

CTBA Board meeting minutes 02/12/2025

Attendees:

Jon Lundbom - President
Lenny Nichols - Treasurer
Roam Gunn - Secretary
Julian Root - Board Member
Hannah Giardino - Board Member
John Downing - Board Member
Simon Waxman - Board Member
Chelsea Burns - Board Member
Kyle Kline - Board Member

Absentees: None

Call to Order

Jon called the meeting to order at 6:33 PM.

Approval of Jan-2025 Minutes

- Chelsea moved to approve the Jan 2025 minutes (as amended*).
 - **Amendment:* Jon moved to donate \$400 to Cabin 10 for the non-profit Donkey Grass bluegrass festival in exchange for three tickets, CTBA branding on their posters and promotion, and the ability to table at the event
 - Kyle seconded
 - Simon, Lenny, Hannah, Julian, Roam and John voted in favor; motion passes
 - Chelsea abstained
 - Jan 2025 minutes have been updated.

Treasurer's Report (January 2025)

- Discussion on AffiniPay fees and strategies to lower costs.
- Lenny moved to approve the report.
- Jon seconded.
- Motion approved unanimously.

Membership Update

- 220 active members as of February 12, 2025.

Scholarship Update

- ArtistWorks has agreed to provide an unspecified number of scholarships.
- Kyle updated the board on his plan to connect with local music educators.
- Discussion about playing pop up shows for students and educating them about Bluegrass and how to get involved.

Band Scramble & Garage Sale

- Initial venue: Suds Monkey on **Sunday, March 30**.
- John noted we may have a scheduling conflict with Donkey Grass; however, given that their shows are Friday and Saturday, Sunday might still be a feasible date.
- Jon will discuss with Cabin 10.
- Alternative dates were considered.
- Board agreed on the need for promotional efforts and instrument donations.
- Jon suggested hiring a sound engineer and will research costs. Board members were encouraged to reach out to their networks for available engineers.

Memorial Day Festival

- **New Venue:** St. Elmo, Springdale Rd – **Sunday, May 18**.
- Discussion on hiring a professional band vs. member bands.
 - Pros and cons were debated regarding local vs. external talent.
- Hannah suggested hiring a videographer to document the event.
 - Hannah will explore options.
- Board agreed that the CTBA Memorial Day Festival should continue to highlight and celebrate CTBA member bands.
- Discussion about using CTBA member bands to open and perhaps hiring a more established CTBA member band to headline.

Annual Meeting

- **Booking:** Volume Five was approved in the January 2025 meeting and is booked.
- **Confirmed Date:** November 16.
- **Venue & Ticketing Discussion:**
 - Board discussed logistics of booking private vs public events in local venues. This included discussion about ticketed vs free event.
- **Venue selection for 11/16/25**
 - Undecided, but Sagebrush is the leading option given our existing relationship, their flexibility, the quality of the sound system, and that there is no venue fee.
 - Other options considered: Radio East, Meanwhile, New St. Elmo, Austin Beerworks.
- Julian clarified that this event does not need to be promoted as the “CTBA Annual Meeting.” It could be something like “CTBA Fall Bluegrass Extravaganza”.
 - A message can be sent to membership notifying them that this is the Annual Meeting.

Additional Updates

- **CTBA Underwriting Announcement:**
 - Simon reported that the announcement, which airs every Sunday on Strictly Bluegrass KOOP, had to be shortened and background music removed.

- **South by SouthGrass – Radio East (March 8)**
 - Board discussed the idea of setting up a CTBA table.
 - Jon shared that there are limitations on how the CTBA can promote/engage with an event if the event is for-profit vs non-profit.
 - Julian emphasized that marketing materials should not imply this is a CTBA (or KOOP) event.

Adjournment

- Meeting adjourned at 7:37 PM.

Next Meeting: 03/12/25

Prepared by: Roam Gunn

Date: 2/14/25