



Northern Virginia Firefighters' Emerald Society Pipe Band

Board of Directors Meeting

February 10, 2022

- I. Meeting called to order at 6:02 pm
- II. Members in Attendance: President Matt Lopez, Vice President Bill Bryce, Treasurer Tom Clappi, Secretary/Webmaster Jim Kraftchak, Member-at-Large Matt Bickert, QM/PM Jason Allen, Band Manager Lisa Heilbraun
- III. Reports
 - a. Secretary
 - i. Tom Clappi moved to approve the meeting minutes as written, Matt Bickert seconded. Approved unanimously.
 - b. Treasurer
 - i. \$21,932.10 Balance
 - ii. \$10,000 donation from Ed Snyder Estate
 - iii. Expenses
 1. \$128 to Jason for pipe supplies
 2. \$105 for storage
 - c. Quartermaster
 - i. Jason Allen stated that John Burns has been uniformed
 - ii. Need uniform supplies like sporrans, flashes, etc... At least 3 of each.
 - iii. Kilts needed for Bill Bryce as his is worn out and Matt Khale. Will probably need a total of 4 kilts at around \$525 each.
 - iv. If there isn't one that fits, James Lind will need a tunic at a cost of \$640.
 - v. Name tags are finally done and have been shipped.
 - vi. Still need uniforms and other band equipment back from:
 1. Tyler Steffey
 2. Jessica Dispenza
 3. Louis Santanos
 - vii. Lisa Heilbraun stated that she would speak with Louis.
 - d. Uniform

- i. Proposed uniform guideline for name tags was read so that it could be discussed.
 - ii. Bill Bryce stated that he doesn't believe that the name tag should be worn on the tunic.
 - iii. Matt Bickert motioned that guideline be amended so that the name tag would not be worn on the tunic. Bill Bryce seconded and it passed unanimously.
 - e. Membership Committee
 - i. Matt Lopez stated that we have started to grow and that he plans to make a concerted effort starting in March to address career and volunteer staff about joining the band.
 - ii. Mike Voight is a piper and is supposed to come to rehearsal within the next two weeks according to what he said.
 - iii. Matt Lopez stated that we need to have membership drives in Fairfax, Loudoun, Alexandria, Prince William and Arlington counties.
 - iv. We need to have a big push to ensure that everyone in the NOVA fire and police know about us and that we are recruiting.
 - v. Jason Allen stated that he is happy to come up with recruitment flyer that can be posted on social media.
 - vi. Jason Allen also suggested that maybe we create "classes" for pipers and drummers and say that new piper and/or drummer classes start on this date and then rotate that date for each new class.
 - vii. Bill Bryce stated that he would reach out to the Shriners to see if any of them would be interested in joining us.
 - viii. Jim Kraftchak suggested that maybe we could look at high school bands for drummer at least and maybe pipers.
 - f. Fundraising Committee
 - i. Bill Bryce stated that the fundraiser currently has no date set. He suggests that we wait until after St. Patrick's Day events and see how things are going and set the date then.
 - ii. Jason Allen suggested that maybe late April will work.
 - iii. Bill Bryce will have 2 proposed dates for the fundraiser ready to present to the board at the next meeting.

IV. Old Business

- a. Appreciation of CVFD
 - i. Matt Bickert and Jason Allen will work together to get some sort of recognition for the station put together.
 - ii. Bill Bryce suggested that maybe we could include a picture of the band in front of the station.
- b. D/M Manual
 - i. Bill Bryce stated that it still needs a few more pictures added.
 - ii. Matt Lopez requested that the manual be completed by St Patrick's Day.
- c. Emmitsburg Brick

- i. The board has decided to push off a decision on this to the next meeting.
 - d. St. Patrick's Day Events
 - i. Alexandria has canceled its parade.
 - ii. Lisa Heilbraun will see if we can get into the Annapolis parade since Alexandria is cancelled.
 - 1. Bill Bryce stated that he spoke with D/M Craig Crawmer of the Baltimore Fire Brigade Band and that would welcome us to march with them in the parade.
 - 2. Lisa Heilbraun will check with Dale to get more details.
 - iii. Manassas Parade is still a go and we are set for that.
 - iv. Events on St. Patrick's Day March 17
 - 1. Ned Devine's in Herndon
 - a. Will play before 4 and again at 8:30
 - b. Ned Devine's will provide free food and drink for the band
 - 2. Bill Bryce mentioned that Bear Branch Tavern in Vienna would like us to play around dinner time.
 - a. They will provide food and drink.
 - b. Bill Bryce motioned that we accept the gig and Matt Bickert seconded. Motion passed unanimously.

V. New Business

- a. LODD in Baltimore Reimbursement
 - i. Bill Bryce asked if the band reimburse for rooms for an LODD.
 - ii. Tom Clappi stated that if you provide the receipt for the room he will reimburse you.
- b. Upcoming Gigs beyond St. Patrick's Day events
 - i. Lisa Heilbraun will put those events that are already known and we have dates for into TeamSnap so that folks know our upcoming calendar and can respond.
- c. Website Updates
 - i. Jason Allen stated that he was on the website and noticed that the wrong folks were listed on there.
 - ii. Jim Kraftchak stated that he needs to be made aware of any changes that are needed.
 - iii. Jason Allen to provide a list of changes to Jim Kraftchak.

VI. Good of the Order

- a. Jason Allen stated that the music committee would be meeting on February 22 at Patriots.
- b. Jason Allen stated that John Burns has been given a band chanter and he is now eligible for LODD events.
- c. Jason Allen stated that he purchased new reeds for the band.

- d. Jason Allen stated that he has been speaking to Ivan Browning about the possibility of hosting a clinic at Emmitsburg to assist pipers and potentially drummers to be as ready as possible with their instruments for the event. He will be putting together a working group and get that Ivan by July.
- e. Bill Bryce stated that he had been talking to Camdem and Baltimore about potentially getting together for a “rehearsal” sometime this summer.
- f. Lisa Heilbraun asked about potentially investing some of the monies provided by Ed Snyder’s estate to create some sort of memorial fund. The board agreed that this would be a good idea and asked Lisa to look into it and let the board know what she found at the next meeting.
- g. Jason Allen mentioned that there might be a possibility of getting new chanters for the band. Cost for new chanters would be around \$175 each. He is looking at McCallum or the Hardy Infinity. He will get back to the board at the next meeting on decision if any.

VII. Action Items

- a. Gary Winemiller to update the Uniform Manual with the addition of the name tag language as amended.
- b. All committees are to report to the BOD at the next meeting.
- c. Bill Bryce to complete the Drum Major Manual.
- d. Lisa Heilbraun to check with Annapolis to see if we can participate.
- e. Jason Allen and Matt Bickert to get a plaque for Station 17 not to exceed \$100.
- f. Lisa Heilbraun to look into investing some of the money we got from Ed Snyder’s estate.
- g. Jim Kraftchak to update website once information is received from Jason Allen.
- h. Jason Allen to create recruiting poster that can be posted on social media sites.
- i. Lisa Heilbraun will speak to Louis to see what his status is with the band.
- j. Bill Bryce to have 2 proposed dates for the fundraiser to present at next board meeting.
- k. Lisa Heilbraun to get all known band events for the rest of the year posted on TeamSnap.
- l. Jason Allen to let the board know what the decision is on chanters at next board meeting.

VIII. Meeting adjourned at 7:15 pm with motion by Bill Bryce, seconded by Jim Kraftchak and passed with a unanimous vote.