

Chippewa Valley Blues Society Meeting January 12, 2010

The meeting of the Chippewa Valley Blues Society was at Shari's Chippewa Club on January 12th at 7:00 pm. Those in attendance included: Tom Murray, Gordy Pillar, Bill Johnson, Duane Kebshull, Snapshot and Lisa Vandewalle, Ken Fulgione, Dan Callan, Pete Pappas, Rob Edwards, Debbie and Mike Fischer, John Berman, Eric Johnson, Mike Kelley, Buck Barrickman and Mary Dettmann.

Items on the agenda:

Approval of November meeting minutes: Motion and seconded.

Treasurer's Report:

General fund: \$3,280.61

Tuesday Night Blues fund: \$4,865.43

Recent costs include:

\$142.98 – Blues Summit expense (meeting of various Blues Societies in Grafton, Wisconsin.)

\$ 12.00 – DigiCopy (cost of posters for March 2010 "Lust" event)

Possible bill for Volume One, unknown as to what it's for, but Ken will follow up on this and request Volume One separate accounts, and detail what they are billing.

The report was accepted, motioned and seconded.

Non-Profit Update:

Discussion entailed about how to handle and who will follow up with Terry Stanley as to what further information is needed to finalize our non-profit status and file the 5013C forms. Also, we need to request a copy of CVBS 2008 tax return. Ken will contact Terry and set up a meeting with her and the By Laws committee to put in writing the remaining answers to the questions needed for the document. Snapshot will stop at her office and request the 2008 tax documents. If needed, we will request by certified letters, the pertinent information be provided to us by January 29, 2010. They will report back at the February meeting. Motioned and seconded.

Nominations:

Our annual meeting in February 2010 will include election of officers. The following nominations include:

Secretary: Debbie Fischer and Mary Dettmann as co-secretaries, accepted.

Treasurer: Lisa Vandewalle, accepted.

Vice-President: Mike Fischer, Eric Johnson, accepted.

President: John Berman, accepted.

Additional officers: Communication Director: Pete Pappas, accepted.

We decided to table adding additional officers until our next meeting in February. At the annual meeting we will vote and add additional nominees.

Tuesday Night Blues Committee (TNB):

The Convention Bureau grant was denied, but stated they will assist with posting events and directing us with forms for possible fundraising ideas and sponsors. Reassigned positions are as follows: Chair – Mike Fischer, Treasurer – John Berman, Media – Dan Callan, Facilities – Eric Johnson. Other committee members include Dano, Gordy Pillar and Mike Kelley.

The “Tuesdays on the Road” idea for promoting a Tuesday Blues Night at a different location in the off-season has been tabled for now. Rob Edwards offered Shari’s Chippewa Club anytime.

New ideas:

A rain date location was suggested. The Grand Little Theater on West Grand Ave. offered their facility for use. This would be advertised so public would know in advance where to go if there is rain.

Another idea is to offer sponsors option of placing a coupon in the weekly flyer for attendees to use, this may increase business for sponsors. The Court’n House noticed an increase in business on Tuesdays after the show in the park.

A merchandise coordinator is needed to organize the setup of the tent, sale of t-shirts and line up volunteers to help with the event. Snapshot took this over last year and volunteered to the appointment of merchandise coordinator.

Membership:

Ken suggested do a phone tree to remind members of the annual meeting, ask for feedback and let them know about future events. The thought was that a more personal contact would let them know we need their involvement and support. Volunteers to call include: Debbie Fischer, Buck Barrickman, Eric Johnson, John Berman, Mary Dettmann, Gordy Pillar and Rob Edwards.

Website:

A suggestion was made to develop a contact point for members and musician. Add a “flicker” account for uploading pictures and information. Pete Pappas volunteered to set up an account, will need to a log-in to post pictures. Ken brought up a service that sends out a questionnaire to a database, it’s a free service and can narrow down what type on contacts to send this to. Question was brought up if we want to do this or not. Ken will bring further information to future meeting. We could use to gather information.

New Business:

State Blues Summit Meeting:

Rob Edwards and Dan Callan were CVBS representatives that went to Grafton, WI to attend a Blues Summit, attended by other groups from around the state and Midwest area. Some groups were from Grafton, Wausau, Iowa and Illinois, plus a blues magazine. The goal is to look into coordinating efforts to promote blues music. Most groups focus on fundraising and sponsor local talent to send to the IBF in Memphis. This is part of belonging to the Blues Foundation at a cost of \$250.00 per year. Some ideas that came up were marketing together to cut costs, promote a blues magazine that would provide links to blues in the Midwest. We requested a report on pros/cons of joining the IBF. This was the initial meeting that our group attended, so there will be further discussion in the future.

Blues in the Schools:

Ken Fulgione and Sue Orfield are working on a program and will present at a later date.

3rd Annual meeting:

The annual meeting will be held on Feb. 9th at the Metopolis Motel/Action City in Eau Claire at 7:00 pm. Left Wing Bourbon will perform following the meeting. The challenge was made to bring one other person to the meeting. Items for the agenda include: Tuesday Night Blues report, additional nominations and election of officers, IBF report, merchandise ideas, and ideas for the blues mobile.

New Business:

Suggestion was made to advertise our monthly meeting schedule in Volume One.

Dan Callan had a sample of a postcard advertising upcoming events/schedules that costs \$39.00 for 1,000 copies. We could use one for Lust III and another for the TNB schedule. We could hand out and/or mail them.

Snapshot suggested that we purchase additional merchandise with our printed logo. Costs include: sunglasses = \$170.00 for 100 pairs, can coolers = 150-200 items for \$0.65. We will discuss at later date.

Snapshot suggested we add an event to bring Lil' Ed & the Blues Imperials to Eau Claire on March 28. We could book them for \$1,000 using the routing aspect since he will be playing in Wausau the night before. We decided to table this for this year and look into that for our Lust for Blues IV next year.

Snapshot requested that we put the WHYS radio logo on our website.

Rob Edwards invited all to the Deepwater Reunion CD release party at Shari's Chippewa Club this Saturday, January 16th.

Meeting schedules for 2010 were decided for the following:

Feb. 9th – The Metropolis, Eau Claire

Mar. 9th – Shari's Chippewa Club, Durand

Apr. 13th – Eau Claire?

May 11th – Stout Ale House, Menomonie

Meeting was adjourned.

The next meeting will be our Annual meeting on Tuesday, February 9, 2010 at 7:00 pm at the Metropolis in Eau Claire. Remember to bring a friend, and enjoy the music of Left Wing Bourbon.