

July 14, 2008 YCB Board meeting

Call to order 7:37

Attendance:

Carter Adler

Trudy Adler

Marge Taylor

Trinka Benedict

Aaron Taratsas

PaulVaughan

Jerry Robbins

Jon Kennedy

Nathan Sparks

Howard Filmore (tardy)

Absent:

Sandy Wagner

Jim Wagner

Rebecca Cheskidov

Approve previous meeting's minutes:

*Move to approve minutes from June 9, 2008.

Nathan, Trudy (6, 0, 0 Approved)

Reports:

-President:

-Appoint President pro tem:

Because of the anticipated arrival of Carter and Trudy's baby in September, we should have a "back-up" President. This is allowed by Roberts Rules of Order and is indicated as needing to be from within the board. (Megan is not interested.) This is something to think about. This decision is not needed tonight

-Treasurer: Absent

-Secretary:

I had nothing to report. I requested that someone help me learn to download the meeting minutes to the web and other technical issues. Carter has offered to help. (Jerry bolstered my spirits by indicating that it will fail the first 1000 times I try- thanks. ☺)

-Conductor:

Jerry's report was previously emailed to board. He had nothing to add to it and no questions were asked.

-here is an attachment.



YCBConductor's
ReportJuly2008.

(For those without email- I have reproduced it in its entirety at the end of this report.)

-Business manager:

-Paul received notice indicating that our premium had not been paid and that our insurance had been dropped as of July 10th; however, there was a \$179 credit. There was no 'warning'- just a notice that it had been dropped. Nathan remembers that the last check for insurance was written last year.)

-Milan- Nathan is in charge of the pie event. Nathan will not be at the pie event so he should pass it to someone else. Nathan has supplies for pies. The percussion equipment truck can transport the paraphernalia for the event, and maybe the senior center can provide tables or volunteers to keep things going.

Marge requested information on how to word the publicity for Milan? It is to be called an 'event' not a 'sale', for legal reasons ('sales' involve the health department).

An announcement should be made Tuesday at the Riverside park concert.

-Fall and winter schedule:

UA is progressing well and is being finalized.

OCT 23 is coming along.

DEC 5 needs to be confirmed.

-The Pease event is coming along. Several people have been invited and suggestions for invitations were made:

The new President of EMU, will be coming. (Dr. Susan Martin)

Carter suggested that we invite the President of WCC. (Dr. Larry Whitworth) and the University Of Michigan President (Dr. Mary Sue Coleman). He suggested that Paul try to get her invited.

It was also suggested that the Mayor of Ypsilanti (Paul Schreiber) should be invited.

We should make a guest list.

*If there are other county/township/state officials who anyone may think appropriate to invite please bring them to the attention of the rest of the board.

-The Towsley dress rehearsal needs confirmation.

-Truck rental: There will be no more 'freebees' going forward. U-Haul Corporate is 'coming down' on it. Paul checking on what discounts he can get. May need to work on advertising with them or do one day turn around or look elsewhere or consider the possibility of getting a trailer and renting a truck, it could be cheaper and would eliminate off loading late after every concert.

-Personnel Committee- Trudy

-This month's birthday cards were passed out for all board members to sign.

-Since there will be no September 18 event the \$75 previously earmarked for that will now be put towards the December 16th event.

-Publicity Committee- (Marge)

-Marge gave list of publications we are listed in.

-She is starting a folder for each concert.

-Tomorrow (July 15) is Milan and Heritage Festival deadline for listings in the Ann Arbor Observer. Jerry emailed us a list of publications he has found us in, there was a correction- on M-Live 'in Sunday Edition' was not in the Ann Arbor edition but it is in Ypsilanti edition.

-30th anniversary logo (contest)

Several student examples of possible logos for the 30th anniversary concert were passed out.

Different types of logos were discussed.

- 1) A 'Throwback' version using a previous version;
- 2) A version that incorporates the previous logos into a new logo;
- 3) Or a completely new version.

T-shirts or polo shirts with logos were discussed as possible application for the logo, once designed.

-Library committee-

Sandy sent an email update. It is reproduced here:

- In the last 6 months our Library team has been working diligently on getting our summer music scanned, filed on CD, copied and collated into folders for band members.

-All music for summer has been passed out.

-A sub-committee has scheduled a Saturday at WLHS for filing music after July 15th Concert sometime early August. We will have another meeting to get ready for fall. We still need to do some more inventory of music in the files. I will organize that with members in August.

