



EXECUTIVE MEETING MINUTES

DATE: January 15,2025

TIME: 7:30 p.m.

LOCATION: Zoom

PRESENT: Gordon Cameron, Kathryn Chirametli, Jane Clifton, Laura Cristiano, Dan Grieve, Kamara Hennessey, Steven Hewis.

REGRETS:

1. Call to Order: 7:33 pm

I) Regrets: Lisa Liang, Marie Limanni, Jeff Reynolds, Joanne Romanow, Paula-Ann Simon.

II) Adoption of the Agenda/Amendments:

a) Amendments:

i) **Section 6. Next Meeting** should be left blank.

ii) Add **Section 4. VI) Burlington Welsh Male Chorus Fundraiser.**

Gord moved to adopt the Agenda as amended. Laura seconded the motion. Vote: All in favour; carried.

2. Minutes from the November 20, 2024 meeting:

I) Adoption of the Minutes from November 20, 2024:

a) Amendments:

i) **Section 4. III) Strategic Planning Day Follow-up:** should read: “ Dan said he would like to formalize the role of Jeff as section leader for the tubas and euphoniums (not trombones and euphoniums).

ii) **Section 4. I)** The heading is missing and should read: **Online Account Access Policy:**

Gord moved to adopt the Minutes as read and amended. Jane seconded the motion. Vote: All in favour; carried.

II) Business arising from the minutes: Nil report

3. Reports:

I) Treasurer’s Report:

The Report has been posted on the forum under **Christmas 2024 Recap**. Dan will repost it on the forum for review by the end of the meeting.

In summary, the band has exceeded its fundraising goals for 2024. Donations in 2024 were up about \$3000 over 2023. Gord will pitch personal donations in *Notations* as there is still time to claim donations in the extended tax year. ROCK finally cashed their check.

Jane moved to adopt the Treasurer’s Report as presented. Laura seconded the motion. Vote: All in favour; carried.

II) Director of Music Report:

Joanne has confirmed that programming is complete for the Feb. 28th concert. One additional piece will be added to the concert program. The Program Committee meets again on Jan. 17 to focus on the concert for Spring 2025.

III) Fundraising Report:

Steve reported that the band is extending its application for the St. Stephen's Endowment Fund. He looked into the Arts and Culture Fund grant from the City of Burlington but found that the band is not eligible because it already receives a gift-in-kind from the City.

Jane moved to adopt the Director and Fundraising Reports as read. Laura seconded the motion. Vote: All in favour; carried.

4. New Business/Other Business:

I) Online Account Policy:

Gord reported that Marie has had a lot of useful input into the policy and he will review the policy with her again before the Executive takes its final review and votes on it.

II) Food Band Donation: The donation will be discussed in **Section 5.I) Christmas 2024.**

III) Burlington Welsh Male Chorus: The honorarium will be discussed in **Section 5. I) Christmas 2024.**

IV) Contracts for Director of Music and Assistant Conductor:

Gord moved to approve the contracts in camera (no minutes to be taken). Kathryn seconded the motion. Vote: All in favour; carried.

Gord moved to go back into open session. Dan seconded the motion. All in favour; carried.

Gord further moved that President Steven Hewis negotiate a 3 year contract with Joanne under the terms discussed in camera. Laura seconded the motion. All in favour; carried.

V) Strategic Planning Day:

Steve has not yet met with section leaders but he will do so shortly.

VI) Burlington Welsh Male Chorus Fundraising:

Steve reported that Bruce YoungBlud from the BWMC is looking for a partner to run a fundraising draw called, "Catch the Ace". The BWMC has applied for an OLG licence which will cover the band if we decide to partner with them. Gord explained how the lottery works and said it's very lucrative. Steve will find out more details about how the BWMC would use our help. It's likely volunteers are needed to sell tickets for the weekly draws leading up to the final jackpot. Dan reminded the Executive that an agreement should be in writing as there is a lot of money at stake. Steve will get back to Bruce to find out when the lottery will take place, where it will be held and if it will be virtual.

VII) Concert and Event Schedule (Appendix A)

5. 2024/2025 SEASON

I) CHRISTMAS 2024

Subsection A – Information:

The Candlelight Stroll and 2 parades went well. A lot of the same people from the band participated. The drivers were enthusiastic about volunteering their time. Doug McAllister who drove in the Flamborough parade has offered his heated garage for us to use when decorating our trailer next year. All three events happened close together in 2024 but that will not happen in 2025.

Our Christmas Concert was almost sold out. However, there were some logistical issues. The ticketing process was cumbersome. Ushers found it difficult to seat people once the room was packed. On the other hand, the tear down was efficient. Dan has been recognized for his contribution to organizing the transportation of our gear.

Over 50 members attended the Christmas social. Everyone had a great time at the dinner.

Subsection B – Actions:

There was some discussion of ways to improve ticket taking at our concerts. Steve explained that tickets are issued through Canada Helps. We get a spreadsheet with the names of ticket holders. Problems occur with blocks of tickets bought in someone else's name. Ideally, we'd want tickets that can be sent by email with QR codes that can be scanned at each concert. We don't currently have the funds to purchase this type of software. Gord suggested that in order to speed up the process we wave through anyone with a ticket in hand.

Dan moved to donate \$1,500 from the Christmas Concert proceeds to the Burlington Food Bank and \$500 to the Burlington Welsh Male Chorus. Gord seconded the motion. Vote: All in favour; carried.

II) FEBRUARY 2025

Subsection A – Information:

The candlelight concert is scheduled for Feb. 28, at Grace United Church, 7 pm. The theme and music have been decided by the Program Committee. Already 7 or 8 tickets have been sold. Kamara dropped off 7 posters at the Central Library. She also advised staff that the money collected at the concert will go towards supporting the Halton Learning Foundation. The Seniors' Centre no longer accepts posters for concerts where tickets are sold. A battery candle acquisition program is now underway. Band members are working on obtaining candles for the concert.

Subsection B – Action items:

Volunteers are needed for the set up (chairs and candlesticks), for the ticket desk, and for tear down. Gord will put a request for volunteers in the next issue of *Notations*. Gord will also send out an eblast about the upcoming concert this Sunday.

V) SPRING 2025

Subsection A – Information:

The concert is scheduled for May 4th at Grace United Church, 4 p. m.

Subsection B – Action Items:

The Program Committee will meet this Friday, Jan. 17 to plan the theme and music for this concert. Steve suggested the end of January to have the poster ready to go to the printer's.

6. Other New Business:

Gord suggested a new social event for a group of 20 -25 band members. Would there be an interest in organizing a Blue Jays night out? More on this later...

7. Next Meeting: Steve will send out a poll to the Executive to decide on one of two options: **Thurs. Feb. 20 or Monday 17(Family Day).**

8. Motion to Adjourn: Gord moved to adjourn at 9:08 p.m. Dan seconded the motion. Vote: All in favour; carried.

