



The regular monthly meeting of the Kalamazoo Concert Band was held on Monday, February 26, 2024, at 7:30 p.m., via a virtual web session, the President being in the chair and the Secretary being present.

Present: J. Rojeski, S. Wolfenbarger, M. McMinn, M. Andres, M. Bass, L. Ellis, N. Iavagnilio, C. Lieurance, M. Momotiuk, S. Manders (ex-Officio), B. Shetterly (ex-Officio)

Absent: B. VanToll, T. Evans (ex-Officio)

Guests: R. Dudd, M. Ehle, M. Grear, J. Solis

The meeting was called to order at 7:34pm

1. Meeting Agenda Additions and/or Revisions
 - a. There were no additions or revisions to the agenda.
2. Secretary Report
 - a. M. Andres submitted the January 2024 minutes for approval, with no further corrections. L. Ellis moved to accept the minutes as submitted, M. Bass seconded the motion. The motion passed unanimously.
3. Treasurer Report
 - a. M. McMinn submitted the financial reports via email prior to the meeting. It has been determined that the organization must increase revenue in order to cover operating expenses.
 - b. L. Ellis moved to accept the Treasurer Report as submitted; the motion was approved unanimously.
4. Grants Report
 - a. Local vocalist Megan Dooley will be the guest artist for the December 2024 concert; it was determined that the band should strive for more of a holiday-themed music focus for the performance.
 - b. The publicity budget has been increased to allow for more advertising, including the purchase of renting billboard space.
 - c. J. Rojeski is continuing to work on the Stryker Grant and will also be contacting the Kalamazoo Community Foundation for additional funding.
 - d. M. Grear suggested expanding diversity within the ensemble; members of the African-American community are interested in the ensemble however; community members may not feel welcome as of yet.
 - e. C. Lieurance questioned if the ensemble is representing African-American, Hispanic, and women composers.
 - f. B. Shetterly stated he has a professional relationship with composer Julie Giroux, who participates in events all over the country. B. Shetterly stated he does not have an idea of what the cost may be to hire Ms. Giroux, but also stated that Ms. Giroux has an extensive catalog of compositions for wind ensembles and concert bands.
5. Small Groups Report
 - a. M. McMinn stated the Brass Quintet took a much needed break over the holidays; the quintet has started to rehearse again and are determining how additional revenue could be brought in by performing at outdoor summer concerts and retirement homes. The Woodwind Ensemble rehearses regularly; however, the ensemble still requires official approval from T. Evans.

- b. J. Rojeski stated friend of the band Dave Groendyk is interested in joining the KCB Board of Directors, and Mr. Groendyk could be a valuable asset for small groups and corporate sponsorships.
 - c. B. Shetterly proposed having a small groups “recital” with all the of the KCB small groups performing. J. Rojeski believes this would be a good fundraising concert, with the Kalamazoo State Theatre being a possible performance location. M. McMinn also suggested a recital of this kind would be good to perform at public parks during the warmer months.
6. Business Manager Report
- a. February 2024 Concert Recap
 - i. Despite the small audience of 350 attendees, the organization still received \$681⁰⁰ in donations. The smaller audience was attributed to other concerts and events in the area on the same evening, including the Kalamazoo Symphony Orchestra.
 - ii. The audience loved the performance and several of the visiting authors’ books were sold in the lobby of the auditorium.
 - iii. J. Rojeski stated both authors were pleased with the concert and the overall experience. Andy Mozina sold all of his remaining books and Bonnie Jo Campbell encouraged the ensemble to perform a future writer’s concert. The local bookstore Book Bug was also pleased about the number of sales they received as a result of the concert. J. Rojeski also stated that if the ensemble does perform a writer’s concert in the future, Book Bug is willing to work with the KCB on a joint collaboration.
 - b. April 2024 Concert Update
 - i. Promotional flyers and posters have been printed; S. Manders will bring these items to the February 29th rehearsal at KCHS.
 - c. Meetings
 - i. S. Manders met with the staff at Chenery Auditorium to discuss October 2023 concert issues. Both parties are working on getting issues and concerns resolved.
 - ii. Met with local public accounting and advisory firm Seber Tans, PLC regarding processing and streamlining procedures with their organization. S. Manders reported that everything is going well so far, and the issues may be solved.
 - iii. Met with KCB Librarians Dale and Marcia Working to discuss ordering three more file cabinets for the KCB Music Library. Two of the cabinets will be replaced (changing from four-drawer cabinets to five-drawer cabinets) and the third new cabinet will be an additional unit.
7. Conductor Report
- a. T. Evans submitted his report via email on Tuesday, February 27, 2024 (see below).
 - b. February 204 Concert Recap
 - i. T. Evans thanked the ensemble for an exceptional concert, and he was incredibly pleased with *Jericho*.
 - ii. Tom also extended a special “thank you” to Brian Shetterly for being ready to conduct the concert if he was needed, due to unforeseen circumstances.
 - iii. Prior to the performance:
 - 1. T. Evans had a wonderful interview on the WMUK program “Let’s Hear It” with host Cara Lieurance, and guests Andy Mozina, Bonnie Jo Campbell, and Jim Rojeski.
 - c. April 2024 Concert Update
 - i. T. Evans has selected the repertoire and shared it with the librarians. An audio links document has also been created to help the membership prepare for rehearsals.
 - ii. T. Evans has corresponded multiple times with WMU Physicist Dr. Paul Pancella, who will provide insights and commentary about our universe during the concert.

