

Bend Pops Board December 11, 2025

The meeting started at 5:43 p.m.

Present: Louise Brown, Kimberly Holland, Donna Mitchell, Chris Redgrave, Conductor Eddy Robinson, Judy Sissener, Stacey Weldon

Absent: Katie Adase, Chris Moody

Action Items:

- The November Minutes: Motion by Judy Sissener, 2nd by Chris Redgrave. Minutes approved.
- Vote on extending Lisa's board status (Stacey): Voted to extend Lisa's board status to end of term. Motion by Chris Redgrave, 2nd by Louise Brown. Motion approved.
 - Lisa will stay on board and continue Treasurer, Membership, and Scholarship duties for the rest of this term with Chris M assisting when possible. As Lisa learns the position, she will record Treasurer duties "how-to".
 - Chris M will check with the Secretary of State to see if we need to report temporary board members/positions and she will handle it if necessary.

Reports:

- Treasurer (Stacey): Reported and accepted. With the Treasurer out, Lisa will cover duties.
- Membership / Scholarship (Stacey): New members: 2 violins, 1 viola, 2 tubas, 1 French horn, 1 new percussion, and potentially another bass.
 - One scholarship given so far this term.
 - Specific instruments we could still use: violins and another bassoon. Otherwise most sections are capped.
 - Two trumpets officially not returning. Decision made to cap trumpet section at four.
- Fundraising (Judy): Awarded the Oregon Community Foundation grant - \$2,368
 - Need to reconcile what historically happened with previous grant writers and ensure what we've committed to occurs. Judy will set up a grant meeting and we will invite whoever is interested to participate. So far we have Judy, Stacey, and Lisa. The plan is to review past grants and future plans and get organized.
- Venues (Chris R & Stacey): Chris R will take on venues as Chris M would like to relinquish this position.
- Chris R brought up two additional actions for the long term:
 - (1) Meet with John at Trinity and discuss the new venue; how much interest there is in Bend Pops rehearsing and/or performing there, what do they have in the band room, etc.
 - (2) Redmond Community Concert Association - they pay people from out of town. We could meet with them to be one of their performers. Chris R's to-do list is to set up a meeting with Redmond and Stacey will go with him.
- From the conductor (Eddy): Good rehearsal last week. Working with Rich to order the next concert music. Was going with a movie theme but now with the composer commission the new idea is a "popspourri" (theme without a theme). How to Train Your Dragon, movies, commission piece. Eddy is looking back at piece submissions from members for more ideas

Old Business:

- Jen Stevenson, commissioned composer: Jen was hired to compose a piece for the Pops and visit Bend for a week to work with us, attend rehearsal and the concert. As of now, she's coming June 1-7.
 - Discussed Masterclasses that she would lead during the week. We need to decide on topics and if we're going to invite other groups, potentially Eddy's classes, maybe other music groups.
 - We should find out if we receive the Jen Stevenson grant in the next few weeks.
 - Zoom meeting scheduled January 9 for planning logistics. By then we will know if we received the grant and this could change what we do based on how much money we have. So far in the planning group we have Stacey, Anne DS, and hopefully Kim. If anyone else would like to join, they are welcome.
 - We also need to update her contract as it will expire before she gets here. Stacey will look at that.
- Beat Beethoven 5k: Do we want to pursue? We'd need a separate time to talk logistics e.g., venue possibilities, dates, logistics, only Pops or collaboration, fall event, fundraiser or just a fun activity and ask for donations etc. Per Eddy this is a large undertaking but also nationally recognized.
- We need a fact-finding mission. COSA would have info from the past. Talk to Tanya, previous director of the symphony.

- Kim asked - why don't we do anything in the summer months? Eddy needs time off but would not be opposed if it was not a huge commitment. Rehearsal space might be challenging in schools. We would need to find a summer venue, maybe small ensembles in the summer.

New Business

- Winter concert planning: "Screen Time"
 - Do we want to do anything special like a costume contest, inviting a dance group to have kids in costumes, screen playing in background, etc? Other ideas? Will add to concert flyer - invite for people/kids to wear video game/TV themed costumes.
 - Video: in the past James did a huge video content "Godzilla thing" at Mtn View, a rear projection (per Eddy - use black background and top of presentation screen to avoid light in performers eyes).
 - Need to check on performing rights.
 - Parade: idea to re-play a piece and let people walk across stage in costumes, give kids candy (chocolate coins?). Maybe video game themed.
- Spring second concert venue - Burns: costs, logistics, contact Burns, bus quote, percussion needs. Survey members and see who will go (choose pieces based on instrument numbers attending). Assuming we get the grant, we would do outreach now, concerts in summer, feedback in fall. Now that we're doing commissioned work, would Jen want to go to Burns and play it twice? Could we potentially hold this on a different weekend? Kim suggested choosing harder music for ensembles.
- Action Items:
 - Chris R - flowchart of what needs to happen for Burns, info gathering, etc, to see if Burns is a go or no go. Madras is another idea for location if Burns doesn't work out.
 - Eddy will think about how to present Burns' idea to members.
- Uber/ride-sharing (Kim) - write up an application similar to scholarship where people could apply for medical reasons, car breaks down, etc. Judy inquired what money amounts. She also suggested applying to a foundation for a grant to help pay for it. Kim also suggested asking taxi services in Bend to partner with Pops? Enviroshuttle as an idea for a service. Eddy asked is this a need? Per Kim, this would be a failsafe in case members need it.
- Action Item:
 - Kim will research how much money this would require and options.
- Also discussed ideas to let members connect with each other to find their own rides. Have a rideshare board on member site? Requirement to use for 18+.
- New ideas (Open floor) - Ask Gesme to conduct something for us before he leaves? Eddy will ask him.

The meeting was adjourned at 7:00 pm.

The next meeting is scheduled for January 8, 5:15 pm.

Respectfully submitted,
Donna M. Mitchell