



Northern Virginia Firefighters' Emerald Society Pipe Band

Board of Directors Meeting

December 9, 2021

- I. Meeting called to order at 7:03 pm
- II. Members in Attendance: President Matt Lopez, Vice President Bill Bryce, Secretary/Webmaster Jim Kraftchak, Member-at-Large Matt Bickert, QM/PM Jason Allen
- III. Reports
 - a. Secretary
 - i. Jim Kraftchak moved to approve the meeting minutes as written, Matt Bickert seconded. Approved unanimously.
 - b. Treasurer
 - i. Tom Clappi not in attendance and no report
 - c. Quartermaster
 - i. Jason Allen stated that the Boston Scally Caps and the ties have been issued and we have 5 Boston Scally Caps left to issue
 - ii. Name Tags have been ordered but they are on backorder as they are awaiting the VA Seal to add to the name tag. December 14 is current projected shipping date.
 - iii. Boston Scally company gave us a 20% discount on all the caps and they would love to have a picture of us in them as part of their advertising on their website.
 - iv. Embroidery on the caps was \$10.
 - v. Pete O'Brien's kit has been turned in but the kilt is too big for Matt Lopez to wear.
 - vi. Jason Allen stated that Tom Clappi got Jessica's kit back from her as she is now playing in the Winchester band and Jason gave her kilt to Andrew Timpner and it fits.
 - vii. Jason Allen also stated that Matt Khale will need a kilt.
 - d. Uniform
 - i. No report.

- e. Membership Committee
 - i. Matt Lopez stated that the PowerPoint presentation that Matt Bickert created for recruiting was delivered and he was hoping to give a presentation to the new recruit class in Fairfax County.
 - ii. Matt Khale offered to help Matt Lopez with the recruiting.
 - iii. Jason Allen asked if there was a training person for the police and Bill Bryce stated that he will check with the commander of the helicopter unit as he is friend of Bill's.
- f. Fundraising Committee
 - i. Bill Bryce stated that he is working on a fundraiser at Patriots.
 - ii. Jason Allen stated that we need to get an email out the band about the fundraiser and Bill Bryce stated that he would draft the email.
 - iii. Once the fundraiser is set, Jim Kraftchak will ensure it is posted to social media and the band's website.
 - iv. Bill Bryce stated that Patriots has connections to the Police and Firefighter unions and that could help.
 - v. Bill Bryce stated that Jim Martin, Cliff Gill and Matt Khale have all volunteered to help organize the fundraiser.
 - vi. Bill Bryce will create a list prior to the January meeting showing who is in charge of what for the fundraiser.
 - vii. There is a potential to get a blast out to all local Fire Departments through a county wide email.
 - viii. Jason Allen stated that he will create a poster for the fundraiser.

IV. Old Business

- a. Department Patches on Uniforms
 - i. Jason Allen stated that it should only be on the white shirt or the sweater and not on Class A Tunic.
 - ii. Bill Bryce motioned that "Members should be able to wear an organization patch on their white uniform shirt or uniform sweater on the right sleeve for those who have a personal affiliation, current or past, with career or volunteer, Fire, EMS or Police. For those with no personal affiliation to those organizations, they can wear an American flag in its place." Matt Bickert seconded the motion and the motion passed unanimously.
- b. Emmitsburg Brick
 - i. Matt Lopez stated that this should be held until the next board is elected.
- c. Drum Major Manual
 - i. Bill Bryce still has not completed it.
- d. Get Pete O'Brien's Kit
 - i. Jason Allen stated that it has been returned.
- e. Get Green Bass Drum from whoever has it

- i. Bill Bryce stated that he now has the green bass drum.

V. New Business

- a. January Membership Meeting
 - i. Everyone is in agreement that we need new people to join the board so its not the same folks every year.
 - ii. DM and PM are going to be elected again this year.
 - iii. Jim Kraftchak to send out a notification to band that the meeting will be held on January 26 at 7PM in the bingo hall at CVFD Station 17.
- b. CVFD Station 17 Appreciation
 - i. The board is in agreement that we need to do something for CVFD Station 17 in appreciation for all that they have done for the band during the pandemic when we were not able to be at the training academy.
 - ii. Jason Allen stated that the first Monday of each month they have a meeting that would be a good time to present whatever we decide to them.
 - iii. Bill Bryce stated that he would look into seeing what type of plaque can be gotten.
 - iv. Matt Bickert stated that he will see if they would like to get a donation to the station as well.
- c. Fire and Iron Motorcycle Club
 - i. They have requested band participation for an event July 28, 2022.
 - ii. Their event is on a Thursday so that maybe an issue and we should consider making it a mass band event.
 - iii. Bill Bryce and Lisa Heilbraun will look into seeing about making this a mass band event.
 - iv. They offered a bus and hotel rooms for the event in addition to \$1,000 and maybe we should simply ask for money instead.
 - v. The board is interested in pursuing this event.
- d. St. Patrick's Day Events
 - i. Alexandria Parade
 - ii. Manassas Parade
 - iii. New York Events
 - 1. NYC Parade on March 17 – Not a band event
 - 2. Yonker Parade on March 19 – Not a band event
 - 3. Pear River Parade on March 20 – Not a band event
 - 4. Bill Bryce is checking with Nanook to get hotels for those who want to go to NY.
 - 5. Tom Murphy has a connection to the Yonkers folks.
 - 6. Bill Bryce will setup something at Ned's for those do not want to go to NY.

VI. Good of the Order

- a. Bill Bryce stated that Bridget and Wayne from Patriots Pub are getting married on June 10 and want to hire the band to play at the event. They will pay the band \$500. Bill Bryce motioned that we accept this event, Matt Bickert seconded and it passed unanimously. Jason Allen and Bill Bryce will have the final call on who can play at the event.
- b. Jason Allen and Ivan Browning are talking about having a clicking on Piping at Emmitsburg next year to help all pipers.
- c. Jason Allen stated that there will be no rehearsal December 22 and 29. On January 5 we will have rehearsal and it will be a Jim Ryan directed rehearsal on what he wants to cover.

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 check with Helicopter Commander about potential police recruitment to the band.
- d. Bill Bryce to complete the Drum Major Manual.
- e. Jason Allen to create poster for fundraiser.
- f. Jim Kraftchak to post fundraiser information on social media and website.
- g. Jason Allen to follow up on those folks that are no longer active in the band and haven't returned their chanters.
- h. Jim Kraftchak to send out email to band about Annual Membership Meeting.
- i. Bill Bryce to create a list of who is in charge of what at the fundraiser.
- j. Bill Bryce to check on a plaque for Station 17.
- k. Matt Bickert to check with Station 17 on if they would prefer a donation.

VIII. Meeting adjourned at 8:25 pm with motion by Bill Bryce, seconded by Matt Bickert and passed with a unanimous vote.