

## 9/21/20 Vermont Blues Society Board meeting Notes

Zoom meeting called to order 4:08

In attendance: Marian, Dennis, Arlene, Tom, Charlie, Sandy, Rebecca and Sal

### Action Items

- Agenda items- approval moved by Sandy and seconded by Dennis - unanimous.
- 7/20/20 Meeting Minutes- approval moved by Tom and seconded by Arlene - unanimous.

### Items for discussion

- Newsletter- Tom developed an outline for the newsletter to be finished by the end of September. Items discussed at the meeting to be included: online Tuesday Blues Jam, virtual Annual Meeting with musical entertainment, links for info related to sale of Big Joe's instruments, and Black Lives Matter statement.
- Planning For Annual meeting- due to COVID-19 it was decided that the VBS Annual Meeting will be held via Zoom on Sunday, November 15th, 2020 A virtual music show will follow the business portion of the meeting. Event will be 6:30-8:30 pm.

Annual Meeting Presentation-it was agreed that the powerpoint template from last year will be updated and used to illustrate financials and treasurer's report (Sandy and Marian), visions and goals (Dennis). Time will be allotted for VBS member's input. Trial run of powerpoint and further details of Annual Meeting to be discussed at October board meeting.

Music- after some discussion it was decided that the virtual music portion of the event will have three performers. Each musician will be given 15 minutes to play, and 15 minutes to answer questions. To simplify production pre recorded videos is the preference with the musician participating in a live Zoom question/answer period afterward. Many blues musicians' names were discussed with the consensus that there should be an honoring of a racial justice theme. There is VBS money to pay national/international known blues artists to attract a larger audience for the Annual Meeting. Local opening act to be paid \$200, with out of state performers up to \$500 each

Outreach to potential performers- Dave Keller has a new album focusing on racial justice. It was agreed that Dave would be an appropriate opening act. Arlene will contact Dave Keller. Dennis will contact nationally known Jontavious Willis, and Rebecca will reach out to several internationally known musicians : Dawn Tyler Watson, Annika Chambers, Paul Delaurier, King Solomon Hicks, etc. Arlene, Dennis, Tom and Rebecca to reconvene on Zoom Monday, September 28th at 4 pm to discuss outreach efforts.

- Sale of Big Joe's Instruments- It was agreed that fundraising for instruments is too complicated but VBS can provide links for interested parties. Sandy will get contact info for the family, Tom will place in the upcoming newsletter and Sal to add to VBS Facebook and website.
- Big Heavy World Museum- Sandy is in discussion with Big Joe's nephew Leon about obtaining the Big Joe's Banner with 150 photos that was used at his memorial service. Sandy will donate the banner to the Big Heavy World for exhibition.
- Black Lives Matter Statement- Rebecca identified an appropriate statement by the Blues Foundation. Marian will post to VBS website. Sal will add to VBS Facebook and Tom will include in the upcoming newsletter.

- Virtual Tuesday Bluesday Jam scheduled for Tuesday, October 13th via Zoom. Sal will produce the show. Simultaneous live stream on Facebook may not be possible due to changing rules Oct 1 and copyright issues. Promotion of the event will be through newsletter (Tom), VBS email (Marian) and Facebook (Sal).
- Blues In the Schools Update- nothing new as COVID-19 makes planning extremely difficult.
- Drive-In concert: VBS has not had one but there were successful ones this summer.

