

CTBA Minutes Sunday February 25, 2018

Board members

Present

Michael Harberg
Jason Pratt
Lenny Nichols
Cheryl Waggoner
Hunter Hollingsworth
Jon Lundbom
Ed Seykota

Absent

Gibson Davis
Christian McAdams

George Rios resigned from the CTBA effective January 22, 2018.

The February meeting was called to order by Michael Harberg.

OLD BUSINESS

[?] January Meeting Minutes - Jason made a motion to accept the minutes. Jon seconded the motion. All approved.

[?] Treasurer's Report: Total Assets - \$14673.69. Total Expenses \$559.48. Total Income \$313.54. Old Settlers renewed their business membership.

Jon motioned for approval of the Treasurer's report. Michael seconded. All approved.

[?] Scholarship Report - Lenny informed us that we have received one scholarship application for the CTBA scholarship – a good applicant who frequently goes to Pearl. Camp Bluegrass in Levelland has offered a tuition scholarship. They want us to send them a student.

[?] Monthly Meeting Date - The next meeting will be March 11 at 3 pm. We are going to meet on the second Sunday of each month.

[?] Open positions that need to be filled -

Newsletter Editor – Michael guest edited the newsletter for January. We are still looking to fill this position. Michael knows a couple of people to contribute articles. Lenny mentioned that we might want to explore re-publishing articles from other newsletters. Michael will continue guest editing for now.

Membership/Merchandise Chair – Jason's wife may be interested in this position. He will let us know. Michael thinks we can start selling merchandise at bluegrass nights across town. Jon and Michael both have room to store merchandise and will get the merchandise from Mike Hurlbut ASAP.

Open Board Position - Jon has a friend who might be interested in filling this position.

Michael wanted to possibly open this spot for someone from the Burnt Orange bluegrass group to link efforts with that organization. We also discussed trying to find someone to expand the diversity of our board. Jason suggested that we consider adding another genre of music to our events to help increase diversity and interest – bluegrass plus jazz, bluegrass plus blues, etc. We could perhaps partner with the Austin Blues Society for an event.

- ❓ **Memorial Festival** – we need a point person, a location, a plan, etc. It has usually been a board member but does not have to be. Jamie Stubblefield may be interested in being the point person and Jason Pratt will contact him to see if he is interested. Mercer Street may be a possibility. St. Elmo would like to have us. Treaty Oak may also be interested in having us. Possible date – May 20.

Jon asked if this organization has ever worked with the City of Austin to get grants. Amplify Austin offers grants. It is event based, must be in Austin, the money must be matched 50%, but 50 percent of that can be in-kind donations. Jon has a friend who is a professional grant writer. We could possibly use that as some of the resources for the annual meeting.

- ❓ **July Band Scramble and Garage Sale** – Usually around July 4. We will get back to this topic at the next meeting.

NEW BUSINESS

- ❓ **Mission Statement Clarification** - Ed wanted to schedule a meeting to clarify the mission statement, so Ed, Jason, and Michael will meet next Sunday, March 4, 3:00 at Hill's.
- ❓ **Anniversary Merchandise Item(s)** Michael thinks we need to have an item that will encourage membership – Stainless steel growler perhaps – 40 ounce – for 40th anniversary – hosts may want to put their logos on it. We agreed this is a good idea. Jamie is going to see about reprinting more punch cards as well.
- ❓ **iPad for Bluegrass Nights, Shows and Festivals** - Michael suggested possibly getting an ipad to use at events – a dedicated device for CTBA events. There are benefits to having a tablet. We could set it up to use as a sales tool and to accept membership forms. Jon mentioned possibly overhauling the website to make it more user friendly and incorporate things that could be used as a membership tool. Jon could work on this and may reach out to our webmaster about making some minor changes. Could possibly incorporate using Facebook to increase membership. Michael is now admin of one of the two Central Texas Bluegrass Facebook pages. We need control of the group page. We have presence within this group – we just don't have complete control. Jason is contacting Facebook to see if they can help us get control. Currently, new memberships go to paypal – then to Lenny who has traditionally passed it on to the membership chair. We have a square account to take memberships, sell merchandise, etc.
- ❓ **Automatic Membership Renewal System** – Jon suggested and we all agreed this would be helpful
- ❓ **Bluegrass in the Schools** - Cheryl informed the board that a group is coming to Blazier Elementary school on March 26 to do in-class presentations for 3rd, 4th, and 5th grade students. We should also look into pursuing grant opportunities to get an ongoing program in place.

March Meeting:

The next CTBA meeting is scheduled for **Sunday, March 11, at 3 pm at Hill's**

Adjournment:

Cheryl made a motion that the meeting be adjourned. Hunter seconded the motion. Motion passed by unanimous vote.