-Property: Aaron:

-“We got toys!”:

Slide whistles

Ratchet

Siren
Sleigh bells finally coming to Tom.
Mallets for bass drum and timpani
Estimated cost \$128.00 (Tom has receipt)

-We still need to get an alarm clock. 'Materials Unlimited' or an antique place or people are possibilities

-He is also still looking for 'four horn' taxi horn for Klaxon and American in Paris. Aaron is looking into the possibility of a UK distributor?

-Aaron is checking into storage units (N. Huron Street storage units) to see if we can arrive at a deal for our equipment storage needs.

-Website: Carter

The multimedia page has 2 recordings from The Cities Services Band of America concert. ('Colonel Bogey' and 'On the Mall'- the singing part) Aaron has everything that is archival. He requested Red Cedar and other previous concert recordings. Jerry has Red Cedar recordings.

-Band Shell Progress Report: Jerry

-Jerry and Beth had lunch with Erik Dotzauer, the Executive Director of the Depot Town Community Development Corporation (DTCDC) (in part) who are the only two on 'staff'. They discussed issues and concerns. Erik hasn't done anything specific but has had conversation w/WCC concerning dock stage (priority). The biggest hang up for the Band shell, is money. \$180,000 is the sum if you are paying for all of the design, material, and labor for a band shell without any luxuries (no plumbing or lighting or dressing rooms). It will cost less with donated labor, material, or architects. Jerry is looking at getting with WCC for labor etc. He asked Ms. Kelly Simpson at College of Education at EMU to find places that may help funding. He received a list of 8. The list was given to Erik. Jerry also searched other sources (the government, out of state, etc.) and made a second list of 12 places. He checked out how people paid for other band shells and found that local clubs usually were contributors, sometimes there were private individuals who made the donations as a memorial. There were a variety of other donation sources.

Marge made contact with Jim Stine from the EMU Construction department concerning the possibility of using students to design the band shell as a project. And found out that

when they do projects they have people that donate materials too!
This information was passed to Erick.

There was discussion of George Craven being approached for interest in the project, as he did acoustical work previously.

Erik has all the information for taking the next steps. Jerry will set up another lunch and push more if needed.

Nathan had fundraising ideas for the band shell: Using Auctions of items (box seats, stuff tickets) to raise money, or to have community fair in Frog Island Park, with games and skits etc.

Jerry presented an idea for a Donated Auto Auction as a possible fundraising idea.

-Yule in Ypsi- Marge:

-Marge is starting to get in contact (Arial (Toews) Ricotta) with Ypsilanti Community Choir, finally. Six from choir and five from the band are interested and trying to get a meeting as a committee for the Yule in Ypsi.

-Marge has been in contact with Mike Monahan, the building manager of Pease, about getting in to see what will need to be decorated and how parking will work etc. before meeting with the interested members of both groups. There is construction there now, will it be finished?

Jerry- Pease assured him that construction would be completed LONG before December (it is supposed to be a summer project). There are fall events scheduled, and it would have to be done by then.

Marge has recruited people to talk to local businesses; The Tower Inn may be open to having an after party.

Trudy- Out of what part of the budget is funding coming for the party- from the social event budget? Trudy is a family friend of the owners and may be able to get a deal.

-Sue B. is donating \$250 for the Concert Planning Committee. She was referred to Rebecca.

-Awards Committee:

A committee has formed: Rebecca, Sandy, Jerry, and Paul, and Carter. ---

-The 2008-2009 Budget Committee:

* Move to disband committee. Trudy, Aaron (7, 0, 0 Passed)

-Audit committee- Paul:

-Paul is delayed. He needs to get books and numbers from Alan. He currently has access issues. Paul and Carter need to get there and sign (bring your licenses!).

Old Business-

-30th Anniversary (Feb 1979 (1st official rehearsal)

We need to get moving, it is a good start with a new logo.

Jenifer (Mrs. Aaron) Taratsas, is willing to make a set up.

Nathan suggested a story of the band in the Ypsilanti Edition of Ann Arbor News.

Jerry has ACB and Historical society notes.

Previous anniversary concerts had special guests and conductors, for the 25th Anniversary former directors and assistant directors were invited, as program permitted, to conduct pieces.

Should we highlight our charter members? How? Should we have them do a solo, just announce them, or distinguish them in some other way? Maybe we can have plaques, logos etc. for the founding members.

Homework: Think of ways to distinguish our Charter Members

(Charter members include: Lorne Kennedy, Jon Kennedy, and Wayne Jahnke)

Pictures/memorabilia display and slide show presentation?

Jerry has papers.

Aaron has plaques etc.

We have a LOT of stuff from the 1st 7 yrs.

Lynn Cooper has sent Jerry a long list of materials that he has about the early years of YCB. He checked that list against materials in his possession from elsewhere and told him not to send most of the material, as he already has it. Lynn is, however, copying and sending some newspaper clippings and the like.

