

**PETERBOROUGH NEW HORIZONS BANDS
BOARD OF DIRECTORS MEETING, JULY 21, 2021**

Present: John Topic, Lorna Verhulst, Lorna Devan, Sherri Luff, Mary Chesher, Alan Brunger

Conductor Representative: Jon Knights

Regrets: David Lloyd, Joanne McLaren

1. Conflict of Interest – none declared

2. Approval of Minutes of the June 23rd Meeting

Alan Brunger moved that the minutes be approved. The motion was seconded by Lorna Verhulst.

Passed.

3. Chair's Remarks

We are in Step 3 now. The Peterborough Concert Band is going to start practicing outdoors next week. We really need to get past Step 3 before we can think of starting, but according to the Province that could be in mid-August. The one statistic he is really focussed on right now is the daily case rate. Peterborough has to get to zero or near zero.

So we are moving ahead and need to start setting dates

4. Conductors' Report – Jon Knights

The conductors submitted a great report. The conductors met at the Navy Club with representatives from the City of Peterborough. The City is doing some acoustical work on the large room in the east building and they have plenty of chairs. Options are being explored as to how to run sectionals. The options appear to be: don't have sectionals, use Navy Club rooms or use Free Methodist Church. It was suggested we wait until September to get members opinions on this. If distancing is still a requirement then the West Navy Club Room would work. It was felt that Green Band would not begin until October. Discussion took place around whether the previous Green Band members would want to move to Jubilee.

Jon K expressed his concerns regarding allowing people who are unvaccinated to be a part of the Band. Mary commented that some people cannot get vaccinated due to medical reasons or have personal reasons for not being vaccinated. Jon commented that if you allow people who aren't vaccinated in you may lose vaccinated people.

5. Treasurer's Report

There has not been much activity. A member is not able to come back to band and has chosen to donate her fees paid 1 ½ years ago to the organization.

6. Business Arising From the June 23rd Meeting.

6.1 News about the Navy Club

6.1.1 Costing

We finally received a proposal for how much we may have to pay to rent the Navy Club. Right now the proposal is \$660/week for Green band on Monday and the other bands on Wednesday. Storage is included in that cost (\$50/week in each building) but we would

have to pay that over the summer. Currently we pay \$420 at Living Hope for the same times. Ensembles would likely not be able to pay the cost of \$120 per week. John has spoken to the person at the City about these costs. We are just starting to negotiate so we may be able to bring this cost down.

The problem is that they are thinking in terms of hourly rates rather than thinking in terms of a sustained flow. John and Ken Abraham from the PCB have written back to them. We have to get them to see that they come out ahead if they have repeat customers week after week.

6.1.2 Sectionals/Shorter Practices

Since we are trying to pin things down, we should think about sectionals and starting with shorter practices. It was suggested that we not start sectionals until October or November. The Board felt that this was a good idea as just getting the full bands started will be challenging enough.

Starting with shorter practices may be forced on us if the east building is not ready.

We will explain to members that we are going to have to start slower.

Embedding coaches in the bands would be costly. Coaches would normally be paid for 1.25 hours on Wednesday morning and 1.25 hours on Wednesday afternoon. That cost \$100 per day. Embedding them might run to 6 hours each on Wednesdays or \$240.

Green band is a different matter and we need to do everything possible to facilitate learning at that level. Recruitment in August would be necessary. Discussion regarding how to recruit took place.

It was suggested that inquiries regarding band should be directed to James Burrett so that he can direct it to the appropriate person.

6.2 Update on Vaccinations and Restarting

The PCB is requiring proof of vaccination. They have other protocols too. However, unvaccinated members can remain in good standing if they pay fees and participate in virtual activities. They are assuming that the vaccination requirement will eventually be dropped.

Mary Chesher reported on Public Health Measures in place at this time and going forward. She was in contact with Keith Beecroft of the Health Unit and asked him for information about people being fully vaccinated. To get out of Step 3 80 % must have 1 dose and 75 % with 2 doses. As of July 16th 48 % of people of Peterborough County Health Unit had 2 doses. Vaccination policies are up to each organization to determine their own policies. Rapid tests and development of a policy regarding vaccinations as a criteria for playing in the band was discussed. They strongly urge all members to get vaccinated. Discussion took place regarding whether we should have a policy regarding vaccination being a criterion for being a member of our organization.

Lorna Verhulst moved that based on the urging of the Peterborough County Public Health Unit all participants including players, coaches and conductors will be required to have two full COVID 19 vaccinations and have completed the appropriate waiting period of two weeks after their 2nd COVID vaccine

in order to participate in all Peterborough New Horizons Bands and activities. Each player, coach and conductor must provide proof of that vaccination. This policy will be reviewed as the situation changes. All members who choose not to get vaccinated will remain in good standing.

Alan Brunger seconded the motion.

All in Favor

Carried

6.2.3 Green Band

We should begin recruitment for Green Band. We have a budget (\$1000) to be spent on advertising. It was suggested to make cards to put in retirement homes as well as radio/newspaper ads. Contact will be made with various members to see if they have previous advertising for distribution.

6.2.4 Fall Concert

It is too early to schedule a concert as we need to see how beginning band will play out.

6.3 Polling of Members

John Topic will come up with a list of questions to poll the members about whether they will be returning.

6.4 Update from the Nominating Committee

Alan reported that the Nominating Committee met and they feel their role is to come up with a list of potential candidates when the Board needs to replace retiring members. John Topic has expressed that he wishes to retire as President sooner than later. As well we could recruit one more member for the Board. Alan requests that we provide a list of people we feel would make good candidates for the Board. He would like 3 names from each director. Members of the Board need to consider who from the Board of Directors would like to assume the role of President. If the situation occurs that no one wishes to assume the role of President then this matter would be discussed and voted on by the Board. Recommendations to serve on the Board is required with the signatures of two nominators. The Board will consider these members.

6.5 Follow up on Wendy Robinson Tuba

Angela Con was unable to attend the meeting.

6.6 Communication with Members

We will communicate about our policy regarding vaccinations and we will also poll the members about whether they will be returning. Players will be placed in the band that they were in before COVID 19. We are in negotiations with the Navy Club.

7. Other Business

New Horizons Seniors Grant will be spent next year. It does expire in March 2022 but we can apply for an extension.

The conductors will be consulted.

8. Date of Next Meeting

August 11, 2021 – 2:30 pm

9. Adjournment

Alan Brunger moved to adjourn the meeting