



Northern Virginia Firefighters' Emerald Society Pipe Band

Board of Directors Meeting

August 12, 2021

- I. Meeting called to order at 7:03 pm
- II. Members in Attendance: President Matt Lopez, Vice President Bill Bryce, Treasurer Tom Clappi, Secretary/Webmaster Jim Kraftchak, Member-at-Large Matt Bickert, Cliff Gill
- III. Reports
 - a. Secretary
 - i. Bill Bryce moved to approve the meeting minutes as written, Matt Lopez seconded. Approved unanimously.
 - b. Treasurer
 - i. Current bank account of \$11,685.96.
 - ii. Deductions for:
 1. \$210 for 2 months of storage
 2. \$25 VA Commission
 3. \$95 FTD Florist for Gary Winemiller's mother
 - c. Quartermaster
 - i. Jim Kraftchak read the QM report provided by Jason Allen that included:
 1. Kevin Byrne has not yet gotten Pete O'Brien's uniform and chanter back from him. Jason Allen plans on following up with Kevin.
 2. There are several folks that need to be measured for uniforms but that has not yet been done as they haven't attended rehearsal lately. Jason Allen will contact them.
 3. Jason Allen provided uniform tie information as requested that is a semi-clipon tie for \$8-\$11 depending on length. The tie connects with Velcro in the back.
 4. Jason Allen also provided the information on the Boston Scally and it is \$48. He recommends that embroidery be very simply NVFESPB on one side and then Pipes or Drums over the shamrock in the back.

- ii. The board discussed the ties and decided that the tie should be a normal tying tie, not a clip-on of any sort.
 - iii. Jason Allen is to check on the price of normal ties.
 - iv. Bill Bryce motioned that Steve Cochran should be allowed to keep his uniform. Matt Bickert seconded and the motion passed unanimously.
 - v. Matt Bickert motioned that the band spend up to \$1,400 to purchase the Boston Scally cap with NVFESPB embroidered on the side and Pipe or Drums embroidered on the back above the shamrock. Each person will pay \$24 for the cap and the band will cover the rest. Bill Bryce seconded and the motion passed unanimously.
 - 1. The Boston Scally will not be officially part of the uniform until the Uniform Committee approves it.
 - 2. Funding for this purchase will put us below our established threshold of \$10,000 but that will be made up when everyone pays for their part of the cap.
- d. Pipe Major
- i. Jim Kraftchak read the report provided.,
 - ii. The band is back to rehearsals as normal after our short break.
 - iii. Frederick County, MD suffered and LODD and we are awaiting on information. As of now, no official request has been issued and Ivan stated that MOCO will be the lead band and will post information once it's known.
 - iv. Jason Allen sent emails to folks that are not active with the band now but have pipe chanters. Mike Lacey and Amy Hoffman were the only two to respond. Amy is out of town until mid-August but will return it when she gets back. Mike Lacey returned his. Jason Allen will be following up with those that didn't respond.
 - v. ½ way to St. Paddy's Day Parade in Manassass is still a go. Kevin Byrne is working on "paid" gigs at 3 Monkeys and Heritage Brewery.
- e. Uniform
- i. No report.
- f. Membership Committee
- i. Matt Lopez stated that Mike Boyt of the Woodlawn Station is a current piper and said he would be joining come September.
- g. Fundraising Committee
- i. Bill Bryce stated that he is keeping in touch with all the pubs.
 - ii. Bill Bryce stated that maybe we could play for the Super Bowl to raise some funds. This would be the Saturday before the actual Super Bowl
 - iii. Halloween might be a good time to do fund raising.
 - iv. Bill Bryce stated that he is still looking into the Total Wine fundraising option.

- v. Cliff Gill has volunteered to be a member of the fundraising committee.

IV. Old Business

- a. Phil Nannery owes the band \$788 for bus from 2019 pub crawl that didn't happen.
 - i. Bill Bryce stated that he will try to contact Phil and get the money from him.
- b. Name Tags
 - i. Gary Winemiller has not updated the Uniform Manual to incorporate the name tags.
- c. Drum Major Manual
 - i. Bill Bryce still has not completed it.
- d. Post Office Box
 - i. Jim Kraftchak questioned whether the POB has been paid for and is still in our name since we had had some mail items returned.
 - ii. Tom Clappi stated that the POB has been paid for and is the same one we have always had so there should be no issues going forward.

V. New Business

- a. National Fallen Firefighters' Memorial Weekend
 - i. Matt Bickert motioned that the band pay for \$50 per person for rooms for the weekend. Bill Bryce seconded and the motion passed unanimously.
 - ii. Matt Lopez will contact Lisa Heilbraun and let her know so she can figure out how much each person that is going owes.

VI. Good of the Order

- a. Matt Lopez brought up the fact that the Baltimore band has magnetic signs for the side of their cars for the band logo. Matt Lopez looked into the cost and found that VistaPrint makes them for \$24.57 for a set of two or you can purchase 5 sets of two for \$101. Baltimore had their members buy them but we could purchase them and then hand them out.
- b. Bill Bryce stated that a pop-up tent with the band logo and name on it would cost \$580 for a 10' by 10' tent. The board likes the idea but we need to have the funds for it so it will be tabled for now.
- c. Bill Bryce stated that he will get the green bass drum back from whoever has it now.
- d. Matt Bickertt stated that James Lindh wants to talk to recruits about joining the band. Matt Bickert also stated that he has a draft presentation that could be used for this purpose and will forward that presentation to the board for review.
- e. Tom Clappi stated that there was going to be a new KTA (Keep Tradition Alive) event May 18 – 20 in Wacco, TX called Tartan Taps. Cost is \$100 per person.

VII. Action Items

- a. Gary Winemiller to update the Uniform Manual with the addition of the name tag.
- b. All committees are to report to the BOD at the next meeting.
- c. Bill Bryce to get bus money from Phil Nannery.
- d. Bill Bryce to complete the Drum Major Manual.
- e. Jason Allen to check on cost of uniform black regular ties.
- f. Jason Allen to check with Kevin Byrne to get Pete O'Brien's uniform back.
- g. Jason Allen to get order together for the Boston Scally cap and get them embroidered.
- h. Jason Allen to follow up on those folks that are no longer active in the band and haven't returned their chanters.
- i. Matt Lopez to contact Lisa Heilbraun on room costs for NFFMW.
- j. Matt Bickert to send recruiting presentation to the board.
- k. Bill Bryce to get the green bass drum back.

VIII. Meeting adjourned at 8:27 pm with motion by Tom Clappi, seconded by Bill Bryce and passed with a unanimous vote.