**Minutes from MNCB Board meeting for Monday, June 2, 2025 at 7:00 p.m. via Zoom**

Meeting started at 7:10 pm. And adjourned at 8:25 p.m. Comments and minutes are in **blue**. Persons responsible for to-do items are in red.

**Present**: **Brian Gillin, Heather Gillin, Sharon Reed, Don Semler, Deb Newnham, Peter Parashes, Bonnie Strang, John Longacre, Laura Hopf, Mike Farrell, Mary Arranz, Michele Truitt**

**Absent:** **Kevin Sparks, Ron Romoff**

**Agenda**:

1. **Treasurer’s report** – **Balance at end of April was $10,918.76. Since then, we took in $350, $450 (prepaid for Lima in Nov. 2025), and $80 gift. Expenses include: $210 (PO box), $369 (insurance), $300 (Am. Comm. Band dues), $525 (April/May rent for Beth Israel), $50 (gift cards), $50 pizza. Current balance is $11,329.76**
2. **Re-cap concerts**:
   1. Lima Estates – **concert sounded good. Nice comments from the audience.**
   2. Beth Israel – **good concert. Many positive comments: Mike’s brother and Sharon’s friends “best we ever sounded.”**

**Lots of discussion about percussion and perhaps having directors assign percussion parts. Bonnie mentioned that she went over the parts with the players, but with lots of switching, etc., it seems that there needs to be more rehearsal for the players. Discussion also involved the level of difficulty of pieces, and that as a band we want to have a balanced level of difficulty to appease all players. It was mentioned that usually more difficult pieces, such as “Variations on a Korean Folk Song” often have a need for more percussionists.**

* 1. Maris Grove – **concert sounded good. They want us to come back. Bonnie’s pickleball group saw the video and was quite impressed.**
  2. Taps Across America – Memorial Day 2025 at Rose Tree Park at 3:00 p.m. **Players included Brian Gillin, Edith Odgen, Kristin Rolison, Mary Arranz, Sharon Reed, Carlos Schaffenburg, and Rich Patterson. Carlos’ wife took photos and a video.**

1. **Lima Estates** – double payment for our May concert. **Sharon contacted Rhonda McKamy at Lima Estates, and she said to just keep the payment for our November 25,2025 concert.**
2. **July 4 parade** – **Randy Bates from Arasapha Farms is confirmed to use his truck and hay wagon to transport us. Band is asked to be at the meeting point at 8:45 a.m. to help decorate the float and have time to rehearse. Mary will send out the information for that.**
3. **Blue Rocks dates** – **Brian will send out a Doodle poll later this week with possible dates in June.**
4. **MNCB picnic on June 8 at Rose Tree Park** – **Mary will send out information about the picnic to be held near the flag pole picnic tables. Sharon will give Mary the banner to indicate where to gather.**
5. **PA Annual Report for business** – **John and Sharon collaborated to update the MNCB information by creating a new email, password, and user name. Sharon checked this afternoon, and it is still not updated in the system. Once she is notified of the update, Sharon and John will coordinate to file the report, which must be done by June 30, 2025.**
6. **ASCAP** – **YouTube is $328/year.**
7. **Website updates** – **Laura is updating website. Deb has band Christmas 2024 photo from the balcony and will send it to Laura for the website.**
8. **Riddle Village and White Horse Village possible concerts –** **Peter has contacted the entertainment coordinator at Riddle Village. Peter will coordinate with Mary who will send him a copy of our contract. Suggested concert date is Tuesday, Dec. 9, 2025. It was also mentioned that Al Blatter (French Horn player who has played with us in the past) lives at Riddle Village and that perhaps we could honor him at a concert or have him conduct one of his songs (“Havre de Grace” or “Drexel Rag”).**

**White Horse Village has still not answered Mary’s calls.**

1. **Other business:**
2. **Music for fall – Deb says that the music will be selected by end of June. (Sharon is away July 22-Aug 5 and again Aug. 27-Sept. 7)**
3. **Playing in schools – may need clearances. Suggestion to possibly have younger students play a piece with percussion instruments like shakers, maracas, tambourines, etc. for something like “Calypso Christmas.”**
4. **Paula Burns (used to play oboe with us) now lives at The Mansion at Rosemont. Mary will contact them about a possible concert in May or early April 2026.**
5. **Laura suggested a shortened performance in early April, possibly 45 minutes, which could include some marches from colonial day folders. Don suggested that to fill out that time slot, we could use some of the music from the fall concert lineup.**
6. **Deb noted that we need to have shorter meetings.**

**Next board meeting is scheduled for Monday, August 25, 2025 via Zoom.**

Respectfully submitted June 2, 2025

Sharon Reed, Secretary