



Northern Virginia Firefighters' Emerald Society Pipe Band

Board of Directors Meeting

March 11, 2021

- I. Meeting called to order at 7:07 pm
- II. Members in Attendance: President Matt Lopez, Vice President/ Drum Major Bill Bryce, Secretary/Webmaster Jim Kraftchak, Member at Large Jim Ryan,
- III. Reports
 - a. Secretary
 - i. Jim Ryan moved to approve as written, Bill Bryce seconded. Approved unanimously.
 - b. Treasurer
 - i. Tom Clappi was not present and didn't provide a report.
 - c. Quartermaster
 - i. Jason Allen was not present and didn't provide a report.
 - d. Uniform
 - i. Gary Winemiller was not present and didn't provide a report.
 - e. Membership
 - i. Bill Bryce stated that we have a new drummer from Prince William FD and Matt Kahle will be returning to the band in late June or early July.
 - ii. Matt Lopez stated that there is a new Fairfax County recruit that is interested in joining the band but he has to complete the Academy first.
 - iii. Matt Lopez stated that there is a piper in Arlington County who may be willing to join the band and he will have Jason Allen reach out to her.
 - iv. Also there is a Fairfax County Fireman who is related to Matt Bickertt that maybe interested in learning drums.
 - f. Fundraising
 - i. Bill Bryce stated that the current plan is to pass the boot and sell swag at the St. Patrick's Day Events we have planned.

- ii. Bill Bryce is also keeping in touch with those pubs that we had scheduled for last year's St. Patrick's Day Pub Crawl and most are in a wait and see mode right now.
- iii. Jim Ryan suggested that once things settle down and things start to reopen to normal capacity that we do a "Return to Normal" celebration event at a few pubs.
- iv. Bill Bryce stated that Manassass plans on doing a halfway to St. Patrick's Day Parade on or around September 17.
- g. Instructor Payment Committee
 - i. Jim Kraftchak stated that the committee is scheduled to meet March 18.

IV. Old Business

- a. Funeral Tunes Recording
 - i. Bill Bryce stated that his contact has laid off from his job so things are bit up in the air but he is still interested in helping us out. Still waiting to hear back.
- b. Tom Clappi to investigate what monies went where for this event and ensure that the deposit and contract belongs to the band and not Phil Nannery.
 - i. Not discussed.
- c. Bill Bryce to create a Drum Major Manual.
 - i. Bill Bryce stated that he has not completed the manual as it still needs pictures.

V. New Business

- a. Virtual Memorial Day Parade
 - i. The requirements for the recording was reviewed by the board members so that everyone understood what was being asked for.
 - ii. Bill Bryce stated that we could do it in the parking garage on the top level that backs onto Dulles Airport, which is at his office.
 - iii. Eleanor C. Lawrence Park was also mentioned by Bill Bryce as a possible location but it's not very picturesque.
 - iv. Matt Lopez stated that he is concerned that we will not be able to pull it off given all the technical requirements for the recording and that maybe we look into just doing it live next year.
 - v. Jim Ryan also stated that he is concerned that we don't have the technical expertise to pull this off given all the technical requirements of the recording.
 - vi. Jim Kraftchak suggested that if we do this maybe we could look into using a local High School football field to do it on.
 - vii. Bill Bryce stated that he knows someone who can do drone shots and other types of shots for the recording.

- viii. Jim Kraftchak stated that we should send the technical requirements of the recordings to Dorothy Farley and see if she feels that she could be able to do the recording for us.
- ix. Jim Ryan stated that if we can get someone to do the recordings for us and its not too expensive that he feels we should do it.
 - x. Bill Bryce checked with his contact during the meeting and stated that his contact would be interested in doing it for us.
 - xi. Matt Lopez stated that we should wait and see if we can find someone who can do it for us and cover all the technical requirements. Once we have someone locked in then we'll do it.
 - xii. Jim Ryan offered to coordinate the entire event if it goes forward.
 - xiii. General consensus is we will still need a location to do at such as: Mt. Vernon, Bull Run Park, Burke Lake, etc..
- b. July 4th Parade in Fairfax
 - i. Matt Lopez stated that right now it's still on and we just need to cross our fingers and hope it still happens.
 - ii. Matt Lopez stated that he has spoken to the parade coordinator to get us an application.
 - iii. Matt Lopez will check with the local union representative and find out about moving the after-parade event to Patriots Pub.
 - iv. Bill Bryce stated that he will be happy to do the legwork in getting Patriots Pub setup and squared away if the union agrees to move the event there.

VI. Good of the Order

- a. Membership Meeting
 - i. Matt Lopez stated that we are hoping that we can do it and given the current numbers, we could use the High Bay at the Fire Academy to hold it.
 - ii. Jim Ryan suggested that we schedule the meeting for the 3rd Wednesday in April.
 - iii. Matt Lopez stated that he will craft an email and send it out to the band about the Membership Meeting.
 - iv. Matt Lopez also stated that we will have access to a microphone and speaker system so we can be heard over the fans if they need to be on.
- b. Jim Ryan asked if the \$1,000 check that Matt Lopez received from the Fairfax County Retired Firemen's Association has been deposited yet.
 - i. Matt Lopez stated that he gave the check to Tom Clappi but didn't know if it had yet been deposited.
- c. Jim Ryan asked where Ed Snyder's pipes are.
 - i. Matt Lopez stated that they were in his office at the Academy.

- ii. Matt Lopez is coordinating with the Snyder family to get them back to them and that John Snyder is trying to get his daughter interested in playing them.

VII. Action Items

- a. Matt Lopez to send out an email to the band about the Membership Meeting.
- b. Matt Lopez to contact Dorothy Farley to see if she can do the recording for the virtual Memorial Day Parade.
- c. Matt Lopez to return Ed Snyder's pipes to the family.
- d. Gary Winemiller to update the Uniform Manual with the addition of the name tag.
- e. Bill Bryce to provide a potential plan for online raffle.
- f. Bill Bryce to look into potential availability and costs for recording of funeral tunes in the event the band cannot attend.
- g. All committees are to report to the BOD at the next meeting.
- h. Tom Clappi to get a check from Phil Nannery for the bus for the pub crawl and ensure the remaining deposit belongs to the band.
- i. Bill Bryce to complete the Drum Major Manual.
- j. Jim Kraftchak as the Chair of the Instructor Payment Committee to get the committee pulled together and start meeting.

VIII. Meeting adjourned at 8:01 pm with motion by Jim Ryan, seconded by Bill Bryce and passed with a unanimous vote.