

**Providence Federation of Musicians**  
**GENERAL MEMBERSHIP MEETING**  
**Local Headquarters**  
**172 Longfellow Street, Providence, RI**  
**Tuesday, April 17, 2018**

**MINUTES OF MEETING**

**Call to Order:** 7:05 PM, President Ed Plunkett, presiding

**Roll-Call of Officers**

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

**Attendance**

- Twenty-three (23) members present, constituting a quorum.

**In Memoriam**

- Robert Petrarca

**Secretary's Report:**

- **Minutes of January 27, 2018 Meeting** -- S/T Graham provides copies of the minutes of the General Membership Meeting held on January 27, 2018. Brother Peter Bodner moves to accept the minutes of the meeting. Brother Bill LaPolla seconds the motion. The motion carries.

**Treasurer's Report:**

- **1st Quarter 2018:** – S/T Graham presents the First Quarter 2018 report, from January 1, 2018 through March 31, 2018. The report shows income of \$35,291.72 and expenses of \$18,602.99, leaving a net gain for the quarter of \$16,688.73. Motion to accept report by V/P DeAndrade. 2<sup>nd</sup> by Brother Bodner. The motion carries.

**President's Report:**

- **Newport Contemporary Music Festival (NCMF):** – President Plunkett reports artistic director Paul Van Anglen's bankruptcy case was heard in December 2017. Although a few individual musicians who were not paid by NCMF did get judgments against Van Anglen and NCMF, no awards were made because the bankruptcy invalidated all claims against the organization. Local 198-457's case against Harris Shilakowsky (contractor for NCMF) is currently in process by the International Executive Board at the AFM and will be reviewed in June, 2018. Paul Van Anglen and Newport Contemporary Arts have already been listed on the National Unfair List, as of the January 2018 issue of the *International Musician*.
- **Theatre-By-The-Sea:** Further research by Pres. Plunkett has suggested that in the past 3 years, no members of the New England area AFM community have been hired to perform at the Theatre-By-The-Sea in Matunuck, Rhode Island. As the effort to unionize the Theatre will have to originate with the performers, we will have to wait until the 2018 season is underway when we can obtain a copy of the program(s) for the events and then contact the

performers who are listed in the program(s). In addition, Pres. Plunkett reports that Local 9-535 (Boston) has placed a copy of our ad (as listed in our February issue of the *Fanfare*) requesting AFM members to contact our local with any information pertaining to the Theatre-By-The-Sea.

- **Musicians Performance Trust Fund (MPTF):** Pres. Plunkett reports that the MPTF has authorized funding of \$2,269.00 to be allocated to our local for the period ending on April 30, 2019. Any members who are interested in qualifying for some of this funding should contact Pres. Plunkett, and can also visit the MPTF web site at [www.MusicPF.org](http://www.MusicPF.org), which is also listed on our website [www.ProMusicRI.org](http://www.ProMusicRI.org) under the tab “Resources”.
- **Local 198-457 Website:** Pres. Plunkett reports that he has been gradually adding features to our website, which now includes a “Hire Our Musicians” tab that allows the public to view a listing our members who have their own websites. There is also now a “Gig Calendar” which will allow us to post info from our members who wish to advertise upcoming music events in which they will be participating. In the works are two more additions: a “Concert Calendar” which will feature Symphonic and Chamber events info that will include info provided by our membership and also provide info relating to the RI Philharmonic and other RI chamber and symphonic organizations events. Also planned is a “Music Instruction” page which will list our members who offer their teaching skills for private lessons.  
Pres. Plunkett also recommends that any of our members who do not have a website should take advantage of the AFM Entertainment site <http://www.afmentertainment.org/> which will allow you to set up your own website at no cost. For those who also offer teaching services, members can set up their own listing at the AFM’s site <http://goprolessons.com/>  
For more benefits of AFM membership, members should view our “Resources” page and in particular the link to Union Plus found here:  
[http://promusicri.org/home/resources/#National\\_SSO](http://promusicri.org/home/resources/#National_SSO)
- **AFM Pension Plan:** The latest info coming from the AFM-EPF is that the fund is currently in *Critical* but not *Critical and Declining* status. There is a recently formed group comprised of AFM members that is keeping the pressure on the AFM-EPF to make positive changes to their management of the fund. More info about this organization can be found at their website, <https://www.musiciansforpensionsecurity.com/> . The status of all multi-employer pension plans is under review by a congressional committee entitled “The Joint Select Committee on Multi-Employer Pension Plans.” Members with a stake in the pension plan are urged to contact members of the committee to express their concerns.
- **Comments re: Proposed Resolutions:** Pres. Plunkett reiterates his intentions for creating the proposed resolutions which will be discussed later in today’s meeting. The issue driving these proposals is to help in Recruitment and Retention of the membership here at Local 198-457. Without stemming the tide of diminishing membership, the Local will exhaust its financial resources and be forced to dissolve.

### Announcements:

- **RI Music Hall of Fame:** V/P DeAndrade reminds us that brother Mike Renzi will be inducted into the RIMHOF on Sunday, April 29<sup>th</sup> at 2 PM. Former member Lloyd Kaplan will also be inducted as well. The Mike Renzi Trio will be performing at Chan’s in Woonsocket on April 26<sup>th</sup> at 7 PM, with several special guests joining him to celebrate his induction. John Chan will also be inducted for his contributions to the RI music scene this evening as well.
- **MET Café Big Band events:** V/P DeAndrade also reports that the John Allmark Jazz Orchestra is performing on alternate Mondays (1<sup>st</sup> and 3<sup>rd</sup> of each month) at the MET Café, located in the same building as RIMHOF at the Hope Artiste Village in Pawtucket. A special performance of the North Smithfield High School Jazz Band will take place on Monday,

May 7<sup>th</sup> at 7:30 PM in advance of the Allmark band. This band won 1<sup>st</sup> prize in the 2018 Berklee School of Music Jazz Festival.

