

Providence Federation of Musicians

EDWARD J. PLUNKETT
AL DeANDRADE
CARL HOSBOND
YVONNE MONNETT
ELIOT PORTER
DAVID RUFINO

President
Vice-President
Executive Board
Executive Board
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LOCAL No. 198-457
AMERICAN FEDERATION OF MUSICIANS
Affiliated with the A.F.L.-C.I.O.

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Minutes of General Membership Meeting June 21, 2021

Virtual Meeting, held via ZOOM.com

MINUTES

I. Call to Order - President Plunkett called the meeting to order at 7:16 PM.

- **Roll call of officers:** President Plunkett, V/P DeAndrade, EBM Hosbond, EBM Monnett, and EBM Rufino all marked present. EBM Porter absent.
- **Determination of Quorum**
 - 12 members present;
 - 11 (5% of membership) needed for a quorum.
 - Quorum established.
- Due to the nature of a virtual meeting, and to comply with both AFM and U.S. Department of Labor rules and regulations, President Plunkett asked for UNANIMOUS CONSENT TO WAIVE THE RIGHT TO A SECRET BALLOT FOR THE REMAINDER OF THE MEETING. UNANIMOUS CONSENT WAS GRANTED BY THOSE MEMBERS IN ATTENDANCE.

II. Secretary's Report

- Presentation of minutes from the May 17, 2021, meeting. A motion to approve the minutes was made by Brother Peter Bodner. 2nd by EBM Hosbond. The motion passed unanimously.

III. Treasurer's Report

- President Plunkett moved the Treasurer's report to Committee reports to be presented by the Finance Committee.

IV. President's Report

- HBO production of "The Gilded Age" in Albany, NY refused to give musicians hired for filming the right to AFM representation. The musicians held their ground and AFM filed an unfair labor practice claim with the NLRB. HBO then recognized the existing AFM

contracts and musicians were compensated fairly for their work. We recently learned that a similar production was filmed earlier in the year in Newport, however no paperwork was filed with the AFM. If you are offered any work by television productions, make sure that your rights as an AFM member are recognized. Please contact the local for assistance.

- Kingston Chamber Music Festival is still on the AFM International Unfair List. Local 77 (Philadelphia) is assisting with trying to establish an AFM contract.
- Restaurants are hiring bands, but some owners are asking musicians to sell a set number of tickets in order to pay fair wages. Please do not accept work under these terms.

V. Announcements

- The local will hold its biennial election for officer positions, executive board positions and delegate positions in the fall. U.S. Department of Labor rules and regulations require that an in person nomination meeting and election (if necessary) must be held.
 - Nomination meeting will be held on Tuesday September 28 at 7pm at Local headquarters, 172 Longfellow St., Providence. A quorum is not required for the nomination meeting, but each candidate must have another member in good standing present to nominate them.
 - Election Day (if needed) – Sunday, November 14, 10:00 AM – 4:00 PM. In-person voting. Absentee ballots available for those unable to vote in person.

VI. Communications

- President Plunkett reminded everyone that the Music Performance Trust Fund (MPTF) is offering 100% funding for both live and live-streamed performances, through July 31. As of August 1, funding goes back to 50%. Musician Fest funding is available for solo performers in Elder care facilities at \$200 per date.

VII. Committee Reports

- **Finance Committee**
Committee Chair Peter Bodner presents the YTD report (attached) and reports that the local is in a better financial position than we were one year ago. Work dues were down, however equipment costs to the local were also down. Net profit is up. Motion to accept the financial report made by V/P DeAndrade. Motion 2nd by EBM Monette. The motion carried unanimously.
- **Providence Performing Arts Center (PPAC) Players' Committee.**
Committee Member Peter Cokkinias reports the committee continues to meet to discuss the upcoming contract and thanks President Plunkett for his help reaching out to the PPAC management. The committee is hopeful to meet with management soon to discuss the contract.
- **Golf Committee**
Chairman Al DeAndrade reported that the Golf Tournament will be scheduled for September, 2021.

- **Cavalcade of Bands**

Chairman Al DeAndrade reported that the lineup for the August 17 Cavalcade is complete and that he is currently planning the October 19 Cavalcade of Bands.

- **Vice-President Reports**

V/P DeAndrade recently attended an in-person AFL-CIO luncheon on June 21. The RI AFL-CIO convention will be held on September 24.

Rededication of the plaque commemorating the Celebrity Club will be held on June 27 at 1pm at the Charles Street Marriott hotel.

No other committees had reports to make.

VIII. Old Business

Voting on resolutions introduced at the General Membership Meeting of March 15, 2021.

- **Resolution 2021-04: Resolution to amend the non-profit wage scale**

Wage Scale Committee chair Carl Gerhard endorses the resolution. Motion to approve the resolution by Brother Sandy Gorodetsky. V/P DeAndrade seconded the motion. The motion carried unanimously and the resolution was **ADOPTED**

- **Resolution 2021-05: Establish an MPTF scale.**

Wage Scale Committee chair Carl Gerhard endorses the resolution. A motion to approve the resolution was made by Brother Bodner. V/P DeAndrade seconded the motion. The motion carried unanimously and the resolution was **ADOPTED**.

- **Resolution 2021-07: Establish a “Buglers” scale.**

Brother Gorodetsky notes that buglers are provided free of charge for veteran funerals. Brother Gerhard mentions that some use an electronic bugle, which plays a recording, but agrees that the proposed fee is fair. A motion to accept the resolution was made by V/P DeAndrade. Brother Peter Bodner seconded the motion. The motion carried unanimously and the resolution was **ADOPTED**.

- **Resolution 2021-06: Establishment of a Ceremonial Scale.**

At the request of the Wage Scale Committee, President Plunkett presents a simplified version of the resolution. Motion to accept the amended resolution made by Brother Peter Bodner. Brother Peter Cokkinias seconds the motion. The motion to accept the amended resolution carried unanimously and the resolution was **ADOPTED**.

IX. New Business

No new business was introduced

X. Good and Welfare

- Some 1099 musicians who were unable to collect traditional unemployment, but received benefits under the PUA program have been asked to provide proof of Independent Contractor status. Thus far this seems to primarily be an issue in Massachusetts.

- President Plunkett reminded everyone that the New England Musicians Relief Fund (www.nemrf.org) has grants available up to \$1000. Applicants must have earned 50% of their income from music performance or teaching in the prior two years.

Next meeting - Date is TBD

Adjournment - Motion to adjourn was made by V/P DeAndrade; 2nd by Brother Peter Bodner. President Plunkett declared the meeting adjourned at 8:46 PM.

Respectfully submitted,

A handwritten signature in black ink, appearing to read "David Rufino", written in a cursive style.

David Rufino, *Executive Board Member,*
acting as Recording Secretary

Approved:

Attested: