

MABS BOT Meeting
August 20, 2008
6:00 / 6:30 pm, Landmark Inn Boardroom

Attendance (Officers, Committee Heads, Board of Trustees (BOTs), Members):

Terry Klaviter, President
Elizabeth Letts, VP, Merchandise
JoAnne Maki, Treasurer
Sue Schenk Drobny, Secretary
Tom Buchkoe, BOT
Dave Crum, BOT, “Vendor Guy”
Wayne Dickinson, BOT, Grants and Development, Sponsors
Marshall Killian, BOT, Educational Outreach
Larry Letts, BOT, Events
Walt Lindala, BOT, UP Blues News, absent, excused
Mark Maki, BOT, Archives
Stephanie Risdon, BOT, Hospitality, on requested leave of absence
Mark Stonerock (Stony), BOT, Fest Director

Also attending: Jim Drobny, Teresa Hamari (T), Paula Supanich, Jim Supanich, Ron McGuire, and “Chip” from FM 100.3.

Terry welcomed everyone, we introduced ourselves around the table as there were some new folks attending. He introduced Paula Supanich, who is taking over the backstage Hospitality duties for the Fest this year.

Terry asked for a motion to approve the agenda, Mark moved we approve it, 2nd by Marshall, all in favor. Mark moved we approve the July minutes, 2nd by Stony, no discussion, all in favor.

Public Comment: Chip with the new radio station FM 100.3 was seeking our permission to help us by running some remote broadcasts from the Fest on both days, which may become an in-kind donation of \$3000 - \$4000. He said his motives were pure, he’d just like to run some air time publicizing about 3-4 hours per day. Terry stated we are very interested in their support, but have to make sure it would not be infringing on other stations that are supporting the Fest right now. **Terry and Stony to look at the contract we have with the other parties and will call and let Chip know if FM 100.3 can attend and broadcast live from the Fest (for certain, they cannot broadcast any live acts, this is already stipulated by the contracts with the acts).** Chip would like to know as soon as possible, and to develop future projects with and support MABS through this and their other stations, which are in northern lower Michigan, Newberry, Ishpeming, and soon to be in Escanaba.

Dave said Government Mule and Backdoor Slam will be at the RAVE in Milwaukee Nov 13—road trip??

Officers’ Reports

President: Terry has not heard back from the Blues Revue about a free subscription for the winner at the music workshop. Noted a new cost in the budget this year will be \$200 for one 30 yd dumpster from Waste Management. T said she and Paula would be making an effort to recycle and keep the backstage “green”, Stony offered his truck to collect cardboard if need be. T to check further with WM on recycling options.

Vice President: Elizabeth is hoping to encourage membership renewals and for new members to sign up at the Fest.

Secretary: Sue will call Randy Seppala about the dance floor to make sure he will be able to bring it, and said the Liquor License is said to be on its way. She will drop it off at Wayne’s when received.

Treasurer: Full report will be attached to this report on paper only. Checking account has \$4131.56. Money Market fund has \$24,207.02. Tent bill will be \$1530, 8 tents this year. Stony suggested we look into purchasing some tents after the Fest...storage and setup problems of non-rental tents questioned. Marshall moved we approve the financials, 2nd by Dave, all in favor.

Committees: tabling some of these tonight to talk about the Fest.

Events Coordinator: Discussion about a **Blues Foundation challenge event**, with potential dates and locations. Larry has been researching this. Difficulties with the Blues Foundation—we are a paid up member, have sent them receipts, they are refusing to recognize us and want another \$100 to sanctify a challenge event. Table till next year? Walt and Larry have had trouble contacting them. We would need to be approved by September, and then no guarantee we would be approved. Terry asked if we can just push this through? Larry said Chip had told him FM 100.3 would be interested in co-sponsoring an event with us. Wayne asked if a winter event would be possible instead with the Blues Foundation? Larry: could hold a challenge event anytime in 2009, for 2010. Contact Larry if you are interested in being on the committee for an event.

Paramount Blues Fest—Grafton, WI: Elizabeth was contacted by these folks, too late to coordinate an exchange right now, but they are willing to send up 4 comp tickets if anyone on the board wants to attend in September. Discussion: Stony said it would not benefit us this year, but next year their event is a week before ours, may get publicity from that, and possible affordable acts coming up to our Fest after that one. We could also have an info table—Eliz asked, who wants to go as MABS PR agents—let her know. She will give Grafton folks Stony's number. Larry said to let him know if you plan to go, he knows of a deal at the Radisson. At Fest meeting this week, decided to not set a policy on the exchange of set numbers of passes for various other Blues society's events, but to look at each case by case.

Merchandise: Shirts cost a little more this year, will need to charge a little more for them, but they are still low in cost compared to many Fests in the region. Elizabeth says the budget is well under the amount she was given to work with this year. She purchased very conservatively this year. Marquette Embroidery did a great job, all final orders have been placed and are expected in time for the Fest.

Festival: Stony passed out the agenda from this past Monday's meeting. Called six other hotels in town to see if any would give us a deal for putting up the acts, but no. Now over budget for rooms: \$840 plus local taxes. Called TV-6 about a morning show interview—they no longer do these, but will run a story on the Fest if we request one. Delivered CD to Bill Hart Marshall had provided, with music from several of our acts so that Bill can assemble a radio show for the House of Blue Lights on the upcoming Fest—should be broadcast this Friday afternoon and on Saturday night on Public Radio 90. Fest is main story on the PR90 guide this month. TV-6 has a great commercial on the Fest running now. Wayne reminded to contact Meyer Enterprises for a golf cart, and can give two comp tickets if they want them. Jim S. has his own sound tent. The long-range weather forecast for Saturday of the Fest is 75 degrees and partly cloudy—sounds perfect! Wayne still collecting from some sponsors. Stony talked to Walt, all is OK, will be talking to Paula about backstage food riders in contracts (not too many nor too crazy). Terry said Walt had a FB3 rehearsal tonight and could not attend, but had more info for later from Walt.