### **Communications:**

- **Email issues:** Pres. Plunkett reports that we are still having some email issues that are preventing our members from receiving emails sent out from our office. What seems to be happening in some cases is that incoming emails that have our domain name (ProMusicRI.org) in the sender's address are being sent to the Spam folder of the recipients' email software. Plunkett discussed several options for avoiding this problem and reminded all present to be sure the contact information we have for them here at the Local is current.

### **Committee Reports**

- **Cavalcade Committee:** – Chairman Al DeAndrade reports the schedule of performers for the June 5<sup>th</sup> Spring Cavalcade of Bands has been set and S/T Graham reports that the flyers have been prepared and will be mailed out within the next week. A copy of the performance schedule and the downloadable Advance Ticket purchase form will be posted on our website at the Cavalcade of Bands tab.
- **Annual Golf Tournament** - Chairman Al DeAndrade reports this year's Golf Tournament will be held at Alpine Country Club on Tuesday, September 4<sup>th</sup>, 2018. Al is working with Brother Lee Bernardo and another golf club of which Lee is a member to see if his group as a whole will participate in our tournament this year.
- **Ballet/Concert Committee:** No one from this committee is in attendance at this meeting.
- **By-Laws Committee:** Committee Member Ella Leone in attendance. Chairman Sandy Gorodetsky has sent a written report via email to Pres. Plunkett reporting that his committee has reviewed and approved Resolution 2017-02 (Student/Youth memberships) to be presented to the membership at today's meeting, but he himself will not be able to attend.
- **Finance Committee:** Brother Peter Bodner (committee chair) reports that his committee has reviewed Resolutions 2018-01, 2018-02, 2018-03 and 2018-06. The committee has a few revisions to propose which will be made as Proposals To Amend in the review and voting process later in the meeting.
- **Recruitment & Indoctrination Committee:** Chairperson Mary Bogan is present and states that Resolution 2018-05 has been reviewed and approved by her committee.
- **Wage/Scale Committee:** Brother Eliot Porter has been excused from attendance at today's meeting, but has reported to Pres. Plunkett that his committee has reviewed and approved Resolution 2018-04 (contract requirement) as written. Other members of the Wage Scale Committee are unable to attend due to scheduling conflicts.

### **Old Business**

- **Newport Contemporary Music Festival** – As above in the President's Report.

### **New Business**

- **Resolution 2017-02 – A RESOLUTION TO CREATE STUDENT AND YOUTH MEMBERSHIP CATEGORIES**

Motion to Adopt as written: Peter Bodner. 2<sup>nd</sup> by: Al DeAndrade.

The AYES have it. Resolution adopted.

- **Resolution 2018-01 – A RESOLUTION TO ADJUST OFFICERS’ SALARIES AND BOARD STIPENDS**

Motion to Adopt: Mary Bogan. 2<sup>nd</sup> by: Bill LaPolla The AYES have it. Motion to Amend: Peter Bodner (as recommended by the Finance Committee) *Strike Paragraph III and Section 5M: Executive Board revisions*, which would have cut Exec. Board stipends, thus leaving the current stipend in place. 2<sup>nd</sup> by: Mary Bogan The AYES have it; resolution amended. Motion to Adopt Resolution as Amended: Peter Bodner; 2<sup>nd</sup>: Mary Bogan. The AYES have it. Motion as amended is adopted.

- **Resolution 2018-02: - A RESOLUTION TO REDUCE FEES**

Motion to Adopt as written: Al DeAndrade. 2<sup>nd</sup> by: Peter Bodner. The AYES have it. Resolution adopted.

- **Resolution 2018-03: A RESOLUTION TO STABILIZE DUES AND REDUCE INITIATION FEES**

Motion to Amend: Peter Bodner (as recommended by the Finance Committee) Modify Paragraph IV to remove the retroactive date of changes and indicate effective date of this resolution to be January 1, 2019, assuming approval from the IEB is granted. 2<sup>nd</sup> by: Al DeAndrade. The AYES have it; resolution amended. Motion to Adopt Resolution as Amended: Bill LaPolla; 2<sup>nd</sup> by: Al DeAndrade. The AYES have it. Motion as amended is adopted.

- **Resolution 2018-04:- A RESOLUTION TO REQUIRE CONTRACTS**

Motion to Adopt as written: Al DeAndrade. 2<sup>nd</sup> by: Artie Cabral. The AYES have it. Resolution adopted.

- **Resolution 2018-05: - A RESOLUTION TO RENAME AND RESTRUCTURE THE RECRUITMENT/INDOCTRINATION COMMITTEE**

Motion to Adopt as written: Al Bernstein. 2<sup>nd</sup> by: Peter Bodner. The AYES have it. Resolution adopted.

- **Resolution 2018-06: - CHANGE DATE OF BUDGET MEETING**

Motion to Adopt as written: Peter Bodner. 2<sup>nd</sup> by: Al DeAndrade. The AYES have it. Resolution adopted.

### Good and Welfare

- **Union Plus Benefits** –Pres. Plunkett reminds all to visit the Benefits tab at our website to investigate all the benefits offered by the AFM and the AFL-CIO “Union Plus” packages.

### Adjournment

Brother Bodner moves to adjourn. V/P DeAndrade seconds the motion. The meeting is adjourned at 9:04 PM

Respectfully submitted,



Vern Graham, Secretary-Treasurer

Approved: 2018-09-25

Attested:  (Secretary-Treasurer)