Minutes from MNCB Board meeting on Zoom Sunday, March 30, 2025

Meeting started at 7:03 p.m. and ended at 8:40 p.m. Comments and minutes are blue. Persons responsible for to-do items are in **red**.

Present: Brian Gillin, Heather Gillin, Mary Arranz, Sharon Reed, Peter Parashes, John Longacre, Don Semler, Mike Farrell, Kevin Sparks, Deborah Newnham, Bonnie Strang

Absent: Ron Romoff, Michelle Truitt

MNCB agenda:

1. Treasurer's report – January statement balance is $11,688.12. Other bills have been paid and donations received.
2. July 4 parade - call Randy Bates now – Need to check PO box for information about the parade and form to fill out and be signed. **Brian** will call Randy Bates by mid-April.
3. Don Semler - report on Consortium – Don has attended 3 of their meetings now. They have many independent artists, painters, etc. and often discuss grants. We are not currently listed as a member on their website, so **Don** will remind them again. He will also make sure our May 17 concert is listed. They also do small groups for retirement communities, etc. on the weekends.
4. Suggestion from Deb - no rehearsal 5/19, since it is after our 5/17 concert and before our concert at Maris Grove on 5/21. (Note - currently not on our attendance list) Voted to remove 5/19 from rehearsal calendar.
5. Events to play – Much discussion on where we play and what may be opportunities to play. It was decided that as a band we can play events that are patriotic, but not political in nature. Discussion about Don Guanella – that has to do with the arts and is therefore not considered political.
6. Should we look into playing at White Horse and Dunwoody? – Mary brought up that she has had difficulty getting a response from Riddle Village. Peter said he knows someone there and Mary will now try to contact Sandra Jaeger. Because White Horse and Dunwoody schedule sometimes years in advance, **Mary** will contact them about their policies, so that we can possibly play there in the future.
7. Fundraiser? – Mary brought up that we did not have a fundraiser event this year so could we possibly do a get together for the band instead. Suggestion was made to poll the band for interest to see if a possible event could be held June 1st from 11-3 at Rose Tree Park with the band buying hoagies or some other items, and potluck items brought by members of the band. **Brian** or **Mary** will announce to the band.
8. Collecting $ for causes – The band should not be collecting for causes. The only collection by the band is for the conductor gift.
9. Other items:
10. Arbor Day tree planting by Tree Commission in Marple Friday, April 25 at 4 p.m. **John** will look into this. Possible good exposure for the band, possible news coverage.
11. YouTube videos – **Kevin** will ask Merion Band treasurer what they pay for an ASCAP fee to load videos. Deb mentioned that our band trailer created for Maris Grove entry is on YouTube. Discussion about should we pay a fee to YouTube to have our songs available there.
12. Discussion about provenance and background of pieces for the band to perform. In the future, directors will look at music on a piece by piece basis.
13. “Armed Forces Salute” at retirement communities - Mary has heard from some residents that “every band plays” that piece. Deb mentioned that Maris Grove wants “no patriotic songs” at their concert. Band may switch to “Star Spangled Banner” or other pieces to end the concert.

Respectfully submitted March 31, 2025

Sharon Reed, Secretary