7/20/20 Vermont Blues Society Board Meeting

Zoom meeting called to order 4:09 pm

In attendance: Marian, Arlene, Tom, Sandy, Rebeca and Sal

Action Items:

* Agenda changes were discussed and agreed-upon
* 5/18/20 Meeting Notes - approval moved by Tom, seconded by Sandy. Sandy proposed to change the museum item that volunteered him and Sal to “Sandy & Charlie”. Vote was unanimous.

Items for discussion:

* Zoom & Facebook Virtual Blues Jam - There was discussion about the relationship of membership to jam participation. It was agreed that any requirement to be a member would be counter-productive during Covid19 and should be deferred for now. Moved by Marian, seconded by Sandy, vote was unanimous.
* VBS Youtube Channel and Facebook page status discussed. Admins Arlene, Rebecca, Dennis, Marian and Sal are able to post directly on Facebook. Sal will review requests for the Youtube page. There has been little activity on either medium, so a broad-minded approach to allowing activity was supported. Marian related that the policy is to allow any post that moves the mission of the Blues Society forward.
* Sal proposed a big VBS-sponsored party for whenever C19 abates. It was agreed to take this up in the future.
* Membership welcome letter - A welcome message is generated as part of the Paypal process. There was some discussion as to whether or not more response would be beneficial. It was pointed out that during C19, there’s not a lot new to offer. No action was proposed.
* Newsletter protocol - Marian is currently posting agendas and minutes to the web site. She is sending out newsletters when there is activity to share, including a link to those documents. Tom will work on a summer covid edition to update the spring resources guide. No other action was discussed.
* Blues in the Schools - It has been hard to round up action when the schools’ curriculum itself is so uncertain. It was agreed to defer this activity until there is more clarity on the education future.
* VBS Support of Black Lives Matter - Marian put a statement of support on the web site. Rebecca offered to come up with an expanded statement of support and circulate to board members.
* Arlene has permission to screen blues documentaries and related films on a monthly basis at the Williston library when COVID restrictions lift. Arlene will keep the board updated.
* Big Heavy World - Sandyl reported “no response” to their initial call for Vermont blues memorabilia. It was suggested that more specificity in what was desired might help, as well as reaching out directly to identified individuals who may have items to contribute. Clearly repeat requests will be needed. VBS members could look more deeply in their own collections. Rebecca offered to help reach out to see what she could find and contact some musicians The effort is on hold until Charlie returns.
* VBS Hall Of Fame - Sandy stated that this effort is closely tied to the museum work, and progress should wait until that effort moves forward. There was consensus to suspend this activity for now.
* Sal reported that there were 8 potential performers for the 7/21 blues jam event. Marian will send out an update to list the performers without time slots assigned.

Future items:

VBS-sponsored end of Covid party; Linkage of musician membership to event participation; Blues in the Schools; Blues documentaries; Hall of Fame development.

Meeting adjourned 5:32