

**PETERBOROUGH NEW HORIZONS BANDS  
BOARD OF DIRECTORS MEETING, MARCH 17, 2021**

**Present:** John Topic, Lorna Verhulst, Lorna Devan, David Lloyd, Sherri Luff, Angela Con, Mary Chesher,

**Conductor Representative:** Gord Thompson

**Regrets;** Joanne McLaren

**1. Conflict of Interest – none declared**

**2. Approval of Minutes of the February 4th Meeting**

**Angela Con moved to accept the minutes of the February 4<sup>th</sup> meeting**

**Mary Chesher seconded the motion**

**All in Favor**

**Carried**

**3. Chair's Remarks**

We need to refocus. September is still months away, but we are getting to the point where actions need to be taken in the next couple of months to ensure a start in September.

We have no idea what will happen next so the only thing we can do is lay out our plan and hope that it does not go astray.

To begin the meeting on a more personal and positive note, we received a donation recently in honor of Werner Bergen from Nancy Fox. Werner played Bari Sax and passed away a couple of years ago. Sherri has sent a thank you card to Nancy Fox.

**4. Conductors' Report**

Gord Thompson is in regular contact with the conductors. The conductors are aware that when we resume the music choices will be appropriate given the situation we have found ourselves in. They have also discussed the shortening of rehearsal time. Gord and the conductors feel we should look for a different location as Living Hope's conditions for using their facility ask us to change our day and we still need space for Green Band. We could continue Green Band there on Monday's. Equipment can be split between two different locations as we would have to renegotiate storage space. St James Church is worth another look. Contact Julie VanHatton. Sectionals could be done there. Conductors would prefer the Wednesday format but two rooms within the venue are needed.

**5. Treasurer's Report**

We have to make sure that we are keeping up with providing information to David Lloyd There isn't much to report. He has made up a profit and loss statement but there has not been much activity. Donations are up and expenses have been minimal.

**6. Business Arising from the December 9th Meeting.**

**6.1 Search for a New Venue**

**6.1.1 New Horizons Search**

Some possibilities: **Living Hope** - we have received an email that Living Hope would

allow us to use their space until 2023. We would have to renegotiate a new rental contract and storage space. They have also said that we could only have this space on Monday's and we must put all furniture back and sanitize the areas we use. They have responded to input from their congregation members who are also members of PNHB.

We do need to put a negotiating team of a couple of people together to come to some agreement with them before May 5th. We should go ahead with this negotiation as they have told us we can break the contract if a new space is found.

**Lorna Devan moved that Lorna Verhulst and John Topic negotiate the contract with Living Hope. Sherri Luff seconded the motion.**

It will be stipulated that we can break this contract at any point if a new venue has been found. Also question when we have to move our equipment from their storage space. How vaccinations roll out will determine a starting date as well as what other venues may be available to us. September is a reasonable goal.

**All in Favor**

**Carried**

It is \$325 per Wednesday at Living Hope. \$95 for Green Band and \$60 for 2 hours for Music Lab per week. \$50 for extra janitorial services each time needed.

**Naval Association:** John Topic thinks this is a good possibility. Angela and Gord have seen the facility. Gord reported that there are approximately 60 – 75 parking spots based on Google Earth. The other access point needs improvement coming in from Beavermead. The city will consider this. The parking lot is a fair distance away and it was icy when they visited. Discussion about maintenance will have to be a negotiating point. The room in the West Building that is available is a good size but the doorway may be too small to bring in the timpani. Washrooms are good, kitchen facility in the West Building is to be removed. The East Building Room is smaller but could work with the smaller of the two bands. We are dealing with a city employee, Rob McAulay, who is preparing a report to present to council in April. He has been very encouraging, but doesn't have the authority to really do anything. He can make recommendations and he has been consistent with some of what he is telling us. There are not very many breakout rooms.

John suggests that we send Rob our current lease agreement with Living Hope so that he has some financial figures for his April report.

Some groups in the Consortium have expressed an interest.

