

Oregon Bluegrass Association



Minutes of the Special Meeting of the Board

Held Tuesday August 16, 2016 at Miernyk's residence

The meeting was called to order by Chris Palmer at 7:30 PM. Ron Preston took the minutes. Attendees thanked the Jim for hosting the meeting, and providing refreshments.

Officers, Directors and Members attending:

Chris Palmer, Tony McCormick , Ron Preston, Jim Miernyk, Pat Connell, John Prunty, Christine Weinmeister, Chip Russell, and Jack Livingston. Linda Leavitt and Clayton Knight were unable to attend.

Special Guest: Chris introduced Darrell Gulstrom, whereby he advise the Board of his plan to take over the former Eastside Bluegrass Series from Mason Smith. He presented the following proposal; Will take place on 2nd Saturday of month beginning in October, tickets will remain @ \$15, jamming will continue from 5:30-7pm & 5 participants will be offered to play 2 songs between the featured acts, fixed expenses will continue at \$450 church, \$100 sound (Mark Gensman), minimum \$100 local & \$200 out of town bands, he will provide logo, program, MC, advertising/promotion, & admissions. Once the fixed expenses are covered, he will split 90% profits between artists, & 5% OBA & 5% to him for further advertising. He requested OBA support through our Express, web, FB, volunteers, insurance, and a 3 month trial financial backup of \$250/mo. (if needed for venue short fall). We agreed by unanimous vote to support him, but that our event committee would have to control the finances if we are to help financially. The new name will be "The OBA Bluegrass Series".

Treasurer's Report:

Jim reported that as of August 1st, we have \$11,256 in the general account, and \$5,830 in the Chicks Kids account, \$3,300 in the Waller account, and \$1,989 in the S OR chapter general account & \$576 in savings account. He advised of a \$939 grant from his employer, and suggested we put \$200 in Waller acct., \$539 in checking, and use \$200 to promote our concert.

- After a **motion** duly made by John L. and seconded by Pat and by unanimous vote, the use of the grant funds was approved.

He advised that Insurance renewal is coming up & Eagleview will be added.

Secretary's Report:

Ron advised that we did not hold a July meeting, and asked if everyone had reviewed the revised minutes of the June meeting, and if we can vote approve;

- After a **motion** duly made by Pat and seconded by Ron and by unanimous vote, the minutes of the June Special Meeting were approved.

Discussions:

New Directors: Chip Russell (former President) was appointed as membership director in place of retiring Chuck Palmer, & Jack Livingston was confirmed as director of volunteers.

Concerts: Chris advised that the Board by unanimous email vote agreed to support Kathy Boyd's request for FB, web & Express advertising for the Nov. 19 concert at the Old Liberty Theater.

Old Business:

- ❖ Web Committee – Updated bylaws posted under Directors. Need to highlight ads
- ❖ Merchandise – Ron asked if everyone likes the new Koozies (Drive it home) so we can order. Will need cards and more member forms printed soon.
- ❖ Event Committee – Sept. 2nd church contract signed for CJones&NDs, budget set
- ❖ Volunteer Committee – Jack needs to know which events need volunteer help
- ❖ Membership – Chip advised the database is up to date & all is well
- ❖ Express Committee – Still need ad sales volunteer, ads expected to decrease this fall
- ❖ Publicity Committee – Chris reported that FB advertising increases sales by 31%
- ❖ Development Committee – Chris advised Archie Frink is working on a \$2500 broad Umpqua Sponsorship Grant due Oct. 15.
- ❖ Chicks Kids – No report
- ❖ Waller – Still need to develop award criteria

New Business:

Pickers Fest: All is ready, beer in bottles is on order. Ron will go to Eagleview with shirts & beer.

Meeting adjourned at 9:20 pm.

Chris advised the next meeting will be held on Tuesday September 13th at her residence. Please advise if you cannot attend and have topics for discussion.

Dear Darrell,

August 19, 2016

The board was very pleased to meet you at the board meeting and hear about your plans for the new 'Eastside' series. We do want the series to continue, think now is the time and would hope that you would be able to maintain the same success that Mason had with it.

I hope you'll understand that since this is the first time we've been approached to support or essentially co-promote a project of this nature, it took some time and conversation to establish the operational parts. That way whatever we end up doing could serve as a potential model for future similar projects. In any case we want to make sure we've covered a few bases.

In the conversation at the meeting, you acknowledged that if a show failed, you may not be able to cover costs. That concerned us since we know you mentioned for example buying advertising and starting a website. Are you confident that you would have those startup funds to promote the series adequately? We don't want to put you on the spot with this question, but would appreciate your honest answer. You mentioned some funds coming in the future, but we were wondering if you're confident at this point that you can dedicate some money to getting this off the ground in a positive way.

That being said, we do want to support your efforts with some financial contribution and this is what we discussed: The OBA would offer \$250 as a 'fallback' fund for each of the shows during the trial period (Oct/Nov/Dec 2016) in the event that you can't meet one of your hard costs, such as rent. We would not be willing to include paying the bands, feeling that they all know there is a risk involved in the way that

Mason ran it and in the way you're proposing to do it as well. So, that \$250 would only be available in the event that a show failed to the extent that you could not meet your obligations with regard to rent or possibly sound. This \$250 would be available per show and again, would only come into play in order to cover rent and possibly sound if the gate receipts didn't provide enough.

The other issue is the flow of cash. You mentioned your wife being in charge of the box office which is fine. However, because of our non-profit status and the fact that our name is on the series, the proceeds from these events have to be deposited into our bank account and expenses disbursed from there. We would open a separate account for the series and set up a spreadsheet to track expenses and revenue. That way we're both comfortable.

The OBA is supportive of your desire to keep this series going and would be happy to put our name on it. In addition to the \$250 per show (again only to be used in the event that a show falls short, we are willing to provide you with advertising in The Express, in our email blasts and on the OBA website. We are also willing to provide insurance for each show as required by the church. We're assuming they ask for a certificate with a \$1M limit.

Please let me know if you have any further questions and if everything works out, we would be happy to be involved in seeing this series continue.

Chris Palmer And the OBA Board
503.310.3311

Our first show will be October 12 at the Freedom Foursquare Church (pending approval from church) 660 NE 160th, Portland OR. We will have jamming at 5:30 and show starts at 7.

The first show will be dedicated to Frank Nelson. I have Corral Creek booked for 2nd set. Still working on 1st set. Look forward to a few surprises. My goal is to double attendance.

Who is Darrell Gulstrom? I live in Beaverton with my wife Karen, whose maiden name is Carpenter. So yes I married Karen Carpenter! We also have the same birthday. We have 2 children, Ryan 19 and Annika 17. Sorry to say I don't play any instrument but I love listening to bluegrass. I am doing this because I love bluegrass music. I listen to www.worldwidebluegrass.com on my iPhone.

I look forward to seeing you at The OBA Bluegrass Series.



Read about Frank here:

http://oregonbluegrass.org/BGExpress/issues/Vol_32_Num_1_Jan_Feb_March_2012.pdf