

# Providence Federation of Musicians

EDWARD J. PLUNKETT  
AL DeANDRADE  
DAVID RUFINO  
RANDY CLOUTIER  
JOSEPH DeMARCO  
YVONNE MONNETT  
ELIOT PORTER

*President*  
*Vice-President*  
*Secretary-Treasurer*  
*Executive Board*  
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*Executive Board*  
*Executive Board*

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

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## General Membership Meeting Minutes November 28, 2022

In person meeting held at the Local's headquarters

**Call to Order:** 7:08 pm, President Plunkett presided.

**Determination of Quorum** (5% of Membership required, (14 members)):

- 276 total members; 23 members were present, constituting a quorum.

**Roll call of Officers:**

- **Officers:** President Ed Plunkett, Vice President Al DeAndrade, Secretary/Treasurer David Rufino; all marked as present.
- **Executive Board:** EBM Randy Cloutier, EBM Joe DeMarco, EBM Yvonne Monnett and EBM Eliot Porter; all marked as present.

**Secretary's Report:**

- S/T Rufino presented the minutes of the October 3, 2022, General Membership Meeting.
- President Plunkett asked if any members would like to hear the minutes read aloud.
  - No members asked to have the minutes read.
  - Brother Peter Bodner moved to accept the minutes.
  - Brother Bill LaPolla seconded the motion.
  - The motion carried.

**Treasurer's Report:**

- Secretary-Treasurer Rufino and Finance Committee Chair Peter Bodner shared the Local's 3<sup>rd</sup> Quarter, 2022, financial report, as prepared by S/T Rufino. S/T Rufino reported that the local had a strong quarter, even though we finished with a \$0.50 deficit. The third quarter is typically one where the local sees a large deficit, due to high expenses and low income. However, thanks to the large number of new members the local gained and a successful fundraiser, the local practically broke even.
- Finance Chair Bodner recommends accepting the financial report
  - 2<sup>nd</sup> quarter total income of \$19,508.29.
  - 2<sup>nd</sup> quarter expenses of \$19,508.79.
  - 2<sup>nd</sup> quarter net income of -\$0.50.

- End of quarter cash on hand of \$95,651.12.
- EBM Porter made a motion to accept the 3rd quarter, 2022, Financial Report.
- Sister Jane Murray seconded the motion.
- The motion carried.

### **President's Report:**

- President Plunkett reported that the local has seen a membership increase of approximately 67 new members since June 1. Most of these are from musicians engaged by the Rhode Island Philharmonic Orchestra (RIPO) and Providence Performing Arts Center (PPAC).

### **Announcements:**

- President Plunkett announced that the MPTF is offering 100% funding through April 30, 2023, for the following categories:
  - Live Stream Concerts
  - Educational Concerts
  - Senior Center Concerts

Please contact S/T Rufino if you are interested in applying for funds.

- President Plunkett reported that the AFM pandemic late fee waivers have been discontinued as of October 1, 2022.
- President Plunkett reminded members that the AFM offers a multi-local rebate for members who belong to 3 or more locals. Members who have been a member of 3 or more locals for a full year are able to apply for a refund of the AFM per-capita fee for the 3<sup>rd</sup> and greater locals.
- President Plunkett reported that the AFM has released a new welcome video to explain all the benefits of AFM membership. The video can be viewed on YouTube and the local's website.
- President Plunkett announced that he has a few copies of the local's wage scale ready to give to members who would like them after the meeting. Due to high postage costs the local would prefer to not send the wage scales through the mail. Physical copies can be obtained by arranging a time to meet at the local office. An electronic version is available for download in the "Members Area" of the Local's website.
- President Plunkett invited all members of the Local to the Holiday Party on Tuesday December 13 from 1:00 PM to 6:00 PM at the Local office. This is the first Holiday Party we have hosted since 2019 and we look forward to seeing many of you there.

### **Communications:**

- The AFM is asking members to donate to its Emergency Relief Fund to benefit AFM members affected by the hurricanes in Florida and Puerto Rico. The local has already

donated \$100 to the fund, but hopes any members who can help do so by visiting AFM.org and click on the “What We are Doing” tab.

- The AFM “TEMPO” Political Action Committee is asking AFM members to consider donating funds. The PAC uses the funds to lobby congress for laws favorable to musicians.
  - American Music Fairness Act- TEMPO is currently working to help pass this bill, which would provide royalties for music played on terrestrial radio.

