

Sacramento Valley Symphonic Band Association
Minutes of the Board of Directors Meeting
Sunday, March 10, 2024 - 7:00pm via Zoom

Board Members Present

David Meyer, President
Grant Parker, Vice President
Mark Meeker, Treasurer
Susan Hamre, Director
Bianca Patterson, Director
Tom Seaton, Director

Board Members Absent

SVSBA Members Present

The President called the meeting to order at 7:04 pm with a quorum reached.

Agenda - Grant requests to add an item to the agenda regarding Herald trumpet donation. This topic to be covered under "other items from the Board." Bianca moves, Mark seconds to approve the agenda as submitted. Motion carries unanimously.

Approval of January Minutes - No February meeting, so no minutes to approve. Grant moves, Tom seconds to approve January minutes as presented. Motion carries unanimously.

Treasurer's Report - Complete reports including all bank and other financial statements attached to Board package. Mark reports completion of all IRS filings for the year. Elk Grove School District has adopted Facilitron as their scheduling platform for their facilities. Mark signed up as a member of the band in order to pay for the rehearsal space. He will do an e-check on behalf of the Elk Grove Band to cover their payment. David notes that Pittsburg Community Band recently received \$4500 grant from Contra Costa County, congratulating them on their fund-raising efforts. Grant notes that he and Mark will meet and get Grant approved as second signatory on SVSBA checking account.

Music Library Report - Written report received by the Board in monthly package, David added comments about necessity of volunteers from the membership to help with music checkout, emphasizing that the absence of Dave Machado has left a large gap in volunteer hours. David also commented that availability of music for bands to check out will vary based on volunteers available. David urged each Board member to recruit from their bands for volunteers. Tom notes that one of his people was mentioned in the written report as having recently been there and he will continue to provide volunteers. Susan notes her presence for volunteer time in January.

ACTION ITEM: David to send email to all band directors with same information and request for assistance.

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Committee Reports

- **Membership** (George Preston) Committee Chair reported via email to David nothing new.
- **Carmichael Park Band Festival** (Grant Parker) Grant confirms twenty (20) bands to perform as previously reported. Grant reports need to followup on performance schedule and facility request. Grant also reports possibility of our use of picnic area within Carmichael Park, and that certificate of insurance has been filed. Grant described how we “pay” the Citrus Heights Marching Band (CHMB) for their support of the festival (rental truck, gas for their truck, pizza). Grant reports possible need to pull equipment from Rio Americano High School, as in the past. Susan inquired about the availability of a quality electric piano and offered to do research via local music stores. Grant and Susan will get together on this. Grant reports shortage of music stands in 2023, and will find out what CHMB can provide and ensure any shortages will be made up from other sources. Susan inquired as to the possibility of paying CHMB for their time and efforts, rather than providing food. Mark pointed out they have never asked for any other compensation. David added comments about how well the Board supported the festival in 2023 by being on site all day both days, and how the expectation will be the same for 2024. Susan asked what kind of jobs need to be done, Grant explained the major need for helping with stage setup in the morning, changes throughout the day, and stage breakdown at the end of each day.

ACTION ITEM #1: Grant to release festival schedule within the next week, and negotiate with Carmichael Park for the use of picnic area.

ACTION ITEM #2: Grant will contact CHMB for band support as needed.

- **Youth Artist Scholarship** (Grant Parker) Grant reports activity at recent auditions. There were eight (8) original applicants, six (6) actually attended. Grant had Covid and did not participate in judging. The judges were David Meyer, Dawn David and Susan Hamre, and the vote came down to two finalists. The winner chosen was Megan Lynch, from Granite Bay High School, playing the marimba. She will receive a check for \$1,000 and a commemorative plaque from David at the concert. She was originally to play the marimba with Steve Chambers and the Amador Concert Band; however the band does not have a marimba, and Mark updated that she will play a xylophone piece instead. She will perform in Jackson on June 9, and has been invited to perform at Carmichael Park during the band festival. Susan raised the possibility of budgeting for a second place prize for next year.
- **Middle School Music Lessons Scholarship** - (Bianca Patterson) Bianca confirmed that as previously reported, the newest recipient has received the lessons and they have been paid for. Bianca introduced the program to Susan and Tom. Grant suggested using CMEA Capital Section website portal as email communication tool to solicit candidates for the scholarship. The next deadline for applications is June 30, 2024.

