

Bend Pops Orchestra Monthly Board Meeting Minutes for September 10, 2026

The meeting was called to order at 5:16 PM

Present: Kim Holland, Donna Mitchell, Chris Moody, Chris Redgrave, Eddy Robinson, Judy Sissener, Stacey Weldon

Action Items:

- September Board Meeting Minutes - Motion to approve by Chris Redgrave, 2nd by Chris Moody. The motion passed and the minutes will be entered into the records.
- Venues and set-up crew - Rehearsal spaces are approved. Main concert dates are pending the auditorium manager's signature.
- Treasurer's Report & 26/27 Budget - Treasurer's Report circulated and accepted. The budget is projected to be \$9,300 in the black; a significant improvement over prior years. The Small Ensemble Committee will develop a formal operating proposal for board review.
- Membership - 75 members (maybe 3 more); 22 violins.
- Fundraising and Grants - Oregon Cultural Development Grant: \$5,000 for general operating expenses. NEA Grant: \$12,000 included in income projections.
- Scholarship Fund: Strong with a \$1,890 carryover and a new \$2,000 donation from Barbara Noel.
- Venmo: The recent ensemble concert showed Venmo donations equaled cash donations indicating strong potential for future revenue growth.

On-Going Business:

- Board Secretary position - Tracy Nelson (flute) has expressed interest and will attend the October meeting for an interview.
Posters - A single poster was approved for both Madras and Bend concerts to save costs.
Fall concerts:
Programs - Leslie will design. Stacey will recruit a volunteer to manage program advertising for future concerts.
Central Oregon Music & Theater News - The \$85.00 annual subscription was renewed for weekly ads and concert news flashes.
Photography - Audrey is confirmed for all concerts, including Madras, at no extra travel cost.
- Madras Concert: Logistics Set - The Madras concert will proceed with a hybrid transport plan (bus + mileage reimbursement) and with a new community outreach effort via a potential collaboration with a Warm Springs student group. Venue is secured for \$650.00 including chairs, stands, and percussion.

New Business

- Ensembles - The Spork Restaurant, NW Newport Ave, is offering its venue for free small ensemble concerts. Available for Bend Pops use on Sundays (restaurant closed) except for the 2nd Sunday of each month. Includes chairs and ice. Donna will be the liaison with Spork. The committee will plan monthly concerts (e.g. 3-4 groups, 10 minute sets) to manage crowd size and provide frequent performance opportunities. Spork will provide a manager on-site to assist us. Bend Pops will pay for the manager's time.

The meeting adjourned at 6:23 PM

Next meeting: October 8th at 5:15 PM

Respectfully submitted,
Donna M. Mitchell