

New Horizons Program (NHPC) Council Meeting

Minutes of October 30, 2018

Present: Sue Ames, Juli Elliot, Petar Kodzas, Linda Marsters, Patrice Ristuccia, David Stern, Susie Truesdell

Approval of minutes – The minutes from the meeting of January 23, 2018, were approved as written.

NH Budget and Funding Update – Petar reported that there is usually about a \$22,000 shortfall each year in the budget for NH. Music expenses have been reined in this year. There is currently \$10,000 in the New Horizons Program Fund.

NH Registration Update - Petar reported that there are 243 NH members registered (242 in 2017). Because many are in more than one ensemble, there are 418 ensemble registrations (300-346 in 2017, uncertainty about the accuracy of recording this information). Green Band has grown from 33 members to 46. Chorus has grown to 29 members. Most other ensembles have about the same numbers as last year. NH comprises 15% of the ECMS student body.

NH Gifts Committee – No report at this time. Peter Webster and his wife have made a significant gift to support the NH program. There was discussion about the many ways monetary donations can be made including creation of endowments. It was agreed that this is an area that should be developed and promoted.

NH Website – Sue reported that the website committee is in the process of updating the Musicians link for the website. New members and photos are being added and the names of former members are being removed. Ron Uhlig is available to take member photos and members are encouraged to submit brief bios for posting. If anyone sees names listed on this link of people who are no longer participating in NH, please let a website committee member know.

NH License Plate Frames – These are available from Angela Mambro (Symphonic Band and Orchestra member.)

saleable it occurs to me that we need to reduce the work load of the president. It also occurs to me that we now have committees that report to the boards, and the boards make the decisions. This requires lots of meetings.

My suggestion would be to let committees make most necessary decisions but be able to call on an Executive Committee if they wished a broader participation in making a decision. Committees are usually made up of people who have an interest and knowledge in a particular aspect of the daily operation. Combine the band council and program council boards and meet no more than 3 times a year in Sept-Oct, January-February and May. So here is how I would structure our operation in an effort to reduce the workload.

1. One Bands/Orchestra/Ensemble Council with representatives from each. The larger ensembles could have representatives from various units of the ensemble. Officers would be President, Vice President, Treasurer, Secretary. Meetings would be three times a year. A seven person Executive Committee of officers and three other at-large members could meet as required to make necessary decisions. For example committees and or individuals could petition the president for a executive committee meeting to assist in making a decision.
 - A. September/October meetingorganizational with reports from committees
 - B. January/February....Report from ECMS and committees
 - C. May....report from directors of the larger ensembles ie state of the program
2. Numerous committees who would make up there own schedule of meetings necessary to conduct their business:
 - A. Christmas Party
 - B. Hospitality/coffee hour
 - C. Public Relations
 - D. Gig/Red band
 - E. Play it Forward
 - F. Web Site
 - G. History
 - H. NH License plate frame
 - I. Music preparation and distribution

New Horizons Program Council Minutes
Meeting of January 23, 2018

Present: Sue Ames, Juli Elliot, Petar Kodzas, Arthur Kolko, Mike McKain, Patrice Ristuccia, David Stern, Gwenn Voelkers, Kathy Weber

Guest: Laural Harrington

Approval of Minutes - The minutes of the meeting on October 10, 2017, were amended with this addition: P. Brown gave C. Hain \$700 collected by Elaine Brigman's bridge group in honor of her. The money will be deposited in the New Horizons Program Council.

NH Gifts & Bequests Committee

Sue Ames reported for the committee members that they are interested in continuing to encourage members to donate to the NH Program Fund. They suggested that consideration should be given to changing back to its original name, "NH Gifts Committee", and omit the "Bequests" part. There is already a process in place through ESM for creating legacies.

NH Budget and Funding Update

Enrollment in New Horizons has increased. There are 242 members and registration for ensembles is 346, reflecting that some members play in more than one ensemble. Petar anticipates that there may be an increase cost in rental of the church when the contract for next year is negotiated. He is uncertain whether or not there will be an increase in tuition. There is now in place a process requiring approval for the purchase of music for ensembles. There is still some money in the budget for this year for music purchases.

NH Registration Update

Petar is aware of the difficulties with registration and payment of tuition for the fall semester. He anticipates the situation has been corrected and bills for spring semester will be sent out soon. He will be reviewing the tuition for each ensemble since this seems to vary quite a bit. The term Green Band will now be used consistently to describe the beginning band. It was noted that online registration for participation in more than one ensemble is not possible on one registration form. An orchestra camp is planned for June at Keuka College.

NH Website – S. Ames reported that the Musicians page has been updated to reflect current enrollment in New Horizons for 2017-2018. The Committee asks that members let the Committee know if there are names that need to be added or deleted from the page. NH Program council reps were reminded that performances by their ensembles should be added to the Calendar page of the website. Information should be sent to Steve Whitman, Webmaster. stevewhitman27@gmail.com

NH License Plate Frames – Angela Mambro has determined that many NH members are interested in purchasing frames and will soon be ordering them. The cost per frame will most likely be less than \$5.00.

December Holiday Party – Reps reported reactions to the party from members of their ensembles that attended. There were many positive comments including praise for the food. Concerns

included slow dinner service, location of the band preferring the location previously used, and interest in a different venue. Sue Ames reported that Band Council will be reviewing other possible venues for 2019 at its meeting on Thursday, March 1, 2018. The party for 2018 will remain at Midvale.

Future of the NH Program Council – Reps discussed whether or not this Council is needed and generally agreed that it is. There is interest in exploring the feasibility of merging with the Band Council. The Program Council needs new reps and more reps. Some current reps have served on the Council since its inception four years ago. A new chairperson will be need since Sue Ames will end her term in 2019.

Other

S. Ames reported that there has been a good response to the church's concern about NH members using the door designated for use only by the nursery school. Issues regarding where NH members and staff should park also seems to be resolved. NH members need to adhere to the church's guideline that there is to be no food or beverages in the Sanctuary (auditorium).

P, Kodzas reported that the ECMS website has a feature called *Noteworthy* that is similar to a blog featuring evergreen topics. He invited members of New Horizons to submit comments of 300 words or less in response to the question, "Why should I continue to study music as an older adult?" We should easily be able to answer that!

Presentation about New Horizons Program - Presentations about New Horizons have been made in the community in a variety of places. This is important for recruiting new members and for increasing attendance at our performances. If anyone is interested in doing a presentation or knows of a group that would like a presentation, we have a nice PowerPoint presentation that includes video clips from our documentary, *Music for Life: The Story of New Horizons*, that can be used. When possible small ensembles have also performed at these presentations. Contact Sue Ames (samesRN@gmail.com) or Ron Uhlig (ron.uhlig@gmail.com) for more information.

Next meeting - Will be scheduled for the fall semester.

Sue Ames, Recorder