

AFM Local 1000 Minutes of Membership Meeting

Date: Wednesday February 15th

Time: 4:00pm CST

Location: Folk Alliance International, Kansas City, MO

Members Present:

Eve Goldberg, Tret Fure, Aaron Fowler, Spook Handy, Vi Wickam, Amber Rogers, John McCutcheon, Si Kahn, Colleen Kattau, Charlie Pilzer, Bob Wright, Kathy Peters, Gary Hermus, Laura Dungan, Terry Irons, Wyatt Easterling, Ann Zimmerman, Jim Kurtz (guest,) Bill Dourge (future member)

Online:

Steve Eulberg, Dan Senie

The meeting was called to order at 4:04pm

John McCutcheon opened the meeting with a song.

Members introduced themselves around the circle.

Minutes from the November meeting were approved: Moved by John McCutcheon seconded by Vi Wickam

Notes from the president: Tret informed us that we are holding strong around 500 members. Looking to improve our financials. Excited to stand on solid ground!

Treasurers Report: Vi let us know that we lost \$3,700 last year. Future budget for 2017 we are looking for a \$3,000 profit. We are currently behind on our payments to the AFM. Really behind about \$8,000.00 from where we would like to be.

Annual budget is \$120,000.00

A large portion of our "fees" go to the AFM. Donations, work dues go to help the office/daily operations expenses.

Vi helped us to review the 2016 balance sheet.

Our Joe Hill fund has \$2,000.00 to spend.

There won't be a retreat in 2017, we are currently planning a retreat for 2018.

Si moved and Spook Seconded to approve the 2017 budget: Motion Passed

Gary spoke to the membership about work dues. We've seen a 22% increase in work dues, it's making a difference! Remember to pay your work dues, remember it's just 2.5% of your paycheck. Charlie informed the membership that we can now set up an automatic reoccurring payment. All members of the exec board are now either paying work dues, or doing automatic recurring work dues equivalent. You can sign up today, or call the office for more information. You could round up your amount and donate it to the Joe Hill or Emergency Relief Fund.

Canadian Report: Eve informed the membership about the P2 situation. There's still a 120 day wait for the processing. The prices have gone up, the process is rigorous.

The East Coast Music Awards were put on the unfair list. They've since come to an agreement with the CFA.

Canadians are paying in US dollars for their Per-Cap. How are we tracking these numbers? We want to make sure the Canadians are being counted as Canadian not US members.

Membership: Charlie let the members know that we are looking to re-form the membership committee. We would like to create a focus group to better understand,

1. Why did you join the union?
2. What can the local do for you?
3. What can you do for the local?

We need reasons beyond "it's cool".

Ideas from the membership

We could all encourage venues to hire other local union members.

Create a place to "come" – a union hall-

Create a common goal, a place to work together.

We want to hear from you about which clubs NOT to play in.

We don't have to be on the road alone.

Cyber Union Halls: Aaron reminded us that the union hall meetings are always the 3rd Tuesday of the month. Some upcoming topics will be:

How to use our music for social change

Performing Rights Organizations

What would you find helpful?

Possible suggestions:

Recording Contracts, Gig Contracts, How to leverage Grant Funding and how to find grants, Pensions, LPCC's

Banjo Raffle: We will be drawing a winner for the Vega Longneck banjo on Sunday at 3pm. There are still tickets available. They'll be at the exhibit hall all weekend.

Showcase Free Zone will be in room #639.

We closed the meeting with a song

Eve moved, Vi Seconded to Adjourn the meeting at 5:10pm

Minutes Submitted by Amber Rogers, Midwest Representative