



Northern Virginia Firefighters' Emerald Society Pipe Band

Board of Directors Meeting

March 23, 2023

- 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 Cliff Gill, Quartermaster/Pipe Major Jason Allen
- III. Reports
 - a. Secretary
 - i. Bill Bryce moved to approve the meeting minutes as written, Cliff Gill seconded. Approved unanimously.
 - b. Treasurer
 - i. \$24,201.36 is starting balance
 - ii. Expenses
 1. \$118 for storage
 2. \$XXX for TeamSnap
 3. \$676.60 for Kilts
 4. \$350 for Tom Cangelosi
 - c. Quartermaster
 - i. Jason Allen stated that we need a kilt for Bill Bryce.
 - ii. Tunics are going to take 6 months to get if we order only one due to lack of sewers at the manufacturer and will cost \$650 each.
 - iii. The manufacturer has class A jackets that are "off the rack" and we can get them in the same color for \$160 each.
 - iv. If we want a heavier weight fabric the cost is then \$250 each.
 - v. Jason Allen and Cliff Gill will look into these and report back to the board at the next meeting.
 - vi. Plan is to get a long sleeve white shirt to be more formal.
 - vii. Jason Allen requested that we consider also adding a vest.
 - viii. Caubeens are an issue as what we have is all there is. Our manufacturer no longer makes them as they closed up shop.

- ix. Jim Kraftchak stated that he knew of some locations to get caubeens and he will get that information to Jason Allen.
- x. Jim Kraftchak inquired about getting more Scally Caps and Jason Allen stated that they are currently unavailable.
- xi. Jim Kraftchak stated that we need to get more hackles.
- d. Drum Major
 - i. Bill Bryce stated that Emmitsburg is coming up and we need to get ready for it.
 - ii. Bill Bryce asked if we wanted to try to replace the Ride of the Patriots event with something else?
 - iii. Due to the Costco cards that were donated, those will be funding the Emmitsburg cookout.
- e. Pipe Major
 - i. Jason Allen stated that we need to get the Emmitsburg tunes under our fingers and be prepared to honor the fallen.
 - ii. Jason Allen stated that he was very happy with the way St. Patrick's season went.
 - iii. The band is still fighting with a lack of concentration.
 - iv. Jason Allen stated that he discovered that we are two different bands. We are great in the circle but when on the march its totally different. We need marching practice to solve that once the weather warms up.
 - v. Tom C will start working with students starting in April which will give us an additional week of Tom's time.
 - vi. The total cost of Tom C's time is a little over \$6,300 for the year and students need to be members and pay dues in order to help defray some of those costs.
 - vii. Jason Allen stated that April will be heavy with preparations for Emmitsburg.
 - viii. If the band plays at the Ott House or not will be left up to membership. If we decide to play, the request is to play first thing and get in and get out.
 - ix. The band will be hosting a bagpipe clinic again at the Gettysburg VFD station to help get participants bagpipes in shape to play for Emmitsburg. Jason Allen, Tom Cangelosi, Andrew Donlon, Mark O'Donnel and Jim Ryan will be there to work the clinic.
 - x. Jason Allen will purchase supplies for the clinic.
 - xi. Jason Allen stated that after Emmitsburg we will be getting some new tunes to learn.
- f. Uniform
 - i. No report.
- g. Membership Committee
 - i. Matt Lopez stated that nothing new has happened this month.
- h. Fundraising Committee

- i. Bill Bryce stated that fall would be a good time to have a fundraiser.
- ii. Jim Kraftchak stated that Bill Bryce needs to assign jobs to folks to do rather than trying to do them all himself.

IV. Old Business

- a. Ed Snyder Challenge Coin
 - i. Jason Allen stated that he still needs to get a good picture of Ed to use on the coin. So far none have worked well.
 - ii. Plan is combine both the 40th anniversary of the band with Ed Snyder coin.

V. New Business

- a. Emmitsburg Room Stipend
 - i. Bill Bryce motioned to approve \$50 per person stipend for the rooms at Emmitsburg. Cliff Gill seconded and the motion passed unanimously.
- b. Pipe Instructor Fee
 - i. Bill Bryce motioned to approve that the pipers each pay \$25 per month to help defray the cost of Tom C's instructional fees. Cliff Gill seconded and the motion passed unanimously.
 - ii. Matt Lopez will sell this to the membership.
- c. Pop Up Tent with Logo
 - i. Jason Allen requested that the band purchase a 10' X 10' pop up tent with the band logos on it. Cost would be approximately \$750.
 - ii. Bill Bryce motioned that Jason Allen get full cost of the tent and let the board know via email and then the band will purchase it. Cliff Gill seconded and the motion passed unanimously.
 - iii. Jason Allen to get the full cost of the tent and let the board know before purchasing it.

VI. Good of the Order

- a. None

VII. Action Items

- a. Jim Kraftchak to get caubeen information to Jason Allen.
- b. Matt Lopes to sell membership on paying for \$25 per piper per month for Tom C's instruction.
- c. Jason Allen and Cliff Gill to look into what the "off the shelf" band jackets would look like as a potential replacement for current tunics.
- d. Jason Allen to get full cost of pop up tent to board before purchasing.
- e. Jason Allen to purchase supplies for Emmitsburg Pipe Clinic.
- f. Bill Byce 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.

VIII. Meeting adjourned at 8:36 pm with motion by Bill Bryce, seconded by Cliff Gill and passed with a unanimous vote.