

Minutes for the City of Sterling Municipal Band Commission

August 10, 2021

Commissioners:

Gonzalo S. Reyes – Chair

Kevin O’Keefe – Vice Chair

Amy Boze – Secretary

Allen Lee – Treasurer

Tony Crisp

Staff:

Annette Hackbarth – Director

Paul Ausman – Band Manager

I. CALL TO ORDER

A regular meeting of the Sterling Municipal Band Commission was held on 8/10/2021 at 6:03 p.m. in the North Conference Room at City Hall, 212 Third Ave, Sterling, IL. 61081.

Commissioner Reyes called the meeting to order and attendance was taken showing five Commissioners were present.

II. CONSENT ITEMS

Commissioner O’Keefe made a motion to approve the following consent items:

July 12, 2021 Meeting Minutes

Band Director Report

Band Manager Report

Commissioner Lee seconded the motion which carried unanimously.

III. FINANCIAL REPORT

Commissioner Lee presented the Financial report showing:

	<u>Budget</u>	<u>Actual</u>
Personnel:	\$61,000	\$20,010.00
Materials and Services:	\$39,038	\$21,313.44
Capital Expenses:	\$9,050	\$5,078.73
Revenue:	\$91,294.00	\$63,817.47

Commissioner Lee gave the financial report as shown above and stated that the working balance is \$17,418.30.

He also reported that we have exceeded our yearly donation goal by \$3,000, and that the September Property Tax installment should be showing in the next month or two.

Commissioner O'Keefe made a motion to receive the report. It was seconded by Commissioner Boze and carried unanimously.

IV. COMMENTS FROM THE PUBLIC

No requests were made by members of the public for comment.

V. OLD BUSINESS

Director Hackbarth gave an end of season report highlighting the Band's playing ability has improved, our roster deepened, audience size and diversity increased, and the Saturday Night series was well received. She also commented on the success of Dr. Bough's commissioned piece and that she would like to do something similar in the future. Commissioner Boze suggested that we commission a piece for our 100th Anniversary in 7 years.

Due to summer scheduling conflicts of high school students, we will not be putting a summer clinic on in the future.

Commissioner Reyes has booked two billboards with Turnroth Signs for the 2022 summer season. Commissioner O'Keefe made a motion to approve the contract to rent the two billboards for up to \$700. It was seconded by Commissioner Crisp and carried unanimously.

Commissioner Reyes is building a Church e-mail list to further advertise the Band's performances.

Director Hackbarth has two leads on a flat bed trailer for the Fiesta Day Parade. We have adequate players to make up a small band. We will need to purchase flip folders, 2 banners, and magnets listing our 2022 dates. Commissioner Crisp made a motion to purchase as many 4x6 magnets as we can get up to \$750. Commissioner Reyes suggested we purchase some green, white, and red bunting for the trailer as well.

Band Manager Ausman has contacted Ali at Abiding Word Church to make sure we were able to use their facility for the Pops Concert. He is still waiting for her response and will follow up with her this week. He has also contacted Tim Schlegel at Centennial Auditorium to see if we could use it as a back up venue. It is currently available.

The food portion of the Pops Concert will be scaled back. Due to both COVID and the desire to make the Pops Concert Experience more accessible to the entire audience. Commissioner Boze suggested getting cake pops to either hand out, or to possible sell. Commissioner O'Keefe said we should keep the intimate feel the Pops Concert has at a venue like Abiding Word Church.

Director Hackbarth would like to move the 2022 pre-concert time to 6:15 – 7:00 to give the Band more time to warm up, sound check, and get the percussion set. All were in agreement that that timeframe would be good. Commissioner Reyes has already confirmed one group for the 2022 pre-show slots.

VI. NEW BUSINESS

Commissioner O'Keefe would like to put out a survey to the Band to get input on how the Administration and Band can improve. It would use Google Forms to ensure anonymity. All were supportive of the idea. He will create the survey in the coming weeks.

VII. MISCELLANEOUS

Commissioner Reyes inquired if using a vocalist for the Star-Spangled Banner would be of interest to us. The Commission will explore the idea at a future date.

Commissioner Reyes would like the Administration and Band photos to be put on Facebook. Commissioner Lee will take care of it.

Commissioner Reyes inquired into who knows how to do set up/sound should Band Manager Ausman not be available. Director Hackbarth can perform the tasks as well. Mr. Ausman will expand on the written directions he has already placed in the audio cabinet at GCC. All were in agreement that we should have a larger set up crew for the summer season. Mr. Ausman will also work on that.

Commissioner Reyes would like the Commission to consider making Tom and Dianne Ausman Band Ambassadors since they tend to help at the Carreta each Summer season.

Commissioner Reyes would like us to have a clean up detail during the Kidz Konzert to pick up any sidewalk chalk, or dropped item from the goodie bags, so that it does not pose a tripping/slipping hazard to our audience members when they are exiting the park at the end of the concert.

Commissioner Lee is compiling the 2021 donor list and comparing it to the 2019 list. He reported that for the most part they both match up. He is also drafting a thank you letter to send to the donors. Commissioner Crisp suggested that we list the cash donation totals in each summer program too.

Director Hackbarth reported that all the music from 2019 and 2020 has been filed back in the library. She will be working with Librarian Murphy on filing the 2021 music. She ordered more file boxes to use, and they are waiting on them to come in.

The 2022 Music Under the Stars season has been set from 6/1 – 8/3.

Josh Duffee has contacted Director Hackbarth about doing a concert with a Frank Sinatra type of singer in lieu of a fourth guest conductor in 2022. He was looking at the last concert of the 2022 Summer season. Director Hackbarth will continue to work with Mr. Duffee to iron out the details to see if this would be possible.

VIII. ADJOURNMENT

Commissioner O'Keefe made a motion to adjourn the meeting. Commissioner Crisp seconded the motion which carried unanimously and the meeting was adjourned at 7:55 p.m.

Minutes were taken by Band Manager Paul Ausman for submission to the Clerk of the City of Sterling.

A handwritten signature in black ink, appearing to read "Paul Ausman". The signature is stylized with a large initial "P" and a long horizontal stroke at the end.

Paul Ausman

SMB Band Manager

**The next regular meeting of the Sterling Municipal Band Commission will be
Tuesday September 14, 2021 at 6:00 p.m. in the City Council Chambers
located on the first floor of City Hall, 212 Third Ave, Sterling, IL. 61081**