Discussion – would it assist the negotiations to offer money from our organization to assist with improvements? It may be of benefit to speak to the councilors about it – Keith Riel is the councilor for that ward. We definitely should keep the correspondence going especially about what we offer to enrich the lives of the community at large. We feel it would be beneficial that all councilors receive a report from us about our interest in this property.

**Calvary:** This was a disappointment. The only large rooms are down in the basement, no windows and with large pillars. There is only a small elevator for accessibility. Parking is in the rear of the building and people might have to walk a considerable distance outdoors in able to reach a door into the building. The rooms could

work and there are breakout rooms. People with mobility issues may have problems.

**St. James:** Gord spoke to someone there and this may be a possibility.

**Ridpath:** KPRDSB is receiving proposals in April. They were excited to work with us. They thought it might be great to bring in students to observe or be a part of the activities we do. It would be a good community outreach. No decisions are being made until May. We need to have a walkthrough so Angela will organize. We would need to find out about the maintenance and if we have to pay for a custodian to come in and clean the areas we've used. Rates are fairly cheap. Angela will see if she can negotiate a better price with them.

**Trentwinds:** Gord says that it is a no go for us but eventually it may be great for the Consortium.

**The Mount:** Concerns about parking, ice in winter and acoustics, but still a possibility.

### **6.1.2 Consortium Activities**

Some groups are interested in the Naval Association, specifically the PSO, PCB and Friends in Music.

Presentation to Arts and Heritage Council: Disappointing response – the main response of the council was to tell us to try to link up with some more groups.

Commercial Properties: Mary has been working with a real estate agent to try to identify suitable commercial properties, but all are rather expensive to lease and would require renovation to fit the consortium's needs and then there would be a year round lease to pay.

## **6.2 Grants**

### **6.2.1 New Horizons for Seniors Program**

We did get a \$5000 grant from the New Horizons for Seniors Grant. How we spend the money is something to be discussed. It was suggested we use the money for transitional purposes. We also have a \$670 Golden Ticket grant and we are on the 3<sup>rd</sup> year of the grant we received from the City of Peterborough. These grants cannot be put into the general fund as some kind of report will be necessary.

### **6.3 Update on Vaccinations and Restarting**

It does look like at least one dose will be received by summer. It may be 4 months until we receive our second vaccine. In September we may still have to socially distance as the guidelines may not be adjusted until 2 weeks after the second vaccine.

New information about school bands suggest that students are require to wear masks appropriate for their instrument or face shields and there must be Plexiglas between players.

Discussion around when we survey and prepare rosters – no consensus yet but probably in the summer

#### **6.4 Communication with Members**

Results of the phone campaign indicate everyone was very receptive to our call and a lot commented that they would like to come back once we have our vaccines.

Many would like to receive information about the virtual bands being offered in Guelph and Toronto. We could resend this to our members. Mary will contact Martha Comfort as it is her nephew is the conductor in Guelph.

It was suggested we contact our members about how nice it was to talk to all of them and that everyone is doing well and in good health. We are a hardy group who have adjusted to all the changes in our lives. John will write something to be sent out.

#### **6.5 Updating the Website**

Lorna will look at the website to see what changes can be made

### **7. Other Business**

#### **7.1 Request for Donation from Peterborough Kiwanis Music Festival**

Historically we have made donations to them and they use them as a scholarship for a deserving student. This would come out of general funds.

**Lorna Devan moved to donate \$75 to the Peterborough Kiwanis Music Festival**

**Angela Con seconded the motion**

**All in Favor**

**Carried**

#### **7.2 Nominating Committee**

Will be discussed at the next meeting as Alan was unable to attend the meeting and this was his discussion item

#### **7.3 Defibrillator at Living Hope**

We own the defibrillator at Living Hope and we have been maintaining it even though we have not been practicing there. We paid \$129.95 to replace the electrodes in June and then another \$244.39 to replace the battery pack just this month. John has made Mark Mertick aware of these contributions. If we move from Living Hope we will take the defibrillator with us.

### **8. Date of Next Meeting – Wednesday, April 28th, 2021 - Time to be determined**

### **9. Adjournment – Angela Con motioned to adjourn**