

Providence Federation of Musicians
GENERAL MEMBERSHIP MEETING
Local Headquarters
172 Longfellow Street, Providence, RI
Saturday, January 27th, 2018

MINUTES OF MEETING

Call to Order: 2:05 PM, President Ed Plunkett, presiding

Roll-Call of Officers

- **Present**
 - President **Ed Plunkett**
 - Vice-President **Al DeAndrade**
 - Secretary-Treasurer **Vern Graham**
 - Executive Board Member **Carl Hosbond**
- **Absent**
 - Executive Board Member **John Worsley**

Attendance

- Twelve (12) members present, constituting a quorum.

In Memoriam

- Steve Scorgie

Secretary's Reports

- **Minutes of December 5, 2017 Meeting** -- S/T Graham provides copies of the minutes of the Annual Budget Meeting held on December 5, 2017. Brother Peter Bodner moves to accept the minutes of the meeting. Sister Mary Bogan seconds the motion. The motion **carries**.

Treasurer's Report:

- **Annual Treasurer's Report for 2017:** – S/T Graham presents the 2017 Annual Treasurer's Report for 2017 report, from January, 2017 through December 31, 2017. This report shows a net **loss** of \$13,911.13 for the year, leaving our total assets at \$36,959.93. Motion to accept report by V/P DeAndrade. 2nd by Brother Bodner. The motion carries.

President's Report:

- **General Remarks:** President Plunkett seeks a motion from the floor to make an official Commendation to V/P DeAndrade for successfully navigating the Local through the past several months during his tenure as Interim Vice-President. Brother Bodner so moves and is seconded by Sister Ella Leone. The motion carries.
- **2017 Treasurer's Report:** President Plunkett states that the trend of losses indicated by the 2017 report show that there is a dire need to cut expenses and increase revenues going forward. To this end, he has decided to forgo receiving the President's salary of \$19,240.00 and in its place receive a monthly stipend of \$500.00, resulting in a savings of \$13,240.00 for the year. As a means of combating the 20% loss in membership which has occurred over the past several years, he has also drafted several resolutions to help decrease the loss of members and increase new members, which will be presented later in the meeting under New Business.

Announcements:

- **Festival Ballet Providence:** – President Plunkett reports that Festival Ballet of Providence has scheduled performances with a live chamber ensemble on February 9th, 10th and 11th at Veterans Auditorium for which there is no AFM contract. As a result, he has contacted the contracting musician for the ensemble and is trying to see if a contract can be negotiated with the management before the rehearsals begin on Feb. 4th. In addition, he has also sent out a “blast” email to members of Local 198-457 on Jan. 24th advising them of the situation and the potential consequences of working without an AFM contract.
- **Theatre by the Sea:** – President Plunkett reports that he is attempting to get a list of musicians who have been playing at Theatre by the Sea in Matunuck, and their contact information so he can reach out to them to see if they would be interested in union representation. Since the process requires members of the pit band to request union representation before approaching the management of the theatre, Ed is also asking members of our Local if they know who has been performing there, and also intends to contact members of other AFM Locals in the region to be able to compile a list. There will also be a notice in the forthcoming issue of Fanfare scheduled for publication in early February.
- **Mike Renzi honored:** – V/P DeAndrade reports that the January issue of International Musician has a feature article on Mike Renzi. He also reports that Mike Renzi will be inducted into the Rhode Island Music Hall of Fame in April, 2018.

Communications

- **Newport Contemporary Music Festival update:** – On November 27, 2017, Pres. Plunkett and V/P DeAndrade attended the board meeting of the RI AFL-CIO and presented their case regarding the non-payment of musicians by The Newport Contemporary Music Festival during this past summer season. As a consequence, on November 30th, the AFL-CIO sent a formal request to State Attorney General Peter Kilmartin requesting that his office open a fraud investigation regarding this issue (copy attached). In response, Deputy Attorney General Gerald Coyne replied on December 6th that he was referring the information to Special Assistant Attorney General Carole McGlaughlin for her review. (copy attached)

Committee Reports

- **Cavalcade Committee:** – V/P DeAndrade reports that the next Cavalcades are now scheduled for Tuesday, June 5th and Tuesday, November 13th, with the August event date TBA.
- **Annual Golf Tournament** - V/P DeAndrade reports that he is attempting to secure a date in August, while trying to avoid a potential conflict with any Cavalcade event scheduled in August. He also notes that Bill Custer, who has been a valuable asset to AI during many previous Golf Tournaments, will be moving to Charlotte, North Carolina in the next few months and will not be available to assist this year.

Old Business

- **2018 Proposed Budget Update** – S/T Graham presented the updated 2018 Budget Overview with a Total Income of \$111,072.04 and a Total Expense of \$90,610.70, leaving a net **gain** of **\$20,461.34** for the year. This new budget includes the reduction to the President’s salary from \$19,240.00 to a monthly stipend of \$500.00 and also a reduction in the membership dues income and AFM per capita costs by reducing the number of members from 286 to 280.

- **Resolution 2017-02** (re: Student/Youth Membership)–This resolution was reviewed and approved by members of the By-Laws Committee for presentation to the General Membership.

New Business

- **Committee Assignments:** Pres. Plunkett, as empowered by our ByLaws, has made the following appointments to our 4 Standing Committees with the approval of the Executive Board at their meeting of January 4th, 2018.
 - **By-Laws Committee:** Chair, Sandy Gorodestsky, Stan Holtzman, Ella Leone
 - **Finance Committee:** Chair, Peter Bodner, Joe DeMarco, Bill LaPolla
 - **Recruitment and Indoctrination Committee:** Chair, Mary Bogan, Alan Bernstein, EmmaLee Holmes-Hicks
 - **Wage Scale Committee:** Chair, Eliot Porter, Carl Gerhard, Jordan Nunes
- **6 new Resolutions:** Pres. Plunkett presented the following new resolutions in addition the previous Resolution 2017-02 that he proposed re: Student/Youth Membership last year; all to be printed and published to the entire membership in the next issue of Fanfare, to be distributed early in February.
 - Resolution 2018-01: Salary Reductions
 - Resolution 2018-02: Fee Reductions
 - Resolution 2018-03: Dues Stabilization
 - Resolution 2018-04: Contract Requirement
 - Resolution 2018-05: Recruitment Committee Rename
 - Resolution 2018-06: Change Date of Budget Meeting

Once these resolutions are reviewed and approved by the appropriate committees, these resolutions will be presented at the next General Meeting (in April; TBA) for a vote.

Adjournment:

Sister Ella Leone moves to adjourn. Brother Bodner seconds the motion. The meeting is adjourned at 3:53 PM

Respectfully submitted,



Vern Graham, Secretary-Treasurer

Approved:

Attested:

(Secretary-Treasurer)