We have Ken Bowman programs only it seems. (Jerry has recent stuff.)

Jon Kennedy is loaning his collection of memorabilia.

Jerry will invite the formers directors and assistant directors. They may conduct as the musical selection allows, if desired.

Ypsilanti Mayor may make an announcement 'or something' in February.

Paul (from the state) regarding honoraria?

Erik Walters' wife may have information.

There was a discussion regarding commissioning a piece for the anniversary concert? It is expensive and takes a long time and may be too late, so the idea is determined not viable for February. Paul suggested getting a named soloist for February and possibly commissioning something for last of the year or a narrator piece, possibly with Jeff Daniels. Since it will be February, maybe "Lincoln's Portrait" or "Peter and the Wolfe", etc. We also might want to try to get Pease for the anniversary concert for FREE. What other names? Local radio hosts? Mitch Album, Paul W. Smith, WCJ?

*Homework: Think of more names?

New Business-

-The Red Cedar festival:

February 28, 2009 (Saturday) is the Red Cedar Festival. We have to apply; this will remain tentative until it can be confirmed.

- Heritage Festival:

Time and location change: 2:00 at South end, on the grass. (There will be no seating for audience)

There are a few lengthy emails regarding this topic.

We have not been invited. We should be getting a contract in mail. (Nathan- "Nothing yet")

Paul- they (The Heritage Festival organizers) are disorganized and have a 'push' on right now to get organized. We are being shifted off (to the south end of the park), but we should play. He just got contact person's name last week.

Aaron indicated that his wife, Jenifer believes people who want to hear us will come to us at the park. This also echoes what Marge said in her email regarding the festival issues.

If the weather is bad we will not play.

Jerry- Do not rely on the festival personnel for publicity. Request publicity committee to make our own publicity for this event intense! Pushing US Local in the local papers etc. going very heavy on photos and feature stuff because of the location issue and the possibility of competing with an amplified act.

Jerry likes idea of us making our own parade (do not ask permission) placards and banners and big march etc. to draw people to our end of the park.

We could possibly do our own festival, if this year doesn't work out, in a nearby parking lot next year.

A discussion of the logistics of getting Wayne and others from the Ypsilanti Community Choir to us, followed. (Use a cart, maybe?)

We can put his trombone in with percussion equipment so it is already there when he gets to the YCB area.

Logistics for Battle Hymn of the Republic need to be worked out. We have 4 stands and mics on battery for amplification. Parade is a good idea we will need marching percussion instruments, and to coordinate with Ypsilanti Community Choir. Can we get clowns?

- Cancel September 2 rehearsal- (Jerry)

Jerry is out of town on September 2, 2008. The two assistant conductors have said 'yes' they would conduct the rehearsal.

Carter had a question regarding taking an updated version of The Story of 5 Joaquins and working on it? It is in the works.

There was general agreement to not cancel the September 2 rehearsal.

- Hartland Players' performance of West Side Story-

The Hartland Players production of West Side Story rehearses/performs during the first two weeks of August. They wish to promote us as "Pit is staffed by YCB" and would like to donate \$1000.

*Move to make The Hartland Player's production of West Side Story an official Ypsilanti Community Band commitment. Aaron, Nathan (7, 0, 0 Passed)

- Ypsilanti Township Community Center request:

The YTCC has made a request for us to provide low brass ensemble on December 5, 2008 (donating \$300) for a senior party. Tuba Christmas, this will be free and open to public. A few more Tuba Christmas books will be needed

*Move to provide a low brass ensemble for the Ypsilanti Community Center. Nathan, Howard (7, 0, 0 Passed)

- Sudler Scroll application for November 2009 or 2010:

Jerry will be sending us an email as to why we should pursue the Sudler Scroll.

- 2011 Association of Concert Bands Convention: (Jerry)

In 2011 the Association of Concert Bands (hereafter ACB) in is holding its 2011 convention in Muskegon MI. Jerry is requesting permission make contacts... towards the goal of receiving an invitation for The Ypsilanti Community Band to play at the convention. He has figured the cost for travel (two busses) and a single overnight stay (double occupancy) for all of us would be about \$10,000. Some people might want to spend multiple days. Fundraising and networking would need to start now. The application process, incremental fundraising, sending in recording, and connecting with people will take time.
"We are good and can play with the big guys."

There was much general discussion:

Trudy- 'The bands focus should be on Ypsilanti, instead of going elsewhere.'

Aaron- 'Other bands go elsewhere, why don't we do something?'

Trinka- 'We've been trying to think of 'named people' to get to play with us... this will put us right in the middle of a large group of 'named' people.'

Paul- 'We get invitations to go places. This would be an experiment.'

