



Northern Virginia Firefighters' Emerald Society Pipe Band

Board of Directors Meeting

May 9, 2024

- I. Meeting called to order at 7:04 pm
- II. Members in Attendance: President Matt Lopez, Vice President Bill Bryce, Treasurer Tom Clappi, Secretary/Webmaster Jim Kraftchak, Member At Large Matt Khale, Quartermaster Cliff Gill
- III. Reports
 - a. Secretary
 - i. Bill Bryce motioned to accept the minutes as written and Tom Clappi seconded the motion. Motion passed unanimously.
 - b. Treasurer
 - i. \$12,132.93 is our current balance
 - ii. Income
 1. \$200 from rooms at the Quality Inn Gettysburg
 2. \$300 Donation
 - iii. Expenses
 1. \$545 Gettysburg Eddies Dinner
 2. \$3,729 Quality Inn Gettysburg
 3. \$300 Tom Cangelosi
 4. \$963.20 Kilts
 5. \$467.67 GoDaddy (Website)
 - iv. Mat Lopez stated that we need a fundraiser to do the 40th Anniversary Party.
 - c. Quartermaster
 - i. Cliff Gill stated that he purchased 14 long sleeve shirts and one short sleeve shirt.
 - ii. The cost for the dry cleaning and patches sewn onto the shirts of \$184 is being donated to the band by Cliff Gill.
 - iii. 3 kilts were purchased to replace worn out kilts at a cost of \$963.20.

- iv. A new bolt of kilt fabric was purchased at a cost of \$2,323.08 that will allow us to create approximately 15 more kilts.
- v. Tunics and Caubeens
 - 1. After reviewing the new tunics, the selected tunic is lighter weight than our current tunics so we might be able to wear them more often.
 - 2. A new caubeen has been found that will work and looks like it will hold up very well.
 - 3. To purchase 20 tunics and caubeens would be \$4,500
 - 4. Tunics are custom sized and for a single tunic and caubeen would be \$280 compared to the cost of purchasing our current tunic at \$800 per tunic.
 - 5. Delivery on new tunics and caubeens would be between 6-8 weeks.
 - 6. Matt Lopez asked if they could match our current color for the tunic.
 - 7. Cliff Gill stated that in the Border Patrol, the minute they changed the fabric the color is different due to different dye lots so there is no need to worry about the color.
- vi. Cliff Gill stated that Boston Scally is not responding to any of his requests for information on why our caps have faded.
- vii. Bill Bryce asked if we still could add a department patch to the uniform? Matt Lopez stated that the answer is yes but currently only on shirts and sweaters not tunics.
- viii. Band Patches
 - 1. Cliff Gill stated that we are out of band patches.
 - 2. After getting 3 different bids on the patch, Cliff Gill has selected the best one and stated that the cost of 200 patches would be around \$550.
 - 3. Bill Bryce motioned that we purchase 200 patches NTE \$550. Matt Khale seconded the motion and it passed unanimously.
 - 4. Discussion on the motion prior to the vote was:
 - a. Bill Bryce stated that the price is good, but we need to make sure that colors and quality are correct.
 - b. Cliff Gill stated that he has the vector artwork for the patch and that they can match the colors.
- d. Band Manager
 - i. No report
- e. Pipe Major
 - i. No Report
- f. Drum Major
 - i. Bill Bryce stated that there isn't anything new at this time.

IV. Old Business

- a. 40th Anniversary Party
 - i. Matt Lopez provided a spreadsheet that shows the potential costs. See attached.
 - ii. We are looking at around 90 people attending max.
 - iii. Jim Kraftchak suggested that we look at Holiday Inn since they have rooms for 90.
 - iv. Bill Bryce and Matt Lopez to get solid numbers on the party costs by May 6.
 - v. Bill Bryce suggested that maybe we do a 50/50 raffle to help defray some of the costs.
 - vi. Tom Clappi stated that with current expenses that we know of, that will leave us with about \$7,100 in the bank to hold the party.
 - vii. Matt Khale asked if the party is really that important and maybe instead of the party, we will use a fundraiser to celebrate our 40th anniversary?
 - viii. Matt Khale stated that we need to offset the costs of the 40th anniversary party.
 - ix. Matt Lopez stated that maybe we need to not have a 40th anniversary party and instead do a fundraiser to celebrate our 40th anniversary.
 - x. Bill Bryce stated that Patriots would be a great place to hold our fundraiser.
 - xi. Tom Clappi motioned that we cancel the 40th Anniversary Party due to financial constraints. Matt Lopez seconded the motion.
 - xii. Bill Bryce asked if we want to poll the membership on if we cancel or not? The discussion came down to not because of finances.
 - xiii. Motion to cancel the 40th Anniversary Part was passed unanimously.
 - xiv. Matt Lopez stated that he would send out an email to the membership informing them of the decision and why the board made it.

V. New Business

- a. Fundraising
 - i. Bill Bryce to find a date that works.
 - ii. Tom Clappi recommended that Bill Bryce speak with piping students to help in running the fundraiser so that he doesn't need to do everything like normal.
 - iii. Matt Lopez stated that we need to connect with McMillian for the fundraiser. This means we need to take their schedule into account in finding a date that works.
 - iv. Jim Kraftchak stated that since we are not doing the party we really need to have a 40th Anniversary t-shirt for the fundraiser.

- v. Matt Khale suggested that we could use a throwback design that utilizes some of the bands old logo designs. He further stated that every firehouse he's been in has the older design band stickers in it.

- b. Upcoming Events

- i. June 1 – VA Fallen Firefighters Memorial
- ii. July 4 – Fairfax July 4 Parade

VI. Good of the Order

- a. Tom Clappi stated that given the current state of the treasury, while Tom Cangelosi's instruction is great, the cost is getting expensive. Need to discuss with Jason Allen cutting back on to no more than twice a month.
- b. Tom Clappi stated that we get paid far less than other bands do for their participation in events like parades and such and maybe we need to look at raising our prices.

VII. Action Items

- a. Matt Lopez to send out email to membership on cancellation of 40th anniversary party.
- b. Bill Bryce to find a date for the fundraiser that works.
- c. Cliff Gill to purchase 200 band patches NTE \$550.

VIII. Meeting adjourned at 8:05 pm with motion by Bill Bryce, seconded by Tom Clappi and passed with a unanimous vote.

