

MARQUETTE AREA BLUES SOCIETY

20 September 2017 meeting – Border Grill, W. Washington, Mqt

Trustees in attendance: Ham, JoAnne, Walt, Stoney, Ed St. A, Mark Johnson, Larry Letts, Tom Buchkoe, Mona, Dave Crum, Tom Hyslop, Cindy Engle, Charley, Dave G.

Call to Order: 6.33 PM

Public/guests: Jerry Emlich and Slim

No Public Comment

Agenda approved – Ham, Cindy

Mintues: Approved after noting that JoAnne's name was misspelled in the Aug '17 edition of the minutes. Tom B. and Dave C.

Officer reports:

President: Effusive thanks to everyone for the work for the Blues Fest

Vice President: Not much, but note that a few "old" (i.e. lapsed) members have renewed.

Treasurer: Fest: Minor issues happened, like one of the credit card readers farked during the event but we got by. Littler stuff – like the artist that wanted to be paid by check and NOT cash. Hunh? The final accounting for the Fest should be ready in time for the Fest meeting on 2 October.

Treasury: \$48,477.45 (including the faithful \$5.54 in savings).

Secretary: (Nothin' because she was at work and I didn't have anything to report from her).

Standing Committees:

First of all, Ham gave us an update on Jeff Kallery's latest medical excursions. BluesDay Tuesday in September will be Derrell Syria. MAYBE Who Dat Brass in October – it'd be on Halloween.

Larry Letts presented his concept of having an event in the Red Room of the Masonic Hall. It's to feature Laura Rain and the Caesars. Detailed discussion of stuff like the room being freshened with better lights and sound, etc. Estimated cost of the show = \$2700, working from a budget of \$3k). Hoped-for revenue from \$10 tickets = \$1500, with MABS making up the difference. The discussion eventually wound down after deciding to use some variation of Blues (music) and Red (room) for an event title.

Blues Fest:

Walt offered effusive thanks to all, too. He commented on the good press we received after the event as well as the good public response.

Issues addressed: Walt made a boo-boo. The day ticket price was changed by the Board – but the change didn't get listed on the publicity (Walt missed it) so didn't get charged. Won't happen again!

The fence looked way better. Backstage parking is out of hand – will be addressed before next year's car-parking fiasco can happen.

Walt will offer a fuller, more detailed report at the Fest meeting on 2 October.

Jerry Emlich, guest and fence worker: The new fence is good but needs attention if we want to hang banners from it (front of stage, for instance). The snow fence sags too much. Maybe use wood fence in the problem areas? Also the orange fence was easily breached by spectators. Discussion!

Please send thank you cards to sponsors/associates/contributors that YOU brought into the fold.

Good of the Order:

Cindy reports 1: there's not a link between the website and the MABS FB page; 2: How about giving free MABS memberships to the artists that perform?; 3: Should we consider having Walt (someone?) doing "remotes" from the various vendors to help build audience awareness of them?

Ham said that the Marquette Economic Club has requested 2 weekend passes to "sell" at a silent auction. Well, it turns out that it's a done deal and that Virgil

Schlorke won the tix. The Board sanctioned this by a “retroactive” motion by Ham, supported by Dave, to approve of the deal.

New business:

We need to find better storage. The trailer is mouse-infested and lots of stuff was damaged over the winter. Charley will check into storage at a business near his shop (Chuck Genshaw). Stoney and Ed also commented, and we’ll talk more at the Fest meeting on 2 Oct.

Walt: Shall we investigate funding via Marquette Arts and Culture/Tina Harris? Grants are almost certainly out there for us to grab – if we try. A committee was formed (Walt, Stoney, Mark J., JoAnne, and Ham) to dig into this gold mine we’re hoping to find.

Stoney: If you think of an artist you would like at the Fest – WRITE IT DOWN and tell someone. Lots of input on artists is best for the Fest.

Adjourned at 8.05 PM

Submitted in excruciating detail by Jon Wennerberg, Nancy’s alternate.