



Monthly Meeting Minutes – 2020, January 13

Celebrating Blues Music in the Greater Madison, WI Area

Present: Board: Ken Olufs, Shari Davis, Tim Davis, Vicki Kalkopf, Phyllis Becker
Members: Violet Moran, Jack Frazee, Julie Ethridge, Dave Speers
Not Present: Kate Hardy

Selection of 2020 Officers: Tim and Vicki offered to continue as Secretary and Treasurer. Ken was nominated for President and Shari was nominated for VP. All board members agreed. Phyllis will be a Member-At-Large.

With the new Bylaws language moving to 2 year terms for board members, up to half of the board needed to be designated as “in their 2nd year” to start 2020. Tim and Vicki have already served in 2019, so agreed to be in this group. Ken, Shari and Phyllis will be starting two year terms as board members. These terms only apply to board members. Officer selection will be made at the beginning of every year. No officer may serve for more than 3 consecutive years.

Treasurer's Report: For the benefit of the new board members, Vicki explained that the Treasurer's Reports are dated from meeting to meeting, rather than by calendar month. Last month started with \$7483.92 in checking and \$1140.09 in savings. In the past month, income included memberships, donations, raffles & tax credits for a total of \$521.28. Expenses included storage for \$55. The balances as of this meeting were \$7949.96 in checking and \$1140.12 in savings.

OLD BUSINESS:

2019 Annual Membership Meeting: Tim summarized the items addressed at the meeting including a review of 2019, discussion and vote on changes to the bylaws and vote for the new board. The minutes for this meeting have been sent to the board and will be posted on the website once approved.

Violet suggested describing the minutes procedure for the benefit of the new board members. Tim explained that minutes are to be written and released to the board a week after each meeting. Then the board has another week to review and make possible comments or corrections. After this, the approved minutes are sent out to the board, to Dave to send to members and to Julie to post on the website.

Violet noted that since the membership meeting had no heat, late food and no light on the stairs, we requested a 50% reduction in the fee. Common Ground said these problems should never have happened and decided to waive the fee altogether.

For regular monthly meetings, *Tim will verify that the Village Lanes room is available each month.* Ken noted a couple of other possible locations for monthly meetings in the event that the Village Lanes room is not available.

Bowling & Blues Fundraiser Update 2/23/2020: Julie said that it is time to start pushing this event hard on all publicity fronts. Last year this event made ~\$900 for MBS. The MBS website has all the details and signups can be done via a link to Eventbrite same as last year. *All board and member Facebook users should like, comment and share posts about this event!* There are currently 12 musicians signed up to be celebrity bowlers with possibly more coming. Julie has gotten \$400 in sponsorships so far including Schwoegler's, Chief's, Ohio Tavern, Toffler's, Knuckledown Saloon and more. We may have to order more T-shirts but no additional setup fee would be required.

Tate's Blues Jam 12/12/2019: Shari and Vicki attended and ran a 50-50 raffle and offered memberships. While there were no new members, \$62 was split in the raffle and \$5 was received in donations. Julie has been arranging MBS activities at these shows and needs a break. *Shari will take over.* Ken suggested trying a Tate's Jam MBS fundraiser. In the past, several special guests have made a big difference in attendance and *MBS could help with this.*

WI Blues Fest at the Majestic 1/11/2020: Julie described the huge success at this event with 6 great blues bands and the opportunity to promote our bowling event and the Live Blues Alert. Also, at \$1 per ticket sold, MBS made \$300.

Blues Cafe Bus Trip 3/14/2020: Following our successful bus trip to the Chicago Blues Fest last summer, Julie suggested we do a similar trip to the Great Northern Blues Society's Blues Cafe event. *Julie is preparing a proposal with all the details to be available by Saturday at noon. The board will vote by email on going ahead with this plan.* GNBS promised that anyone from the MBS bus can get the "early order" price of \$25 at the door. The event includes national blues acts Ana Popovic & John Nemeth as well as The Belairs, Aaron Williams, Vanessa Collier, Boom Boom Steve with Bruce McCabe and Soul Symmetry. Bus trip details coming soon. Check out this great event at <https://midwestblues.org/blues-cafe-2019/>.

Wild Women 2020: Arrangements for this event fell through in November & December, but *Shari, Violet and Phyllis will pick up the project.* Shari and Phyllis have several ideas for inexpensive venues that could allay concerns about costs. Ken also noted another venue to keep in mind is the River Stone Premier Event Center in Fort Atkinson.

Shari wondered if a Dane Arts grant was possible, though the application would be due on 2/1/2020. Tim noted that an Arts grant would not be possible in that time frame but an easier application Capital grant could get MBS some folding tables for Wild Women and other

events. Kate had made a proposal to pursue this. *The board voted for Kate to go ahead.* Violet noted that the deadline for a grant application for the Madison Arts Council was March 15 so this is still possible. Publicity for a Wild Women event should include Facebook, the MBS website, a cooperative agreement with WORT and possibly cost sharing with Isthmus if a sufficient budget is available.

NEW BUSINESS:

MBS Domain Emails: Tim has started adding new board members and removing old ones for the 5 public and 1 private domain emails, e.g. info@madisonbluessociety.org. *This will be completed as each new recipient provides a Gmail confirmation code for each email that will be forwarded to them. A revised explanation summary sheet will be sent out shortly,*

MBS Website: *Julie will add the new board to the contact page and update the MBS domain email addresses.* All domain emails are working properly at this time. Julie noted that our web host, Tim Payne, handles updating our domain registry and separate solicitations for this are to be discarded.

ASCAP Forms: Vicki needs help with these forms which specify musicians MBS has hired who play music copyrighted under ASCAP. *Jack has done this before and he and Shari will provide assistance.*

OTHER BUSINESS:

Future Outdoor Event: While MBS does not have the resources for another full Warner Park type picnic, a smaller alternative outdoor event looks promising for 2020. Kate had previously provided some options for the Eastside Club and Robin of ESC already wants to work with MBS to assist and promote their upcoming Blues and BarBQ on August 15 and a Blues On The Lake event next summer.

Lost Guitar: Ken suggested that the Fender guitar left at a past picnic and unclaimed after several years be raffled off after getting many of the Madison area's excellent blues artists to sign it. The signatures could possibly be ready to have the raffle at the upcoming Bowling and Blues Fundraiser on 2/23/2020. *Ken will look into getting signatures at the next Tate's Blues Jam and Dave can take it to the Harmony show on Wednesday.*

MBS 2020 Priorities: Ken discussed his thoughts about why MBS does the work that it does, focusing on paying back the community for supporting the blues and sharing our resources to keep the blues going in the Madison area. Increasing our funds to accomplish these goals can be done through memberships and partnerships with local clubs, breweries & other companies with a mutual interest. Supporting new young artists is a strong priority as well as spreading the blues to more venues such as the Union Terrace and the River Stone Center. MBS looks forward to further expansion in 2020 to achieve these goals.

The **Next Board Meeting** will be **Monday, February 10, 2020** from **6:00 to 8:00 PM** downstairs at the Village Lanes, 208 Owen Road, Monona.

Minutes submitted by Tim Davis, MBS Secretary

Catch up on *past minutes* on our website! <https://www.madisonbluessociety.org/minutes>