This would get us networking and getting information on how to do it.

Carter- 'We may be able to host a band festival at the band shell.'

Logistics of ACB Conventions:

ACB conventions are held Wednesday through Saturday. (Concert time slots are negotiable.)

The convention band is the 'thrust' of it, and guest bands (2 per evening) play.

The convention band rehearses during day, (and does tourist things for one day) there are a small number of clinics to attend (i.e. Band management, fundraising, etc.), meal functions, etc.

*Move to pursue invitation to perform at the 2011 ACB Convention in Muskegon MI. Jon, Aaron (6, 1-Trudy, 0 Passed)

-April 2, 2009, was proposed as a concert date with Whitmore Lake High School band. Trudy, Nathan, (7, 0, 0 passed)

Move to adjourn. Trudy Marge (7, 0, 0 passed)

Conductor's report follows on next page.

CONDUCTOR'S REPORT
Ypsilanti Community Band
July 14, 2008

YCB Major Things I've Done Since the June Board Meeting:

1. Conducted rehearsals at WLHS on June 10, 17, 24; and July 1 and 8. (One of these was held outdoors because of power failure in the building!)
2. Make numerous preparations for the rained-out July 2 concert at Lake Shore Apartments, including (a) constructing 3rd horn and TC euphonium parts for two marches, which were later discarded as unneeded because Library personnel obtained them from other bands; (b) preparing the "music" page for the printed program, (c) researching and writing the script for the concert, (d) preparing all the brass parts to use for "Star Spangled Banner," including transposing tuba part for trombone. Conducted/played with brass group who performed the National Anthem at the July 2 flag raising ceremony.
3. Made all necessary changes to make the 2008-2009 YCB Guidelines/Handbook current and posted it to the band's web site.

4. Make a number of other changes/additions (with help from Carter in one instance) to the web site. Updates of news, posted minutes, adjusted concert information, blog entries, etc.

5. Prepared "music" page for July 15 concert and provided to Christie.

6. Various exchanges of emails re (a) vocal soloist for "Star Spangled Banner" for UA Commencement, (b) new EMU president will attend December concert, (c) attempts to locate score to "Fiddler on the Roof," (d) Library personnel re music we are through with for the summer, (e) forwarded various notices of absence to respective section leaders, and (f) submitted, upon request, a list of names and phone numbers of our flute players to a member of that section.

7. Prepared and sent several informational emails to the entire "greater" (app. 150 names) YCB mailing list, and made/distributed hard copies to those who don't get email; prepared and sent several emails to Band Board on various matters.

Bandshell

8. Had lunch (Beth was there for part) with Erik Dotzauer, executive of the Depot Town Community Development Corporation, re plans for band shell.

9. Requested assistance from the EMU COE Development Officer to search the *Foundation Directory* for possible sources of funding for band shell. The results were forwarded to Erik, with comments. Did extended on-line search of public agencies that might provide funding for band shell. Forwarded those results to Erik. Did extended on line search of how recently constructed/remodeled band shells around the country were financed. Forwarded those results to Erik. Provided Erik with contact information for George Craven, retired architect, who has offered to help with band shell, and with Vince Chrisman, who is Macomb CC's officer in charge of construction and renovation on that campus. .

10. Asked Marge to make contact with EMU construction management faculty re possible involvement with band shell design/construction. She made a good contact and sent info to Erik.

YCB 30-Year History Article for Ypsilanti Historical Society

11. Emails and phone calls with Lynn Cooper, the founder; materials expected from him. Phone call with Mary (Mrs. Ken) Bowman, who is looking to see what, if anything, she may still have. Emails with John Betrus, who wrote a

chapter on the early years of YCB as part of a master's thesis at EMU. Jon Kennedy has made available his personal collection of YCB materials from the early years. Have located and taken TEMPORARY possession of YCB's print archives. Have done SOME with organizing my vastly disorganized personal collection of YCB materials, 1991 to date.

12. Have written incomplete first draft of 1998-2002 years (Barnhill Band era). Much too long for article purposes. Now see need to prepare three versions: (a) a reference work, with considerable detail, for possible posting on YCB web site, (b) an article that is the "story" of the 30 years with much less detail, and (c) an even shorter version of the article for submission to the ACB journal.

Some Professional Development Activities

14. Have been attending rehearsals and performing in concerts of the Ann Arbor Civic Band, playing 3rd trombone. Attended Detroit Symphony concert and music for fireworks in Greenfield Village on July 3. Have agreed to play 2nd trombone in the pit for "West Side Story," which is turning out to be extremely difficult. All arrangements complete to attend an adult band camp session at Blue Lake later this month.

--Jerry Robbins