

Board Members -- Present:

President: Bob Williams
Treasurer: Jon Jenkins
Secretary: Bill Erskine
Membership Chair: Gordon Jones
At Large: Jean Jones
At Large: Wayne Walker
Past President: Jeff Tallant
Communications Chair: Bob Davis

Absent:
Vice President: Marshall Brown
Charter Director/At Large: Peter Smith
Education: OPEN
Activities: (Peter Smith)
Regulatory: OPEN
Giving Rural Assistance: OPEN

There being a quorum present, Bob Williams called the meeting to order at 11:00 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 February 8, 2014 meeting, which were approved.

Treasurer: Jon Jenkins gave the report. February 2014 YTD cash flow shows \$1,375 in income and \$865 in expenses, for a net earnings of \$509. Current bank balance is \$8,450.79. The Tennessee Sales and Use Tax people have written for information. Jon has called for information and he will respond with a letter. We should not have to file reports if our annual sales remain less than \$3,000. The report was approved.

Membership: Gordon Jones was absent, but Jon Jenkins reported that we now have 57 paid members, an increase from the 51 members at the February meeting. There are also 13 “Honorary” members, surviving spouses of former members, who are carried on the rolls and receive communications.

Communications: Bob Davis reported that a new one-page edition of NewsGrass was issued yesterday, first issue in quite a while. This was mainly to announce upcoming vote on bylaws changes in April, plus adding “Old-Time” music to the header of the newsletter.

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

Activities: Chair position is open. Discussion was held about the Pickin’ Porch event at Ed Fleener’s house, which may be held on May 17 if enough interest develops. Members present were generally in favor of holding it. Cost could be \$400-500. Discussion was also held about the pick-camping event, still tentatively scheduled for October 11, which is also the date for the October meeting. Further input from members will be appreciated.

Regulatory: Chair position is open, but the annual functions are being handled by Jon Jenkins as Treasurer, see report above about tax reporting.

Giving Rural Assistance: Chair position is open, no report. Jean Jones was thanked again for her assistance.

New Business

1. Scope of the organization/Membership.

The group discussed suggestions for requiring Saturday jam session attendees to become paid members after attending two jam sessions. Lively discussion centered around the likelihood of encouraging versus discouraging new membership. As and if attendance grows, we can discuss in the future whether to specifically designate specific rooms as being for the slow jam, old-time, Celtic, or other music, noting that when the attending group is

small, all typically jam in one room. When the group becomes too large, or some want to focus on one type of music, teaching, or just to practice or visit together, they usually split off now without upsetting anyone, without leadership or any organizing. Many members know and play or sing various types of folk music besides bluegrass. It would be good to have membership application forms available, and probably visible at the jam sessions in case any new visitors want one. This could help grow membership.

2. Bylaws Changes. Will be voted on at the next Board and membership meeting on April 12, 2014

There being no further business, the meeting was adjourned at 12 noon.

Respectfully submitted,

Bill Erskine, Secretary

(DRAFT ONLY 3-9-14, APPROVED 4-12-14)