

Lehigh Valley Blues Network
Board of Directors Meeting
Location – Emmaus Firehouse #1
Date- 11/20/2005

Walt Garvin: President
Jim Mertz: Vice President
Don Plowman: Treasurer
Dr Jeff Zlotnick: Secretary

Assembly: Glenn Wasserman, Rich Lundberg, John White, Dan Guerrera, Daryl Nerl
Recorded absent: none

Agenda approval –

Walt called the meeting to order at 5:00PM Motioned John, seconded Dan, Agenda approved.

LVBN Finances –

Current balance \$1305. (there was approx. \$3000 prior to B Smith and Bluesnet). Concerned was raised that this was the lowest balance so far. So, there is a need to replenish funds. We still owe firehouse about \$300-500. Need to look for other sources of income (ie; ads in Bluesnet; see below)

Need to look into better/more merchandising. Could use a raffle ie; t-shirts to raise revenue.

Bluesnet-

Need to get more from advertising. Don needs info on where to bill for ads. There is only approx. \$100 worth of ads in the current issue.

Spring Showcase-

We will be unable to use Springtown Rod & Gun Club on May 21st. May be OK on May 14th and it will be definitely open June 4th. Price is \$200 to rent; includes membership so next time would be \$150. May 14th is Mother's Day, so looking at June 4th. Concern was over who has a liquor license and liability. The Club has a "club" license and we can get a 1 day liquor license. Need to look in 1 day (short term) liability coverage. June 4th passed by consensus.

Discussion about entertainment format: local bands vs regional acts. There was a discussion about paying local acts because we do have to pay for the regional acts. Prior showcases had regional acts played gratis to help raise money for LVBN. There was concern raised about local bands being asked to play another benefit for gratis.

Bylaws –

Copy sent out to all. No major changes. Mostly, this review cleared up ambiguities. According to the current bylaws, an new set does not require membership vote. The committee was OK with the changes. Board may also vote on or ratify bylaws.

Issues: Gen Membership meetings. Need to stick to either quarterly or biannual. Passed to change to bi-annual.

Number on the Board: set as 5 & 4 officers. Alternating Pres/VP election. In 07 would start with 1 year term for VP. Then, each would be voted in for a 2 year term, but elections would now be alternating. Treasurer would be an appointed position and a member of the board.

Voting: 1 vote for membership (ONLY primary member can vote) No absentee or proxy votes.
Winner by plurality

Issue was raised about members running for both an officer and a board position. It was raised that other organizations vote for officers first, those who do not get a position and then run for the board. However, it was decided that a member can only run for 1 position per election. This way there will be only 1 voting session

Jams -

Last Emmaus jam will be 12/11 (not 18). First new jam will be 1/8/06.

No jam on Superbowl Sunday. The survey results were discussed. Issues: -gaming license for 50/50
-Price of drinks/food

Usually bring \$40-50 from each 50/50, and 30-40 from door. There was concern about longer term commitment with either place. Concerns were also raised about Club 316 heating during winter
Will send a group to both Indulge and Club 316 to discuss needs.

Elections 2006-

All but Pres/VP Treasurer are up for election. Feb 12, 2006 Time & Location TBD

Byther Smith Show-

We raised \$1050 at door. Costs: Band \$1000; Rooms \$240. Therefore total was a loss of \$190.

However, it was noted that we have lost much more at other shows. The purpose of the organization is to bring good shows such as this to the Lehigh Valley and have the affordable for our members!

Midnight Shift may ask us to front them \$500. This is usually reimbursed after IBC.

Firehouse Fridays 11/4 Mike Dugan Cost LVBN \$170/show Next one is 1/6/06 with the Mississippi Pig Farmers

Membership-

Discussion was around having the Newsletter be \$5 extra for printed, or free online. Other option would be to increase membership by \$5 to cover costs of printed & mailed version. This option will be kept open for future discussions.

Membership: ~272, non-paying 101. (180 inactive) Walt suggested offering \$20 now to get membership now (prepay) because next year the rate is going to be raised to \$25. It was unanimous vote to raise the primary person rate to \$25.

Discussion: whether or not to stop the jam cards. Options discussed were: 6 times at \$3 to become a member; or change to fill card and get a membership at ½ price; or join now at \$20 or next year at \$25. Voted no change.

Web-

Glenn will be taking membership list off the website. Need to get the inactive #s off line

Adjournment –motioned Dan , seconded Glenn, Meeting adjourned. 6:40

Next meeting – 12/11 before jam