- iii. The use of Chenery Auditorium’s projector will be needed for Dr. Pancella’s PowerPoint and Pre-Show slides.
 - d. Miscellaneous
 - i. T. Evans has been working with the KCB Librarians to edit and reorganize the music library.
- 8. Assistant Conductor Report
 - a. 2024 Youth Soloist Competition
 - i. B. Shetterly announced that flutist Julianna Staufer was the winner of the Youth Soloist Competition and will be performing at the April 2024 concert. He feels Miss Staufer has a great stage presence and her choice of music will appeal to audience members.
 - ii. B. Shetterly would like to thank the following people for their time and effort during the competition:
 - 1. Kevin West and WMU for allowing the KCB to use Dalton Center facilities.
 - 2. WMU Student Assistant: Avery Bowman
 - 3. Registration Chairperson: Wendy Mazer
 - 4. Warm-Up Room Chairperson: Laurajane VanNiman
 - 5. Photographer: Don O’Donnell
 - 6. Adjudicators: Amanda Burdette, Christine Griffith, and Patty Rolfe-Stoll
 - iii. The band accompaniment for the soloist has been purchased from Ayotte Custom Music, with a total cost of \$129²⁰. B. Shetterly will forward the music to the KCB Librarians upon its arrival.
 - iv. B. Shetterly suggested raising the scholarship amount to \$1,500⁰⁰ to remain competitive with other area community bands, and he is working with Bobbi Lukowski of Marshall Music to see if their company would consider being a corporate sponsor. J. Rojeski suggested raising he scholarship amount to \$2,000⁰⁰.
 - b. 2024 Summer Concert Series
 - i. Confirmed Performance Dates:
 - 1. Bronson Park, Kalamazoo – Sunday, June 9, 2024 (60-minute concert)
 - 2. Three Rivers - Saturday, June 15, 2024
 - 3. Kindleberger Park, Parchment – Monday, July 15, 2024
 - ii. Rehearsal Dates:
 - 1. Tuesday, June 4th; Thursday, June 6th; Thursday, June 13th (if needed); Thursday, July 11th. S. Manders will reserve these dates with KCHS.
 - iii. Once all dates are 100% confirmed, B. Shetterly will poll the band for participation interest, and he would like to distribute the commitment forms no later than Thursday, March 21, 2024. He would like to see consistent attendance similar to last year, and he would like to have approximately seventy members participating.
 - iv. Repertoire for the summer concerts will be selected from the 2023-2024 concert season, in addition to other standard pieces (*Star Spangled Banner* and *Stars and Stripes*).
- 9. ProMotion Committee
 - a. M. Momotiuk was thanked for her work on the KCB website.
 - b. J. Rojeski to meet with the committee members to discuss ideas for the 2024-2025 concert season.
 - c. M. Momotiuk stated that advertising on Facebook for the February 2024 concert should have been done sooner.
- 10. Website and Facebook
 - a. The use of stock images and high-resolution images on both platforms was discussed.
- 11. December 2025 Concert
 - a. J. Rojeski would like Board Members to start thinking about the December 2025 concert as planning needs to begin earlier than normal.

- b. J. Rojeski would like any suggestions for guest artist(s) to be forwarded to him as soon as possible.

12. Loudness (Decibel) Standards

- a. M. McMinn stated that he and M. Bass determined who to contact at Miller Auditorium, and also stated that there is ample time before we need to talk to the Miller staff. The audibles in the mezzanine at Miller are not good, and we need to let Miller staff know what our concerns are.
- b. M. Bass stated there were not many noise complaints regarding Chenery Auditorium and that most of the issues are with Miller Auditorium. These complaints also are not about the KCB but instead the guest artist(s) as they tend to be over-amplified.
- c. M. McMinn suggested investing in a decibel meter for a better understanding of the issues at hand.

13. Communications

- a. “All-Board Meeting”
 - i. J. Rojeski stated that members have requested an “all-board meeting”.
 - ii. This meeting would have two main purposes:
 - 1. To tell the membership who we are and what we do
 - 2. To listen to the membership on any feedback they can provide to the Board.
 - iii. Other topics that could be discussed at the proposed meeting include:
 - 1. More challenging music
 - 2. Selection of music, especially holiday music
 - 3. Current financial situation and fundraising ideas
 - 4. Attendance
 - 5. Having a guest conductor
 - 6. More diverse composers
 - 7. More “classic” band literature
 - 8. N. Iavagnilio suggested polling the membership to determine any topics the membership would like to discuss.

14. Fundraising

- a. No direct report at this time; see various notes above regarding fundraising ideas and discussions.

15. Trademark Application

- a. J. Rojeski received an email regarding our trademark application but has not responded to the email as of yet due to being unsure of what further information is needed.

16. Board Elections 2024

- a. There are currently more candidates (6) than available openings (5)
- b. J. Rojeski would like a brief bio from each candidate to include on the ballot. He would also like the Board candidates address the band before voting occurs so candidates can establish why they are seeking election to the Board.
- c. The election process will take place electronically as it did in 2023.

17. Adjournment

- a. L. Ellis made a motion to conclude the meeting; M. McMinn seconded the motion. The motion to conclude the meeting was passed unanimously.

The meeting was adjourned at 9:28pm.

The next meeting is scheduled for Monday, March 25, 2024, at KRESA, located at 1819 E. Milham Avenue, Portage, MI 49002.

Michael Andres
Board Secretary
Submitted, 27 February 2024