Sue motioned we approve modifying the budget to pay \$840 plus local tax to the Days Inn for the remaining rooms for the acts and the winner of last year's survey contest, 2nd by Mark, all in favor.

Carl Weatherby will be playing with Mississippi Heat, no extra charge other than another hotel room for several nights. Terry read a list of information from Walt on PR goings on, print, electronic, broadcast media all have been sent info on the Fest and should be broadcasting it. There is a Lake Superior Blues Cruise this Friday evening that FB3 will be playing on and advertising for the Fest. Also, they play at the Seafood Fest at 8:15 this Thursday night. Two trailers for use from Hilltop RV in Ishpeming for behind the stage. JoAnne will be able to use a small camper from the Supanich's for her jobs.

Tom said the Frazier Boathouse has been OKed for the Sunday music workshop with the Delta Jets! There will be about 20 chairs available inside, the stage will have been dismantled. Workshop runs 10:30 – 12:30 Sunday of the Fest.

Paula talked about getting many donations, most notably 20 pizzas PER DAY from Aubree's Pizza! She will talk to Jilbert's about the refrigerated truck. Discussion on paper products, etc that we have now and that we may need.

Schlack is Schlack on Sunday, and Ham is Schlack on Saturday.

Final Fest meeting at Stonerock's this Monday, August 25, NOTE: will start earlier than usual: 6PM!

Grounds: Dave and Stony to do a walk-through Tues or Wed evening, T will get cones for Dave for correct dumpster placement this year. Discussion on where to locate portajohns---consensus to group them by the NE corner at the main gate. Sue to contact Stenberg's with locations and extra paper supplies requested. Dave to call City on Snow Fence availability.

Dave can get paper for the big posters. Needs to get PDF from April of the poster to have printed—Dave to call April. T will ask Ham about framing one of the posters for the Silent Auction, again---thanks, again!

Stony to make sure the string lights now in his garage work, for Elizabeth, who will pick them up on Monday at the Fest meeting.

Web page volunteer site is NOT WORKING. Volunteers need to CALL the STONEROCKS as the applications disappear after submittal. 249-5126. We need to get this word out. Dawn has been working with Nathan the Web maestro to fix the problem, should it be taken off the site completely??? Dawn was on a Sunny 101.9 broadcast asking for volunteers.

Dave needs help for the Thursday night barricades moving with the truck. Marshall to check out and repair the big lights. Will need some lighting for the back stage.

City Clerk has the contract, Terry has to get there to sign it.

We need to pile the garbage cans in one spot the last day so we don't get charged extra by the City to pick them up.

Security: Ron says all is ready with security and first aid (band aids and Tylenol—anything more and we call 911). Potential to get the Iron Rangers to help with Security according to Dawn. T says WM has 10 Security jackets we can use, and towels donated by Aramark a few years' back in her basement. Ron has batteries, first aid supplies covered.

Silent Auction: Larry to run this. So far, Jim's Music guitar donation, the poster, some bicycle items from Lakeshore Bike. Sue to assemble the Silent Auction book to use to run the Auction. Get a handle on any retracted bids this year---bidders will need permission to retract from Larry.

Jim Supanich said the stage hand working with him offered to bring up bike racks for us to use for \$100 to "guard" the stage, rather than the snow fence. Will consider this, Stony to get with Jim on Monday.

Old Business: None.

New Business: Tom asked about obtaining CDs from each artist to donate to the Peter White Public Library again. Much discussion and several motions brought up. Mark wanted each CD to be purchased outright from each performer. Eliz said if we can get them donated from the artist, to do so, she works hard to make \$5 in merchandise and does not want to see money spent that would not have to be. More discussion. Final motion, made by Tom, 2nd by Wayne for the sake of discussion: **We will ask for the artist to donate a CD to us in exchange for our selling their CDs.** Most in favor, two opposed. Motion passes.

Terry brought up he is against us voting by email on issues that come up before meetings, that may need to be resolved before a meeting, unless the board agreed unanimously on the issue by email. Some discussion To be tabled to the next BOT meeting (motion to table by Stony, Sue 2nd, no vote—tabled).

Good of the Order: Tom saw Kraig Kenning in Munising, will be discussing his coming to the 2009 Fest next year.

Volunteer meeting Friday night, 7 pm at the Mattson Lower Harbor Park.

Stony's phone numbers, encourages all to call him if there are problems/concerns:
Home 906-249-5126, Cell 906-458-0476, Work 906-228-2595.

Meetings:

August 25 Monday, final Fest meeting at Stonerock's—potluck/meeting 6:00. NOTE TIME CHANGE HERE.

September 17 after Fest BOT meeting – Landmark Inn, 6 pm / 6:30 meeting.

Belated comment: next **LSCP Business After Hours socials (check with LSCP for locations):**

Wednesday, September 3, Ranger's Tailgate Party with Vangoes Pizza, Mqt, 5-7 pm

Wednesday September 17, Upper Peninsula Health Plan, Mqt, 5-7 pm

Monday, September 22, Bell Memorial Hospital, Ishpeming, 5-7 pm

Sue motioned we adjourn, Stony 2nd, all in favor.

Respectfully submitted,

Sue Schenk Drobny,
Recording Secretary

attachments--paper: *Treasurer's report, plus 4 page expenditure report*