

May 20, 2010 JEN Board of Director's Meeting Minutes

Touhill Performing Arts Center, University of Missouri-St. Louis, MO

Members present: Mary Jo Papich, Lou Fischer, John Clayton, Paris Rutherford, Jackie Harris, Andrew Surmani, Ruben Alvaréz, Paul Chiaravalle; José Diaz; Rick Kessel; Bruce Silva; Jim Widner, Bob Sinicrope, Terrell Stafford, Willard Jenkins and John Wittmann. **Office Manager:** Steve Crissinger

Others Present:Jazz Education Network Members (70+)

President's Welcome and Message

Meeting called to order at 10:06 AM. President Papich welcomed the board and explained the process for the meeting and guidelines for questions and answers to non-board members present.

Introduction of Board Members to the audience

MJ introduced all members of the Board and the Office Manager to the JEN members present as this is the first "Open Meeting" of the Board.

January 23, Meeting Minutes Approval

Mary Jo explained that these minutes had been previously approved through the forum on www.JazzEdNet.org [1].

Treasurer's Report

Treasurer Andrew Surmani presented a 2009-2010 budget summary with actuals for fiscal year to date. (See Attachments)

- We have reached the revenue goal for the conference, but still need to pay expenses to establish the bottom line.

Bruce Silva moved to accept the treasurer's report, and Jim Widner seconded the motion. The motion passed unanimously. The board thanked Andrew for his work on the treasurer's report.

Office Manager Report

Steve Crissinger reported on JEN's current membership of 851 individuals and organizations. The progress toward rolling out the next generation of the JEN website is well under way with a target date of July 1, 2010 of completion. An office phone line has been established at 614-524-4212 and we are receiving frequent calls from the membership with questions about the conference.

COMMITTEE REPORTS

Standing Committees

Nominating (Jackie Harris, chair, Andrew Surmani, Lou Fischer, Ruben Alvaréz, Mary Jo Papich)

Jackie explained the process of the Nominating Committee and provided background to the Board and members present of how the slate was reached.

Five board positions were open in the 2010 election. Jackie Harris pointed out the importance of recruiting board members to match the organization's needs (i.e. fundraising, finances, marketing, PR, non-profit governance.)

107 votes were cast in the recent election with 105 yes votes, 1 no vote and 1 write in. The ballot passed and Jackie introduced all incoming Board members present at this meeting. Paul Bangser, Monica Herzig and Orbert Davis will be new to the Board. Paul Chiaravalle and Bob Sinicrope will be returning for a second term.

Jackie discussed the resignation of Steve Crissinger from the Board and the appointment by the Board of Willard Jenkins to the open seat as specified by the JEN By Laws.

Ad hoc /Special Committees

2010 Conference Committee

Lou Fischer and Mary Jo presented an update on the 2010 Conference and offered a heart felt thanks to the staff of UMS-L, Symphony Publishing and the Hilton hotel properties for all of their hard work and dedication over the last 9 months.

There have been numerous media hits over the week by Ruben Alvaréz, Lou Fischer, Shelly Berg, MJ and John Clayton including TV, radio and print opportunities promoting our conference.

We are currently expecting around 1150 participants including Board members, Performers, Clinicians and Exhibitors.

Jim Widnerspoke and expressed how delighted and honored he was to host the 1st Annual Conference. While not all details may be perfect, it is a great way to start out. Jim explained the facilities and parts of campus being utilized over the following three days.

A discussion followed about the process of selection of dates and location for this conference led by Mary Jo.

Madeleine Crouchis managing exhibits with registration taking place online. Mary Jo asked that each Board member personally visit and thank all exhibitors. Rick Kessel presented an idea brought forth by Paris Rutherford to include exhibitors in all introductions of performances and clinics during the conference.

The JENeral Session will be highlighted by a keynote address of NEA Jazz Master David Baker. We will also be presenting several awards at this time.

Conference PR

Dawn DeBlaze has done a wonderful job of promoting JEN and the conference in the St. Louis market as mentioned previously. John Kuzmich Jr. will be providing photography for JEN at the conference and Stephen Trefnoff and Zach Compston will make a video documentary.

Conference Outreach

Phil Dunlap, Director of Education for Jazz St. Louis was introduced and discussed the outreach programs being offered by JEN members during the conference. This work could not have been completed without the leadership of Terrell Stafford and Judy Shafer. We will be placing approximately 70 musicians, consisting of big bands, combos and clinicians did outreach at nine schools in the St. Louis area reaching over 300 middle school through high school students.

Project JENerosity

Jim Warrick has led the Project JENerosity effort through an online presence, phone calls and email campaigns to gather instruments for the Tipitina's Foundation in New Orleans. Jim has been assisted by several students from UMS-L to pull off this Herculean project.

JENeral Store

Mary Jo informed everyone present about the JENeral Store and its location in the Student Center. She also implored everyone to go get JEN gear while it lasted.

Mary Jo followed these discussion points with a review of schedules for each member of the Board and reviewed individual responsibilities. She thanked all of the volunteers from the university with special attention paid to the Students, Faculty and Administration that were so vital in the success of this event.

The Meet Me in St. Louis event was discussed and the Board was informed we currently had 80 registrations in place with 20 left for purchase at the conference. This is a brand new event for JEN and will hopefully be a legacy for the future.

We will be offering an online evaluation at the end of the conference to gather feedback from all participants, clinicians, performers and members. This information will be used for planning future conferences.

Last minute discussion items included shuttle services that are a "work in progress" from all hotels to the conference location and between hotels for the late night "hang". The late night "hang" will be at the Hilton St. Louis Airport from 11:00 p.m. to 1:00 a.m. each night with shuttle service provided by JEN so all members can be present and network.

Website Update

Steve Crissinger provided an update and historical perspective of the JEN website. We are developing the new platform with the goal of providing improvements to areas that have been troublesome for the last two years. Payment options will be added to include School Purchase Orders and Recurring Payments.

Social Media needs to be passed on to other volunteers and that will be a focused activity at the conference.

Steve also encouraged all members to add info@jazzednet.org [2] to your personal email address book, which will assist in teaching your email client that JEN messages are not SPAM.

Future Conference Updates

Lou Fischer updated the Board on progress towards the 2011 conference in New Orleans including facilities, dates and exhibit spaces. The Finance Committee is currently reviewing and renegotiating the contract with the Roosevelt Hotel. This should be completed in time for approval at our meeting on Sunday.

Lou discussed options for the 2012 conference. Several cities will be considered with price and date being driving factors in the ultimate selection of the conference site. We are also evaluating the Hotel vs. University model moving forward.

Student Composition Initiative

Mary Jo discussed the Student Composition Program for high school students. Paris Rutherford and Ruben Alvaréz will lead the program targeted at collegiate students. Discussion about the submission medium followed with a request by John Clayton to be cautious about calling this a “contest” so we could encourage as much participation as possible.

Other Business

Mary Jo opened the meeting for a question and answers by the JEN members present. Many topics were presented and discussed by the Board and membership including many thanks to the current Board and an overwhelming emphasis to keep JEN grounded in the mission and focusing on the “next generation”.

The meeting was adjourned at 12:02 by Mary Jo.

Source URL: https://jazzednet.org/BOD_05202010

Links:

- [1] <http://www.jazzednet.org/>
- [2] <mailto:info@jazzednet.org>