up with Tim's Music Store regarding placing an ad.

The group discussed how to give recognition and thanks to the people at Rio who had been so helpful to us. The group decided that rather than print a list of names and run the risk of leaving anyone out, the program should thank "the staff and administration of Rio Americano High School."

Bob requested that Grant tell the members at rehearsal that the band will have a special supply of programs near the stage and that they should not take copies from the lobby. He also urged Grant to remind the members of appropriate attire for the concert.

Road and Stage Crew

The road crew has been asked to help the stage crew with the stage setup and teardown. Norm will ask Gregg Rasmussen to document where stands, chairs, percussion, and other items come from so we can get them back to the right places. Grant said he would arrive around 11 a.m. Sunday morning. He asked that the road and stage crews arrive around noon.

Concert Debrief

Jill asked if the council wanted to do a debrief after the concert. Grant said that since the concert will be at a new place, day and time, we should plan on a thorough debriefing. There will be many things to consider. Jill asked for each Council Member to please submit items for the debrief.

Council Priorities for the Spring

Jill provided a list of ten subjects for council consideration in the Spring and asked for additional ideas from the group. The following list resulted from the discussion:

1. Status of current enrollment/band membership

2. December concert debrief
3. Update of the website
4. Prepping for the Spring Concert
5. 2017-18 council budget
6. Recruitment and learning how new members found us.
7. Backups of our members and fan lists.
8. Creating a substitute list, potentially from SVSBA
9. How to provide more support to Grant
10. Purchasing new shirts
11. Too much talking during rehearsals
12. Publicity to create a larger audience
13. Members to improve musicianship
14. Communications with SVSBA
15. Branding
16. Whether we should have more concerts

Grant suggested that Les was doing a good job with getting members registered and paid up so that item 1 need not be on the list. It was suggested that dates for sending information to SVSBA be added to our concert checklist.

Jill handed out cards and asked each member of the council to list the numbers of their top 4 issues and their next 4 second priority items. She said she would use the results to rank the issues for future discussion.

Next Meeting

The next meeting will be on February 5, 2018 at 5:30 p.m.

Adjournment

The meeting adjourned at 6:55 p.m., December 11, 2017.

Respectfully submitted,

Norm Hill, Secretary

Approved February 5, 2018