



Northern Virginia Firefighters' Emerald Society Pipe Band

Board of Directors Meeting

August 8, 2024

- I. Meeting called to order at 7:05 pm
- II. Members in Attendance: President Matt Lopez, Treasurer Tom Clappi, Secretary/Webmaster Jim Kraftchak, Member At Large Matt Khale, Band Manager Garrett McKenzie
- III. Reports
 - a. Secretary
 - i. Matt Khale motioned to accept the minutes as written and Matt Lopez seconded the motion. Motion passed unanimously.
 - b. Treasurer
 - i. Account Status
 1. Current balance is \$13,429.73
 2. No income and no expenses
 - ii. Matt Khale stated that he believes that Cliff Gill paid for the full year of the new storage unit. Matt Lopez will check with Cliff to verify that.
 - c. Quartermaster
 - i. No Report
 - d. Band Manager
 - i. No report
 - e. Pipe Major
 - i. No Report
 - f. Drum Major
 - i. No Report
- IV. Old Business
 - a. Fundraiser
 - i. Matt Lopez asked that Bill Bryce and Jim Kraftchak provide the letter stating that the band is a 501C3 organization and to provide the introduction letter to businesses.

- ii. Matt Lopez stated that he is in the process of putting together a list of potential businesses in the NOVA area to see if they would be willing to donate to the band.
 - 1. Goal is to get 16 companies to donate \$500 or 8 companies to donate \$1,000.
- iii. An option is to check with the local unions, but they typically don't provide funds for anything other than events.
- iv. Going to work with Fairfax, Loudoun, Fauquire and Prince William to see if they can support us in any way.
- v. NOVA businesses have a lot of money available and maybe we can get some of it.
- vi. Goal is to get this out between now and the end of September.
- vii. Jim Kraftchak will check with his company to see if they are willing to support us.
- viii. Garrett McKenzie agrees and stated that we need to say our money will be used to purchase uniforms, which cost around \$2,000 per person.
- ix. Garrett McKenzie further stated that:
 - 1. We could make more money by playing for events
 - 2. Doing a raffle could help with raising money
 - 3. Do a public rehearsal at a bar and pass the boot
 - 4. If a business donates, we could play at one of their events as a thank you.

V. New Business

a. Cliff Gill

- i. Matt Lopez stated that Cliff Gill had hernia surgery and will be out for 6 weeks or so.
- ii. Matt Lopez motioned that the band send Cliff a gift basket and card. Motion was seconded by Matt Khale. Motion carried unanimously.

b. Events

- i. Fairfax County Firefighters' Retirement Association picnic is coming up at the end of September. They donate \$1,000 for the event.
- ii. 100th Anniversary Parade for the Warrenton VFD September 7.
 - 1. Matt Lopez asked if they can donate anything to the band.
 - 2. Garrett McKenzie will check.
- iii. Garrett McKenzie stated that St. Patrick's Day is the best fundraiser time
 - 1. Matt Lopez agreed that we need to seriously look into this.
 - 2. Matt Lopez stated that we need to start the band moving in this direction so we have the support we need when the time comes.
 - 3. This will be discussed more at the next meeting.

- iv. Matt Khale stated that the Fairfax County Recruit Graduation will be September 20 at the Baptist Church in Chantilly.
- c. Storage
 - i. Next payment will be in January 2025 for \$100 as Cliff Gill paid for the full year already.
- d. Recruiting
 - i. Matt Lopez stated that active firefighters in the band need to help with recruiting to get more firefighters in the band.
- e. Fundraiser this year
 - i. Matt Khale asked if there was going to be a fundraiser this year and Matt Lopez stated that an official fundraiser for this year has been scrapped.

VI. Good of the Order

- a. Nothing

VII. Action Items

- a. Jim Kraftchak to ask his company for a donation.
- b. Matt Lopez to check with Cliff Gill to verify if he paid for the storage unit in full for the year.
- c. Bill Bryce to provide 501C3 letter and introduction letter to Matt Lopez for business donations.

VIII. Meeting adjourned at 7:51 pm with motion by Matt Khale, seconded by Matt Lopez and passed with a unanimous vote.