

Central Indiana Folk Music and Mountain Dulcimer Society
Minutes of the March 14, 2010 Board Meeting

President Chuck Morgan called the meeting to order at 1:07p.m. Board members present were Chuck Morgan, Gary Rogers, Amy Raab, Mike Raab, George McCord, and Steve Kessinger. Also present were Phil Slates, Ruth Slates, and Barry Levitt.

The Secretary's Report was approved on a motion by Steve Kessinger, seconded by Mike Raab.

Treasurer's Report:

1. Treasurer George McCord will file the tax report (form IT-35AR). He has updated our information and added the Federal 990-N tax ID, and paid the necessary fees.
2. As members fall into arrears, George must move their names to our ex-member database. If the current list is all moved, it will represent a 20% drop in our membership. George asked the board if we should change notification/reminder methods to possibly retain these members.
3. Phil Slates contributed the opinion that three months of prompting and notifications should be sufficient, because it seems in that case that former members are letting us know that they are not currently interested.
4. Ruth Slates reminded the Board that last year she sent hand-written notes to society members whose membership had lapsed to let them know they were missed.
5. George McCord suggested that Vice President Gary Rogers, as head of the Cheer Committee, could send a note to those whose membership is about to lapse. Gary drafted an email for that purpose for the Board to review. He will make revisions and updates to that email before the next board meeting.
6. George McCord and Gary Rogers will work together to coordinate the membership databases and notification letters.
7. The Treasurer's Report was approved on a motion by Mike Raab, seconded by Chuck Morgan.

Music Coordinator's Report:

1. The Riley Wranglers gig will be Saturday, May 1, 2010, at the Arts and Crafts Fair in Greenfield.
2. We will be playing again at the Ice Cream Social at the Indiana State Fair. Phil Slates suggested that this gig might be a good way to make connections and find more gig opportunities.
3. Music Coordinator Mike Raab will reconnect with Plainfield Christian Church's senior group to see if a gig can still be arranged, even though the first attempt to coordinate it was unsuccessful.
4. The board discussed whether our gig fees are too high in this economy. All agreed that we have an obligation to our membership to value their contribution by providing quality gigs that benefit the society, instead of doing too many pro bono gigs. Ideas were floated about sweetening the deal for potential patrons, including mentioning their organization in our newsletter and on our website.

Eagle Creek Folk Festival Committee Report, presented by Ruth Slates:

1. It is confirmed that the festival will be a two-day event, on June 12-13, 2010. The times are noon to 6:00 on Saturday and 11:00 to 5:00 on Sunday.
2. We will play a gospel set on Sunday from 11:00 to 12:00.
3. There is a new "Special Usage" fee for the park, of \$412.50.
4. The committee will look for local talent to feature this year.
5. Arthur's Music Store and Brockway will be involved again this year.
6. We will sell t-shirts, tote bags, and water bottles.
7. The committee submitted a proposed budget, of which the Board approved.
8. Ruth shared that Mary Jane Weathers had told her about a fun old tradition of having society members ride around the park in the back of a truck playing music, to advertise the festival.

Society Promotion, presented by Amy Raab

1. April's monthly meeting info was submitted to five local community calendars, and Amy Raab will continue to submit that info each month through the rest of 2010.
2. Our club listing in the www.gilamountaindulcimers.com directory was updated.
3. Amy Raab will post society info at instrument-specific internet hangouts, such as the Mando Café, www.everythingdulcimer.com, and FiddleFork.
4. The Board discussed flyers to post at music stores and folk music venues. Gary Rogers and Steve Kessinger both offered to contribute their printing resources to this effort, and Amy Raab offered to work on the design of the flyers. Webmaster Barry Levitt said he would make the flyers available on the website for members to print on their own if they desire to share them.

New Business

Chuck Morgan brought up the topic of possibly changing our monthly meeting format, in an effort to keep more people interested. Some ideas discussed by the board included scheduling advanced jams and holding more workshops. This topic will be revisited in the future.

The meeting was adjourned at 1:00 on a motion by Mike Raab, seconded by Gary Rogers.

Respectfully submitted,
Amy Raab
Secretary