#### **Committee Reports:**

- **Finance Committee:** Hold until the resolutions.
- **By-law Committee:** Hold until the resolutions.
- **Golf Tournament Committee:** V/P DeAndrade reported that we had a good turnout of about 40 golfers and a successful event.
- **Cavalcade:** V/P DeAndrade reported that he is still working on the Cavalcade report, but he expects a profit around \$2,500.
- **PPAC:** PPAC committee chair Brother Jack McNamara reported that he played at PPAC recently and new green room that was negotiated in the last contract is very nice and a great place for the musicians to relax during breaks.

#### **Old Business:** Voting on previously introduced resolutions.

- **Resolution 2022-05: Restoration of Vice-President and Executive Board Salaries to pre-pandemic levels.**

- Brother Peter Bodner made a motion to amend the resolution as presented to compensate the Vice-President with a stipend of \$150 per Executive Board Meeting.
- Brother Lee Bernardo seconded the motion.
- The motion carried.

President Plunkett asked for a motion to approve the amended resolution.

- Sister Jane Murray made a motion to approve the amended resolution.
- EBM Monnett seconded the motion.
- The motion carried.

- **Resolution 2022-06: Relax the local’s requirements for life membership for our most loyal members.**

- Brother Peter Bodner made a motion to accept the resolution as presented.
- Sister Jane Murray seconded the motion.
- Brother Peter Bodner asked if a member must be 65 on January 1 of the year in which they will apply. President Plunkett answered that membership category changes are made on a quarterly basis, because the Local collects dues on a quarterly basis. It is not necessary to wait a whole year after one’s birthday to change the membership category from “regular” to “life”. The new resolution lowers the age of eligibility to 65 for those members who have maintained 35 years of continuous membership in Local 198-457.
- The motion carried.

- **Resolution 2022-07: Bylaw cleanup of quorum requirement to make the Local's bylaws consistent with AFM policy.**
  - EBM Porter made a motion to approve the resolution as presented.
  - Brother Peter Bodner seconded the motion.
  - The motion carried.
- **Resolution 2022-08: Bylaw cleanup of notice of membership meetings to make the Local's by-laws consistent with AFM policy.**
  - Sister Mary Flair Bogan made a motion to approve the resolution as presented.
  - Brother Peter Bodner seconded the motion.
  - The motion carried.

#### **New Business:**

- S/T Rufino and Finance Committee Chair Peter Bodner presented the 2023 annual budget. They announced that this is a conservative budget but shows the local ending the year with a small profit. Brother Bodner and the finance committee all endorsed passing this budget.
  - Sister Mary Flair Bogan made a motion to accept the 2023 budget.
  - EBM Porter seconded the motion.
  - EBM Porter asked why only \$160 was budgeted towards casual work dues, which would mean only 4 members pay their work dues cap. President Plunkett answered that during the pandemic, many casual players were not working and did not pay their work dues cap, but he urges members to resume paying the \$40 work dues cap now that they are back working.
  - The motion carried.
- S/T Rufino reported that he sent statements to all members who will owe dues payments as of January 1, 2023. Any members who owe dues for the current or previous quarters, should please send them in ASAP.
- Brother Dean Cohen, who is new to the area and one of our local's newest members, spoke about the recent uptick of Anti-Semitic acts both locally and nationally and urged his union Brothers and Sisters to help him find people within the Rhode Island labor movement who can help him find a way to take a stand against these senseless acts of hate. President Plunkett reported that we have a lot of strong relationships within the RI AFL-CIO and can help develop some contacts there.

#### **Good and Welfare:**

- President Plunkett announced several local and national organizations who can provide help to musicians who are still struggling.
  - New England Musicians Relief Fund
  - MusiCares
  - Sweet Relief
  - The Musicians Foundation
  - The Entertainment Community Fund
  - United Way 2-1-1
  - Lester Petrillo Memorial Fund
  - Union Plus

- V/P DeAndrade ran a raffle as a thank you to the members who attended the meeting. EBM Joe DeMarco and Brother Richard Parent each won a box of chocolates. Thank you to all who attended.

**Next General Membership Meeting:**

- TBD

**Adjournment:**

- EBM Porter made a motion to adjourn the meeting.
- Sister Jane Murray seconded the motion.
- President Plunkett adjourned the meeting at 8:10 PM.


Respectfully submitted,



David Rufino, *Secretary-Treasurer*

Approved: March 6, 2023

Attested:



Edward J. Plunkett, *President*



David Rufino, *Secretary-Treasurer*