

**PETERBOROUGH NEW HORIZONS BANDS
BOARD OF DIRECTORS MEETING, JUNE 23, 2021**

Present: John Topic, Lorna Verhulst, Lorna Devan, Mary Chesher, Sherri Luff, Alan Brunger, Gord Thompson, David Lloyd, Joanne McLaren

Regrets: Angela Con

1. **Conflict of Interest** – none declared

2. **Approval of Minutes of the May 26th Meeting**

Lorna Devan moved to approve the minutes from the May 26th, 2021

Alan Brunger seconded the motion

All in Favor

Carried

3. **Chair's Remarks**

John Topic is feeling optimistic about being able to reopen in September. Dynamics, Fireflies and Peterborough Concert Band are talking about starting again. A group of horn players were playing in a backyard recently. KYO is planning on a September start. Alberta is talking about reopening everything. But there are concerns that we may be going too fast.

As he reads the rules, we could start practicing again in Ontario's Stage 3, but with two meter distancing. That is not going to work very well, but it might be possible. Stage 3 might start when 75-80% of the population has one vaccine dose and 25% are fully vaccinated. We are getting close to those numbers. John would be much happier if we could have at least 75% fully vaccinated.

4. **Conductors' Report**

Gord Thompson reported that there is uncertainty about starting in September but there isn't much we can do right now. The conductors are aware that there is enough space at the Naval Club to house both full bands. The small ensembles are happy as well because we can accommodate a couple of them. On a negative note he tried to determine the number of break out rooms and it was evident that the spaces may not be there for sectionals to hold practices as we have in the past. We need 7 or 8 spaces and there aren't that many available. Gord suggests consulting with the other conductors to brainstorm a way to have sectionals and then he will consult with the coaches and possibly those with a smaller sectional may be able to offer them in alternate locations. Music will be chosen carefully when we return and shorter practices will likely occur to begin with.

John reported that he sent out different schedules to the person we are negotiating with at the City but this will take time to figure out. Alan suggested a small sectional could be done on ZOOM. The problem with technology as a means of practicing is the lag and/or delay in starting which makes it challenging to synchronize things. The conductors would prefer in person. Lorna is concerned that virtual sectionals may result in people not attending.

5. Treasurer's Report

David Lloyd reported only a few things have changed. 2 grants, Golden Ticket, fundraising and other donations were received in the amount of \$19 020. In the previous minutes it was stated what we have agreed to spend it on. \$893 in refunds from the deferred membership dues came out.

There has been \$14 100 in income mostly from the grants and fundraising.

Conductor fees, insurance, and defibrillator battery costs were incurred. An E transfer was successful so we could move in this direction. 2 signing authorities are needed but it saves on mail or delivery.

David Lloyd will send out the Treasurer's Report.

6. Business Arising from the May 26th Meeting

6.1 Search for a New Venue

The cost at the Naval Club will probably be similar to what we were paying at Living Hope. The Peterborough Concert Band, Friends in Music and the PSO are all thinking of taking this option. There are other musical groups also inquiring about space there.

6.1.1 Pros and Cons of the Naval Club

Pros: Parking, maintenance, snow clearing, city employee on-site to open and lock, two practice rooms, storage, city employee will operate the cart to move equipment and people across bridge, access to kitchen facilities, and the possibility of playing outdoors in nice weather.

Cons: One practice room is small, but not smaller than St. James Sanctuary or Calvary basement. There is also a lack of space for sectionals. Not sure exactly how we would practice two bands and have a potluck at the same time. No access via Beavermead entrance. Too marshy in spring. We could do Winterlude in the Admiralty building and potluck in the Clubhouse. Physical distancing may be challenging if we have to do this. There is an echo in one of the rooms. The City is considering helping with the acoustics in this room. We may have to assist with paying for this.

6.1.2 Do We Want to Commit?

Lorna Verhulst and John Topic will continue to be the lead on this. Gord Thompson will be consulted as we move forward.

The band members will need to be alerted of the adjustments and changes that will occur and we need to work very hard to make sure the social aspects of being a part of the band continue.

Coffee can be made in both buildings or one group could walk over to the other room. We will have access to the kitchen in one of the buildings.

It will be up to the ensembles to decide if they wish to practice there. Cost will be a factor.

6.2 Grants

6.2.1 Update on Electric City Culture Council

Alan reported he did not apply for this grant for a variety of reasons as we have a number of other grant monies to spend.

6.3 Update from Nominating Committee

Alan will be organizing a meeting soon. The next AGM will be in September but an election will not take place this year but the following year. We need to have 7 directors minimum and 9 directors maximum. Board Members will have to decide if they wish to stay. John Topic would like to leave the position of president in the near future.

6.4 Update on Vaccinations and Restarting

6.4.1 Possible Calendar for Fall Session

This was shared with the Board and designed by John Topic as a starting point. We need to be able to set the budget so we must decide on this.

6.4.2 Some Possible Questions to be Addressed

Will Green band be on both Monday and Thursday? This will need to be discussed with Mark Hiscox and the current members need to be consulted.

Most Green band members will be starting “Spring” term in the fall because of the pause we have had.

Will we need shorter practices to start?

Gord had suggested cutting practices to 1.5 hours per band at first. He has a tentative schedule drawn up with a half hour break in between each band which provides for some social time. This would also fit with the possibility that only the Admiralty Building will be ready for September.

Sectionals? This is still being worked out.

Can we put quieter instruments in the four corners of the Admiralty practice area, two groups in the hallway and one in the extra room in the Clubhouse – that is 7 groups.

Fall Concert? Hard to say as it depends on Provincial Guidelines for reopening.

Norma checked with Calvary. They are still up for sale but they also say that we might be able to use the sanctuary for a concert. They suggest that we book early.

Covid Protocols? This all depends on Provincial guidelines

We will have to follow provincial protocols, but do we want to be stricter? Can we ask that only fully vaccinated members play? (Unless they have a medical reason for not getting vaccinated). This will need to be discussed when we have a date when we can restart. We would have to be very careful with the wording but it does need to be said to protect our members. We can strongly suggest it but will likely not be able to insist on it.

When will we begin promoting and recruiting people to join the bands? We probably can't start publicity until we have a date for restarting.

6.5 Follow up on Wendy Robinson Tuba

Angela Con who looks after this was unable to attend the meeting.

6.6 Request from Paul Vanderbank from the Liftlock New Horizons to Share Music

Lorna reported that this discussion has come up before. The decision was not to lend the music at that time. There may be questions of the legality of sharing music since we copy music. There is also the question of how to manage that. The librarian right now works very hard. They do still have some of our music.

6.7 Communication with Members

We feel there needs to be communication with members to let them know it is looking

positive about the Naval Club.

7. Other Business

To get feedback from the membership send an email through James Burrett as he is the Communication Manager. Questionnaires or surveys can be done as well through James.

8. Date of Next Meeting

July 21st at 2:15 pm via ZOOM

9. Adjournment

Alan Brunger moved to adjourn the meeting