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- **Social Media/Outreach** - (Bianca Patterson) No updates. Bianca reports her activity will ramp up as we approach Carmichael Park Band Festival and Big Day of Giving.
- **Website** - (Mark Meeker) Mark reports updating the officer page, Gold Country band page, Board Meeting page. Mark requests that questions or update requests be sent to him via email at **webmaster.svsba@gmail.com**. David encouraged Tom and Susan to check their pages on SVSBA website to ensure their satisfaction with content.
- **ACTION ITEM:** Mark to set up band page for Golden Gate Band.

Present proposed '24 - '25 budget for Board review - Mark conducted a well-researched, well-conceived and excellently presented overview of the budget for the upcoming fiscal year. The complete presentation was emailed to all Board members prior to the meeting, and continues to be available upon request. Mark reports healthier starting balance this coming fiscal year, which may open up funding opportunities not available in the last few years. Mark also suggested creating operating budget reserve to cover two year's expenses in case of unexpected catastrophic event (e.g. Covid return). Presentation also included suggestion to introduce discretionary budget to be used in conjunction with regular operating budget. Although no official Board vote was needed, there was unanimous agreement that Mark include the above newer budget considerations in the final proposal, scheduled to be voted on at the April, 2024 Board meeting.

Discuss need for replacement Board Secretary (David Meyer) David reported that one of the recent Board departures (Chris Nordin) also served as Secretary. With their departure, that position is open and needs to be filled. Mary Rose Preston stepped in temporarily, and the Board thanks her for her efforts. David requested that each Board member look into their band membership for someone willing and able to perform this important function. David will serve as Acting Secretary until the position is filled.

ACTION ITEM: David will email all band directors with request for help with filling the Secretary position.

Establish timeline for Big Day of Giving - (Bianca Patterson) Bianca reports that the necessary timeline and suggested 8-week work plan has already been provided by BigDOG on their website. David requests that all Board members review the timeline. Bianca will chair the oversight committee and will have Board member assistance in carrying out necessary tasks. BigDOG will continue to be an agenda item going forward.

ACTION ITEM: Bianca to distribute BigDOG timeline and prepare task list with areas of assistance needed.

Discuss potential involvement in CASMEC, January, 2025 - (Bianca Patterson) Grant pointed out that he, Susan and Tom had all attended the conference this past January, and that we have participated with this organization in the past. Grant points out the many participation opportunities that exist at this gathering for our band directors. Bianca suggested the SVSBA have a booth at the next convention in 2025. Grant pointed out that the upcoming September, 2024 meeting of the California Music Educators Association Capitol Section would be more

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appropriate because it concentrates on serving the local musical community. The Board agreed that is the correct event to pursue. Susan pointed out that Chris Tootle, Director of the Elk Grove Community Concert Band, is currently President, and she has volunteered to contact Chris and make appropriate inquiries.

ACTION ITEM: Susan to contact Chris Tootle and report back to Board at April, 2024 meeting.

Review To/Do List - (David Meyer) David began by reviewing the To-Do document, which was recently updated with additions and some rearranging of tasks. It was noted that all March To-Do items on the list are either accomplished or in progress.

Other items from the Board - (All) Grant reported on action items from previous minutes re: Herald Trumpet donation. Grant reports learning actual paid prices for all instruments by Thomas Roehr, and requested permission to finish working with Mark Meeker to establish fair value of instruments for in-kind donation (for tax purposes). Board granted permission by unanimous assent.

ACTION ITEM: Grant and Mark will compose a letter for Thomas Roehr defining the in-kind value of his instrument donation for tax purposes.

Other items from the floor - (All) None

Adjournment - Mark moves, Bianca seconds to adjourn. Motion carries unanimously.

Meeting adjourned at 8:59pm.

Respectfully submitted,
David Meyer, Acting Secretary