MABS
BOARD OF DIRECTORS MEETING

Wednesday, September 16, 2009

Members Present: Terry Klavitter, Walt & April Lindala, Dave Crum, Mark Stonerock (Stony), Mark and Joann Maki, Larry Letts, Marshall Killian, Jim & Sue Drobny, Deb Duquette, Bill Perron.

Call to Order: 6:32 pm

Welcome:

- Agenda for September – approval of agenda motioned by Larry Letts, seconded by Dave Crum, unanimously approved.
- August minutes – Deferred until next month
- Public Comment:
    - Stony reports that former member Colleen M is having medical problems and we may want to consider doing some type of benefit for her. We will await news.

Officer Reports:

President (Terry):
Terry gave a humorous report on his fishing outing with Curtis Salgado. Excerpts are to follow in the next U.P. Blues News. Robert Jr and Sugar from Big City Rhythm and Blues Magazine did a nice interview on our festival for XM radio. They would like us to submit an article on the MQT Blues Society for the next magazine. Terry will head this up. Walt and Stony volunteered to help if necessary.

Vice-President (Wayne):
No report – Wayne out of town.

Secretary (Mark):
Stony apologizes for not having the August minutes ready. Has been too busy with the festival etc… Will get them to Deb sometime by this weekend.

Treasurer (Deb):
Deb submitted the financials that she has so far for the festival. These reports will be filed with the minutes; however, the complete financials for the festival are yet to follow and will be reported on when they are finalized.

Deb requests that all folks who need reimbursement get their forms in as soon as possible. She also requests that we investigate a better way to secure festival and post party cash in the evenings.

Deb also suggested that we get more of our contracts in writing and she will be printing some sample contracts. She would also like to consider getting checks that would allow for a single signature if a check is for a lower amount but would require 2 signatures for higher amounts.

Mark Stonerock moved to approve the financial report, Dave Crum seconded, unanimously approved.

Committees:

Educational Outreach (April):
The first Blues Day Tuesday was a good first event, well received and pulled in $15 in donations. Bill Hart is planning on doing a program on Memphis Minnie at the next event, which will be Tuesday 11.3.09.

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Blues News & Promotions (Walt):
Many extras of the Blues News was made for the festival and given out. The festival recap issue will be coming next. We look forward to seeing some aerial photos that Tom Buchkoe took courtesy of pilot Jim Drobny. Walt requests that stories get to him by the end of Sept to be included in this exciting upcoming issue.

Events Coordination (Larry):
The IBC is not yet on the website and no bands have contacted us yet. Mike Anderson from the Wild Rover states that he did quite well with the Twistin Tarantulas shows and he is interested in working with us to bring some more blues acts to his establishment.

Merchandise (Deb):
Deb provided a merchandise breakdown sold at the festival. We did pretty well however there is still quite a bit of merchandise remaining which will be posted on the website. This report will also be filed with the minutes.

Deb is questioning whether the member discount is still a good idea as everyone was trying to get the discount saying that they were sure they were a member even though their name is not on the list. This will be discussed further at the festival meeting.

Festival (Mark):
Stony thanks everyone for what he perceived as a great blues weekend and especially thanks people who worked so hard at the tear down Monday. It would have gone even faster if everyone had been there to help. He requests that anyone who has requests for special thank yous to be sent give him the names and he will be happy to write the cards.

Stony called Doug at Parks & Rec and no complaints were had from the city residents. Stony also looked briefly at the survey results and would like to consider starting a few repeat performers as many fans are adamant about bringing certain groups back. The surveys are being taken by Wayne to the MCCVB where they will be converted into a usable report. Many great festival comments were shared amongst the group and this years favorite acts appeared to be Biscuit and the Mix, Maurice Davis and the Reverend Robert Sexton.

Stony has proposed naming a yearly festival MVP and has suggested as an award for this a lifetime pass to the festival. His nominee for this year is Dave Crum who went above and beyond the call of duty for the entire weekend. The next festival meeting may be on a Friday or Saturday as requested by several members. Stony will look into available dates.

New Business:
Walt notes that there are some policy changes regarding 990s for non-profit organizations. This will be further explored at future meetings.

Old Business:
No old business

Good of the Order:

- Marshall suggests that we try to partner with an area taxi company for artist transport during the festival rather than have our members having to leave at potentially crucial times for pick ups and drop offs.
- Walt states that Octoberfest was a good time.
- BB King will be performing in Sault Ste Marie Oct 14.
- Larry states that Kim Wilson will be in Grafton, WI on Sat Oct 24. That same date, Nick Moss, Lurrie Bell, and Queenie and the Blue Cats will be in Wausau. The folks from Grafton have already set the date of their festival for next year. It will be Sept 17-18 which may be good for us as they may wish to advertise at our festival.

No further business, motion to adjourn by Dave Crum seconded by Marshall Killian. Unanimously passed. Meeting adjourned 8:46 pm.

Respectfully submitted, Mark Stonerock (Stony)

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