**GRAND RIVER BLUES SOCIETY**

**MINUTES OF MEETING**

**February 11, 2018**

Chair: Bruce

Present: Bruce (Chair); Abby; Brenda; Claude; Dennis; Claude; Neil (minutes)

Regrets : Cheryl; Gareth; Liz.

1. Call to order – approx. 11:30 a.m., there were no declarations of conflict of interest from any members.

2. **Minutes:**

Previous Minutes (December 9/17) were reviewed and approved by Neil and Brenda with the following clarifications.

Ohsweken Clinic: Neil and Cheryl have not been able to formally meet to discuss a possible Clinic.

3. **Financial Report** – Liz

Financial Report discussion was deferred.

4. **Membership Report** – Liz

Membership discussion was deferred.

5. **Communications Report** – Bruce

Abby reviewed the Website Anaylitics previously discussed. Approved by Neil and Dennis

6. **The Blues Buzz** - Bruce

Bruce reviewed the Newsletter data as previously distributed

7. **Merch** – Brenda

Merch Report was reviewed and discussed as presented. Further to this there was a general discussion regarding merch sales vs. GRBS promotion. After discussion, Brenda made a proposed a motion that the sale of Merch be viewed as a promotional vehicle as opposed to an income stream (source of income). This was seconded by Abby and there was unanimous approval by those present. **Action:** This is to be brought forward to the next Strategic Plan to operationalize this.

Membership Cards, Brenda noted we are almost out and Neil is going to have a few made with further discussion at a later date regarding possible changes/plan. **Action: Neil**

South Coast Jazz Festival was discussed as there had been a request/offer to have GRBS present on the Friday night of their festival at the “Blues Stage”. Bruce noted that, if needed, there may be volunteers available from there.

8. **Blues Camp** – Neil and Dennis

The current Adult Camp planning was reviewed as well as review a recent Kids Camp meeting. Some clarification about Adult Camp poster wording was discussed. Deadline for all Adult Camp promotion/sign-up information to be public is March 16/18. Kid’s Camp planning is underway. Dennis had previously met with Abby and the Kid’s Camp; Adult Camp and Clinic has all been put under the heading of “Education on the Website”. Next “Camp planning” meeting is February 16/18. Abby offered to meet with Dennis and Neil to assist with web posts i.e. Eventbright. **Action:** Dennis/Neil and Abby for web assistance.

There was some discussion regarding George; Janet; Neil and Dennis becoming a GRBS Education Sub-committee. **Action:** further discussion at the next Strategic Planning Meeting.

9. **Clinics** – Neil

The next Clinic was organized by Bruce on Feb. 19/18 at Warmingtons in Brantford with Harp Dog Brown - Bruce; Brenda and Neil to attend.

10. **Newsletter – Bruce**

Bruce provided copies of the recently published Newsletter which was reviewed, there is a need for content. Bruce is going to provide a list of dates for publication so that Board Members and the general membership will be aware of dates in the event they would like to put something forward for publication. In the next Newsletter we should have posters for a number of upcoming events. **Action – Bruce**

11. **AGM/Spring Tribute May 6 - Claude/All**

The band and the venue (Huether) have been booked. General discussion ensued regarding the AGM and it was agreed that it should run from 12:30-1:30 sharp. Ideally, an “Executive Summary” could be provided to members prior to the meeting. Members who attend the meeting will be provided a “rebate” and given “head of the line status”.

12. **AGM – see above**

13**. TDKBF Youth Legacy – Bobby O’Brien’s Sunday Aptil 15th – Claude**

Venue has been booked and the poster should be completed this week. As well, volunteers are arranged for the show 12:00-5:00 p.m..

14. **TDKBF Launce – Saturday April 7th – Elements Night Club - Claude**

As per previous years Board Members are offered free tickets with the option of purchasing an extra ticket. **Action:** Claude to bring tickets to the next meeting – members are to contact him if they would like a ticket prior to the next meeting.

**New Business:**

1. **Road to Memphis Fund Raiser/Churchill Arms - All**

There was general discussion regarding the previous fundraiser. Approximately, $650.00 was provide to each of the band members who represented to GRBS. It was noted that those who provided auction items/venue need to be sent a formal letter thanking them for their contribution. It was felt that in the future the on the application for the R2M it be highlighted that the “winning bands” are in agreement to perform at a fundraiser (date to be noted on the application form). As well, it was felt there was some benefit in having Board Members share the MC duties.

a) R2M Competition - September 30/18 @ Bobby O’Briens

b) The R2M fundraiser will be held on November 24/18 @ 8:00 at Rhapsody Bar Barrel. Application and poster to be completed by the TDKBF. **Action: Bruce/Claude/All**

2. **Strategic Plan**

Abby is to contact Mike to plan next Strategic Plan date.

**Date and Venue of the next meetings - All**

March 11th @ 10:00 venue to be arranged;

April 8th @ 10:00 venue to be arranged;

May 13th @ 10:00 venue to be arranged.