

Board Members -- Present:

President: Bob Williams
Vice President: Marshall Brown
Treasurer: Jon Jenkins
Secretary: Bill Erskine
Past President: Jeff Tallant
Charter Director/At Large: Peter Smith
Communications Chair: Bob Davis

Absent:

Membership Chair: Gordon Jones
At Large: Jean Jones
At Large: Wayne Walker
Education: OPEN
Activities: OPEN
Regulatory: OPEN
Giving Rural Assistance: OPEN

There being a quorum present, Bob Williams called the meeting to order at 11:05 a.m. and gave an invocation.

Standing Agenda/Old Business – Treasurer and Committee Reports.

Approval of Minutes: Bill Erskine presented the proposed minutes of the January 11, 2013 meeting, which were approved with one correction, adding that Bob Davis is Chair of the Communications Committee and a Board Member.

Treasurer: Jon Jenkins gave the report. January 2014 cash flow shows \$1,125 in income and \$825 in expenses, primarily for insurance and the recent mailing to all members. Three additional members since the report was prepared add another \$75 to income.

Membership: Gordon Jones was absent, but Jon Jenkins reported that we now have 51 paid members, an increase from the 33 members at the January meeting.

Communications: After clarification that Bob Davis is still the Communications Chair, the Board had considerable discussion of how best to effectively communicate to members. The last mailing included many former members, going back several years. Motion was made and approved that in view of the cost of mailings, future mailings be limited to current paid members and the immediate prior year members, in hopes of regaining prior members. This can be re-evaluated periodically. Email is least costly and reaches most members, but not all, and email addresses can change without notice to MABA. Mailings are anticipated 3-4 times per year given the present activities being very limited. A brief newsletter would be desirable, perhaps quarterly. Communication to the Board can be at meetings, by email or mail, or personal communication. Members should be notified in mailings to give notice to the Board or Membership Chair of any address changes, both mail and email. It was noted that to get on the yahoo group email service, members should go to MABA@yahoogroups.com to sign up.

Education: Chair position is open, no report or discussion.

Activities: Chair position is open. Discussion was held again about the pick-camping event, including moving the event up to October 11, which is also the date for the October meeting. Input from members will be appreciated.

Regulatory: Chair position is open, but the annual functions are being handled by Jon Jenkins as Treasurer.

Giving Rural Assistance: Chair position is open, no report. Jean Jones has been sending out bereavement letters.

New Business – Future of the organization.

1. Scope of the organization. Marshall Brown presented the suggestion that we make the organization more open and welcoming to more varieties of folk music, particularly “old-time” music, which has been played at the weekly jams for some time, along with country music and other alternative genre. After discussing definitions,

practicality and how to communicate, it was decided at this point to not propose a name change for the organization, but to try to find ways in other communications to make this broadening of scope known to both members and potential members. As to the jam sessions in particular, it was noted that we have four rooms available for several smaller groups to experiment with alternative acoustic music, rather than necessarily having only one large jam going at once. Timing and hearing suffer when a jam group is too large.

2. Bylaws Changes. Members present again discussed Bylaws Amendments to reduce the Board from 13 to 7 voting members, making it easier to have a quorum to conduct necessary business for the smaller organization. The Bylaws process requires notice to members of pending Bylaws changes, and a majority vote of members in good standing who are present at a scheduled meeting (no proxy voting). After discussion, the Board voted to elect Pete Smith as Chair of the Activities Committee, and to present the following Resolution at the April meeting, thus allowing 2 months for notice to members:

RESOLVED, that the organization's Bylaws shall be amended to reduce the Board of Directors from thirteen (13) to seven (7) members, those being the present four (4) officers [President, Vice President, Treasurer and Secretary], and the Chairs of three remaining committees, Membership, Communications, and Activities [Gordon Jones, Bob Davis, and Pete Smith]. The three (3) At Large Board Memberships and the Chairs of the former Committees of Education, Regulatory, and Giving Rural Assistance will be deleted from the Bylaws, and the functions addressed by the Board as needed in the future. Regulatory functions will continue to be handled by the Treasurer.

Input from members is welcomed, and the next Board meeting will be held on March 8, 2014, but the vote on the Bylaws changes will be held on April 12.

There being no further business, the meeting was adjourned at 12:15 p.m.

Respectfully submitted,
Bill Erskine, Secretary

(DRAFT ONLY 2-8-14, APPROVED 3-8-14)