

Sacramento Concert Band Council Minutes –February 5, 2018 Meeting

The meeting of the Sacramento Concert Band opened at 6:00 p.m., Monday, February 5, 2018, in the Chorus Room at Rio Americano High School, Sacramento, California.

People present were:

Bob Allshouse
Nancy Bibby
Les Corbin
Dawn David
Norm Hill
Barbara Murray
Jim Murray
Bill Parker
Grant Parker
Linda Powell
Jill Somers

Minutes

Norm discussed the minutes of the December 11, 2017 meeting that had previously been distributed to the council by email. The minutes from the meeting were approved.

Council Priorities

Jill handed out a list of priorities for the council to focus on during the spring. She asked the members to think about the items on the list for future discussion.

Duration of Council Meetings

Jill asked whether the council meetings should start at 6:00 pm or 5:30 pm. Some people had said that 5:30 had been difficult for them, but we have not been able to finish all items on the agenda. Grant said he was more concerned with the meetings running past 7:00 pm because he needed time to get ready for the start of rehearsal. Dawn said she needed to leave before 7:00 at each meeting to set up the snacks and to warm up. The group voted to start meetings at 5:30 pm.

SVSBA

Jill reported that both Karen and Grant would be unable to attend the February 11 meeting of the Sacramento Valley Symphonic Band Association. Jill then asked if anyone could attend the meeting. Dawn said she would check to see if she could. Jill then said she would do it if Dawn could not.

The SVSBA is wanting to change the way that the membership of each participating band is calculated and the SVSBA application due date. They plan to use the average membership from the previous three years, accept applications from June 30 to August 31 and not allow the music library to be accessed until the application is submitted. Grant said that he preferred using the June 30 membership due date, had some concerns that using an average for the membership number could require bands to pay more than they should if enrollment is down but that it should be fine for SCB since we are required by Adult Ed to have a minimum enrollment number. Since SVSBA asked that the bands provide feedback on this plan, Grant said that he would do that.

Jim expressed his dissatisfaction with the lack of prosecution of the embezzlement case by the District Attorney's office. Grant reported that General Davie, the president of SVSBA, wants Grant to write a letter to the DA expressing the desire of SCB to see a prosecution. Grant then described the details of the case. He said that the Sacramento Concert Band lost \$5000 and the Sacramento Symphonic Winds lost \$12,000. The key problem is that the DA's office focuses most of its efforts on violent crimes. The accused embezzler is diabetic, has had a foot amputated as a result of complications, is not going anywhere, and has no money. The DA has little interest in putting him in jail and could not collect a fine. Our band could not collect from him using small claims court. The group agreed that the situation is frustrating.

Publicity

Jim reported on the publicity efforts for the Holiday Concert and how he plans to revise the efforts for the Spring Concert. He analyzed the program inserts that people completed with information about how they heard about the concert. He said that Bill Parker's emails to previous concert attendees was very important. The contacts with senior living facilities were less successful. Many sites said they do not have a bus they can use. He thought that personal visits to the senior homes might be more productive. Announcements in the small suburban papers and the county Board of Supervisors events newsletter produced some results. Results from online calendars were disappointing. Some people responded to the flyers. Two said they came because of the banner on the Rio fence. He also suggested to have someone from the band welcome the audience and introduce Grant at our concerts.

Barb reported that the volunteer who did the graphic design for our flyers will no longer be doing the job and we need to find a new person for it. Jill offered to ask the band for a volunteer to take on this responsibility. Barb wanted the lineup of music for the concert, but it is not ready yet. She asked for approval of a band logo, but Grant said the band has had a logo for many years different from the one she was seeking. This led to a discussion of the history of the logo. Grant asked Nancy Bibby to contact the band shirt company and ask for an electronic copy of the logo that appears on our shirts. The council approved expenditures for a new banner announcing the spring concert, signcade insert and balloons for the event.

Financial Report

Les reported that there were seven names on the band roster that had not paid the registration fee. This led to a discussion of who they were and what their circumstances were. Several of the people had tried the band and then left. Two others were in financial difficulties, and the group asked Les to talk to them to determine whether the council should use scholarship funds for them. Grant reminded the group that all members must be registered and paid in the adult education program.

Les handed out copies of the financial statement he had emailed to the council members. The statement showed that the band had \$3417 in the bank account and that our income is running ahead of expenditures by \$1470.59. Two checks to the band had yet to be deposited, making the financial situation even better.

Assistance for Grant

Jill asked Grant for ideas for tasks the council can take on to help minimize his load. Grant said he would think about it and discuss the idea at a future council meeting.

Update on 2018 Band Shirt Order

The group discussed the shirt situation. We will need to order shirts for about one third of the band plus the new members. Last year we bought shirts for about one third of the members and then about another third bought shirts on their own. We will also need a supply for substitutes. Bob has kept track of who has shirts and who needs one. Our goal is to have everyone looking alike by the end of this season.

The shirt order is estimated to cost about \$700. Nancy will contact Norcal to order the shirts.

Nancy asked if someone else could take over the shirt ordering job that she has done for many years. Jill said she would do so.

Music Folders

Linda said she has a list of music folders and asked if she could circulate it during rehearsal. Each band member will be asked to check the list to see if their folder number is right and make any necessary corrections.

Allergy Problem

Grant said the band may lose a member who said that chemicals in the theater had caused her allergy problems. The chemicals could be emitted from the vinyl flooring or fabrics in the seats. This led to a discussion of possible ways to clear the air. The group agreed that fixing the problem was a job for the school or the school district. Les said he would contact the school to acquire an air quality report and to ask them to fix the problem.

Next Meeting

The next meeting will be on March 12, 2018 at 5:30 p.m.

Adjournment

The meeting adjourned at 6:55 p.m., February 5, 2018.

Respectfully submitted,

Norm Hill, Secretary

Approved March 11, 2018