



Henniker Concert Committee Meeting Minutes
Thursday, November 7th, 2019 at 7 PM
Held at Lyons Center, NEC

Members present: Ruth Zax, Melinda McGrath, Carol Hamilton, Cheryl Morse; with two guests (still awaiting confirmation of their appointments from the Select Board): Taylor Carroll and Karol Dermon.

The meeting was brought to order at 7 PM. The minutes of the October 10th meeting were read. Cheryl moved to accept the minutes, seconded by Carol, and the minutes were unanimously accepted.

Ruth announced that the committee's budget for the upcoming season had been approved by the Selectmen. She also confirmed that, by a vote of 3-2, the Selectmen had also approved holding another "Blues and Brews" event this coming summer. Discussion followed concerning the proposed layout (enlarging it from 10 feet by 20 feet in area to 45 feet by 50 feet to include sufficient room to accommodate tables and chairs so that attendees could more comfortably enjoy the tastings and, if they wished, food items they could bring into the enclosed tasting space). Ruth proposed expanding the event to a "Blues, Brews and Barbeque" event, with the possibility of adding barbequed meat (chicken?) to the selection of foods.

Some committee members expressed concern that such a large enclosure might risk increasing the chance of problems occurring and it was decided to reduce the size down to approximately 30 feet by 45 or 50 feet to be more manageable. The committee members agreed that this subject and the positioning of food vendors needed to be discussed further, and the matter was tabled until the next meeting.

Ruth advised the committee that the top five survey groups have been contacted and negotiations are underway to confirm as follows: the 39th Army Band for June 30; Blacklite for July 7; Erin Harpe and the Delta Swingers for July 21 (Blues and Brews event); Tattoo for August 18; and Nick's Other Band for August 25. This leaves the following dates to cover: July 16, June 23, July 14; July 28; August 4, and August 11, plus to determine whether or not to hold a preview event and what form it would take.

There was further discussion concerning other bands being considered and committee members present were assigned to do a review of those who have already requested consideration for 2020. All members were encouraged to check out these groups online and to look into any other groups they felt might be worth considering and to bring details to the January meeting when we would continue the selection process.

Ruth reminded the committee that a karaoke night had been suggested; it was agreed that interested committee members would attend the karaoke night at Mama McDonough's in Hillsborough on Thursday, November 21, to check this out.

Winter Cafe Series was then discussed. Ruth has booked Nice & Naughty for January 26 and Off the Cuff on March 29. We discussed several suggestions for the night of February 23 and Ruth will follow up. It was agreed that the schedule would be finalized at the next meeting, postering assignments would be handed out and we would also discuss comments made regarding the "pass the hat" method used at those events.

On the subject of Old Business, Ruth advised that the bandstand improvements have not been completed as of this meeting date, mostly due to the turn-over issues with the Town Manager position. She said she's been assured by the new Town Administrator that the portability issue will be moved to a new high priority item and that he would look into getting a bid for the new lighting.

The next meeting is scheduled for December 12th at 7 PM at the Lyons Center.

The meeting was called to an end by Carol, seconded by Melinda, and closed at 9:00pm.

Respectfully submitted,

Melinda McGrath
Acting Secretary