

Minutes for the City of Sterling Municipal Band Commission

January 14, 2019

Commissioners:

Gonzalo S. Reyes – Chair

Alex Segneri – Vice Chair

Amy Boze – Secretary

Allen Lee – Treasurer

Kevin O’Keefe

Staff:

Annette Hackbarth – Interim Director

Cheryl Neumann – Interim Director

Paul Ausman – Band Manager

Others in Attendance:

No citizens present

I. CALL TO ORDER

A regular meeting of the Sterling Municipal Band Commission was held on 1/14/2019 at 6:02 p.m. in the City Council Chambers of City Hall, 212 Third Ave, Sterling, Il. 61081.

Commissioner Reyes called the meeting to order and attendance was taken showing five Commissioners were present.

II. CONSENT ITEMS

Commissioner Lee made a motion to approve the following consent items of the agenda:

SMB Commission Minutes for 12/10/2018 and 12/27/2018

SMB Band Manager’s report

SMB Interim Directors’ report

Commissioner Segneri seconded the motion. The motion carried unanimously.

III. FINANCIAL REPORT

Commissioner Lee went over the financial report for the previous month.

Commissioner O'Keefe made a motion to receive the Financial Report. Commissioner Segneri seconded. The motion carried unanimously.

IV. COMMENTS FROM THE PUBLIC

No citizens were present

V. OLD BUSINESS

The cost of the 2019 Winter Pops concert came in at \$2,769.98 on a budget of \$5,000. There were 72 tickets sold, with an additional 12 tickets comped. Candlelight prepared enough food to cover 100 meals. There were 4.5 trays of food left over (1 Chicken George, .5 Meatball, 1 Fruit, 1 Veggie, and 1 Quinoa Power Salad) that was taken to the Pads Homeless Shelter. There was a good cross section of audience members, which totaled around 330. Exit responses from the audience were very favorable. Jay Pauley's performance was enjoyed greatly. Next year we will print the programs on heavier stock paper, and have better placement/monitoring of the recording device. Each person involved should send a list of what their participation was to Band Manager Ausman to compile into a Concert Review packet.

Commissioner O'Keefe motioned to hire the current Interim Directors for the Spring Concert effective immediately for a fee of \$1,500 each. Commissioner Segneri seconded the motion which carried unanimously.

Commissioner O'Keefe reported on the progress of hiring a Permanent Director. All applicants are to have their information sent in to City Hall no later than 2/1/2019. The committee will be meeting on 2/4/2019 to go over the applications and set up interviews. Tryout with the band will last 20 minutes each, and the band will know ahead of time that they will be taking place. Survey questions will be provided to the band to get their input on the applicants try out.

The re-imbusement from Midwest Painting and Decorating has been received by the City for damages done to GCC due to paint plugging up sink drains.

VI. NEW BUSINESS

Cindy Von Holten had a few questions regarding overages on the Band's budget, especially regarding GCC and the new sound system. Commissioner Lee explained to her why these items came in higher than normal, and that levels should be more normal for the upcoming year.

Commissioner Lee would like everyone to be thinking about the budget for the next regular meeting so this next year's budget can be constructed. He inquired if player cost was accurate and if the director's salary should possibly be increased.

Commissioner Lee will compile all of the Talent Fee information from last summer to create a standard/base for us to work with. He will send that information both Interim Directors so they can start negotiating and setting up guest talent for the Summer season.

Commissioner Lee will also write up any changes to the budget to be presented at the next regular meeting in February.

Interim Director Hackbarth inquired in replacing selling meals prior to the Spring Concert in the Auditorium Commons area with an Ice Cream Social type event. (In the past there has been much confusion as to where the proceeds of the meal went to.) She felt that the offer should be made first to SPS, if they are interested. Commissioners O'Keefe and Boze will inquire. Commissioner Reyes will contact Candlelight to cancel any plans that may have been set up already.

Commissioner Boze will contact Tim Tedrick regarding continuing use of his canon battery for the Fourth of July concert.

Both Interim Directors have been working on setting up guest artists for the Summer Season. Interim Director Hackbarth has a list of potential guests they are working from. The goal is to have 4 guest conductors. Interim Director Hackbarth will contact Mike McCoy to guest conduct this Summer as this is his final year teaching at Sterling High School.

Pre-concert entertainment will start at 6:30, and finish no later than 7:10 to allow players enough time to warm up and the set-up crew enough time to switch over sound equipment.

Commissioner Segneri motioned for the Set-up Crew members to be paid \$10 per hour. Commissioner O'Keefe seconded the motion which carried unanimously.

Commissioner Boze will head up planning events for the Kids Koncert.

The number of Jazz Band Summer Concerts was taken down from 4 to 2. If the permanent director is not comfortable with leading a Jazz Ensemble, we will look into contracting the two concert dates to a third-party group to get through the summer season. All Commissioners agreed that we should hire a permanent director for the Municipal Band first, Jazz Band second. It was also noted that the Municipal Band does not own a keyboard, nor any jazz band music.

Band Manager Ausman will be putting together a survey to go out to the players that participated in the 2019 Winter Pops Concert. The survey will focus on player satisfaction in literature, performance, and leadership. Any suggested survey questions should be sent to the Band Manager no later than Sunday 1/20/2019.

VII. MISCELLANEOUS

Commissioner Lee reported that the City Finance Department was happy with the Interim Director's reporting of Midwest Clinic reimbursement.

VIII. ADJOURNMENT

Commissioner Segneri made a motion to adjourn, seconded by Commissioner O'Keefe. The motion passed unanimously and the meeting adjourned at 8:45 p.m.

Minutes were taken by Band Manager Paul Ausman and submitted to the Clerk of the City of Sterling.

Paul Ausman

SMB Band Manager

The next regular meeting of the Sterling Municipal Band Commission will be

Monday February 11, 2019 at 6:00 p.m. in the City Council Chambers

located on the first floor of City Hall, 212 Third Ave, Sterling, IL. 61081