

ABBA Board meeting
Saturday, June 2, 2012
SmashBurger, St. Anthony Village

Present: David P., Gordy N., Jerry V.C., Mike H., Chris R.

1. All enjoyed their lunches.
2. Chris printed an email from Phil Wilby and the Board fully supported Phil's request regarding our commission, Beyond Far Horizons. Wilby requested confidentiality until sometime in the fall.
3. The Board, much like comments heard from across the LWBB membership, was completely thrilled with every aspect of how the Wilby project/experience turned out and felt it more than exceeded everyone's expectations.
 - 3a. Whether further commissions are in the cards are not, the Board agreed with Mike's advocating that the LWBB keep active its unique & special relationship with Phil Wilby.
 - 3b. Mike brought up regular correspondences he's been getting with Wilby's friend Larry Sutherland and the festival he's involved with at the Disney Hall (LA) & Carnegie Hall (LA). In part because Wilby said he'd come join us if we did one of those gigs, but also on its own merits, there are plenty of valid reasons for us to keep an open mind to those events.
4. Jerry updated the Board on the "post-season" financials. The year was successful in general, expenses (largely thanks to pressing more Jubilee & Christmas CDs) & revenues both exceeded projections, and the current bank balance is over \$23K.
5. Jerry brought up a letter from the IRS. We failed to file taxes in the past, so our 501(c)(3) status was revoked. We can apply for reinstatement, which Jerry will work on and sounded optimistic about. Gordy noted that there would likely be fewer chances of "relapse," so to speak, if Jerry becomes the official contact person for all aspects of our tax-exempt & non-profit & 501(c)(3) status. Apparently Gordy & David each used to receive different elements of communication re: tax status, non-profit & 501(c)(3) status, etc.
6. Jerry also brought up one of Gordy's favorite topics to advocate: maintaining NABBA membership. All agreed that we should maintain membership to keep the LWBB "out there" & involved in the American brass band scene.
7. Paul Niemisto has invited the LWBB to be part of the next Vintage Band Festival in Northfield, August 1-4, 2013. Concern was expressed about the VBF not overlapping with the Europe trip Dick & Gary are putting together for July 2013. Dick assured Chris that he didn't anticipate the two conflicting at all. Chris will communicate with Paul and follow up with the LWBB membership about possible performances.

(UPDATE, 6/4/12): Chris talked with Paul tonight, and at this point we'd be able to name our day & preferred performance options. The evening gig at the Contented Cow is not necessarily an expectation or a contingency for participating in the festival. The discussion also included the possibilities

for the LWBB to perform on campus at St. Olaf at some point -- a long-discussed topic that's never come to fruition outside the summer VBF gig.

8. The Board asked Chris to continue as manager. Chris accepted.

9. Gordy talked about bringing "new blood" onto the Board, as it's his plan to step down from a voting role. David humorously noted that Gordy has tried to resign -- unsuccessfully -- each of the past 4 years. The Board respects Gordy's request but further discussion ended up being tabled (We somehow just moved on to something else and never closed the discussion on that topic). Clearly no action was taken yet.

10. The Board spoke of possible future projects as a precursor to a more involved Steering Committee discussion on the same topic. Mike again mentioned the possibility of the next CD involving music for organ & brass band, and Bill Chouinard at St. Andrew's told Mike he would very eagerly & willingly be part of whatever we might want to do in that regard.

11. The Board discussed Vicki's updates on the possible Indiana/Wisconsin trip she was pursuing with Shantel, which was tabled because we needed an answer far sooner than those places were able to commit. The Board discussed the possibility of leaving open a weekend in some future year to allow for exploration of that possibility again with a timeline that would be more conducive to the booking timelines of those concert committees. The Board liked the idea but no specific decisions were made.

12. In light of charter member Bill Butler's recent passing, Ric requested that the Board consider naming the 2nd trombone chair as a memorial in Bill Butler's name. The Board appreciated the request, felt that some time to think on this would be beneficial (since 4 of the 5 Board members were due at the Music Committee meeting), and will revisit it next time.

Respectfully submitted,
Chris