



Northern Virginia Firefighters' Emerald Society Pipe Band

Board of Directors Meeting

January 12, 2023

- 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, Quartermaster/Pipe Major Jason Allen, Band Manager Lisa Heilbraun
- III. Reports
 - a. Secretary
 - i. Bill Bryce moved to approve the meeting minutes as written, Jim Kraftchak seconded. Approved unanimously.
 - b. Treasurer
 - i. \$18,402.00 is starting balance
 - ii. Received all monies for rooms from Emmitsburg except for Jim Ryan
 - iii. Expenses
 1. \$236 for storage
 - c. Quartermaster
 - i. Jason Allen stated that we needed 2 kilts (Matt Khale and Garrett McKenzie) and a tunic for Cliff Gill.
 - ii. Kilts are going to cost \$130 each more than normal.
 - iii. A single tunic will cost \$780 because it's making only a single tunic. If we are able to order more, they will each be cheaper.
 - iv. Last time we ordered tunics they were \$640 each.
 - v. The option of using Matt Bickert's old tunic was raised to see if it fit Cliff.
 - vi. Since a tunic is needed for Emmitsburg, Jason Allen was asked how long it would take to get one made if we had to get a single one. Jason stated that it would be 6-8 weeks.
 - vii. The consensus of the board was to wait on ordering a tunic to see if either one could be found that would fit or we needed more made to lower the price prior to Emmitsburg.

- d. Uniform
 - i. No report.
- e. Membership Committee
 - i. Matt Lopez stated that nothing new has happened this month. He has asked in Fairfax but has gotten no responses.
 - ii. Tom Clappi stated that he has someone in Loudoun that is interested but that the person lives at the PA/MD border so he may not show.
 - iii. Matt Lopez stated that one of the students he is working with is doing very well and may be on big pipes late spring or early summer.
- f. Fundraising Committee
 - i. Bill Bryce stated that he has been talking to Patriot's Bar and Grill about hosting us and we are good to go. Bill is just working out the final details.
 - ii. Fundraiser will be held February 11, 2023.
 - iii. Jason Allen stated that his brother's band has agreed to play when we aren't playing for free to support the band.
 - iv. Matt Lopez stated that he will check with Bunnyman Brewery to see if they will provide a donation to the band or something for the fund raiser.
 - v. Matt Bickert stated that he will check with Mission BBQ to see if they will support the fund raiser in some way.
 - vi. Question was raised about what would happen in the event of snow? Answer is we will deal with that if it happens.
 - vii. We should have a representative from DC Fire at the fund raiser.
 - viii. Bill Bryce is going to go to all the local Costco stores to get a \$20 gift card from each of them that they give to nonprofits and then use those cards to buy something big that can be auction or raffled off.
 - ix. Matt Lopez stated that the Fairfax Local has donated \$150 towards a gift basket that can be auctioned/raffled off.
 - x. The Fairfax Firefighters' Retirement Association is also providing some help for the fundraiser.
 - xi. Jay Lind is working on Prince William Fire to see if they would kick in something.
 - xii. Matt Lopez stated that he is working with the Fairfax Local President to get fundraiser out in the Fairfax City newspaper.
 - xiii. Bill Bryce stated that we still have a good amount of tshirts and maybe we can sell them at \$15 instead of \$20 to get rid of some.
 - xiv. Bill Bryce stated that patches may be an issue since he is having a hard time getting hold of the vendor that makes them.

- xv. Bill Bryce stated that Patriots told him that the last time we did a fund raiser there, it was the second busiest night of the year for them.

IV. Old Business

- a. Ed Snyder Challenge Coin
 - i. Jason Allen stated that he has gotten the picture that was used for Ed's tombstone but it is not high enough quality to be used for a coin and he is still trying to find an appropriate picture that is high enough quality.
 - ii. Bill Bryce stated that he may have a picture that will work.
- b. Pipers paying for Instruction
 - i. Jason Allen stated that he will save this for the Annual Membership Meeting and bring it up there.
 - ii. To implement this, it doesn't need a vote but the board feels that this is a good idea overall and should be persued.

V. New Business

- a. Annual Meeting
 - i. Matt Lopez stated that he will ensure that the band has a meeting room available in the academy for the meeting.
 - ii. Jim Kraftchak stated that he is still working on finalizing the meeting minutes from last year's meeting and will get them out as soon as they are completed.
 - iii. Matt Lopez asked all board members if they were interested in running for the same positions again and all agreed.
 - iv. Since PM and DM were elected last year and the term is two years, this year we will only be electing board members.
 - v. Matt Lopez requested that the Annual Membership Meeting be placed on TeamSnap.
- b. Upcoming Gigs
 - i. St Patrick's Gigs
 - 1. Jason Allen stated that he looking into Bunnyman Brewery or other locations and will let the board know what is available.
 - 2. Bill Bryce stated that Ned Devines is interested in us playing there and will feed us.
 - ii. National Fallen Firefighters's Memorial weekend this year will be held May 6 and 7 instead of October and it will stay here for the foreseeable future.

VI. Good of the Order

- a. None

VII. Action Items

- a. Matt Bickert to reach out to Mission BBQ to see if they will support our fundraiser.

- b. Tom Clappi to reach out to Loudoun County Union to get support for our fundraiser.
- c. Matt Lopez to reach out to Bunnyman Brewery to see if they will support our fundraiser in some fashion.
- d. Jason Allen to reach out to Montgomery County Union to get support for our fundraiser.
- e. Matt Lopez to contact Jay Lind to see if he can reach out to Prince William County Union to support our fundraiser.
- f. Bill Bryce or Tom Clappi to set up a Venmo account that is connected to the band account and get that information to Jim Kraftchak so he can update the website.
- g. All committees are to report to the BOD at the next meeting.
- h. Jason Allen to find suitable picture for the Ed Snyder coin.
- i. Bill Bryce to get more details on the documentary film so that we can proceed.
- j. Jim Kraftchak to complete write up for last year's Annual Meeting Minutes.
- k. Matt Lopez to ensure we have a room at the academy for the Annual Meeting reserved.
- l. Lisa Heilbraun to look into Annapolis Parade and DC Warf for St. Patrick's Day.

VIII. Meeting adjourned at 7:44 pm with motion by Bill Bryce, seconded by Matt Bickert and passed with a unanimous vote.