



# GENERAL MEETING MINUTES



**DATE:** Wednesday, 18 May 2016 @ 7 pm

**PLACE:** Victoria Tavern  
South Street  
London, ON

**BOARD MEMBERS PRESENT:** Dave Harland, Earle Taylor, Pegg Saunders, Bonnie Tucker, Marc Shickluna, Terry Dash; *Absent: Paul Breau*

## DISCUSSION:

### 1.0 CALL TO ORDER

Dave Harland called the meeting to order @ 7:18 pm, and welcomed all who were in attendance.

### 2.0 ELECTIONS

- .1 No need to have an election as only four (4) members stepped up in the nomination process.
- .2 Current Board has seven (7) members and only four (4) are returning. As in the past, we have accepted board members after the fact to build to 13.
- .3 There are 3 passions the Blues Society has – Blues In The Schools, Road to Memphis, and putting on events.
- .4 Board members who have been acclaimed for the 2016/2017 term:
  - David Harland – founding member and has served on the board for the past several years, with the last 2 as Chair. David will not be taking the Chair position this year; however will be still involved with the International Blues Competition.
  - Earle Taylor – founding member and with the Blues Society for the past 12 years. Earle has served as Treasurer for the past 2 years.
  - Paul Breau – founding member, and a board member since 2008 as Production Manager.
  - Bonnie Tucker – member since 2008 and a board member for the past 2 years as membership / volunteer co-ordinator.
- .5 Please contact a Board member if you have any inkling about wanting to join the Board and make a difference. There are approximately 4 General Meetings and 4 Board meetings during a term.

### **3.0 BLUES IN THE SCHOOLS (BITS)**

- .1 This year's BITS program was held May 10 and 11 in the morning and was a huge success. The program was hosted by Westminster Secondary School, with Mr. Mark "Bird" Stafford as our presenter. Over 1,000 students from Aberdeen, CC Carruthers, Ien Cairn, Lorne Avenue, Rick Hanson, Victoria, and Woodland Heights. Tuesday afternoon, Mark held a workshop for approximately 48 senior music students at Westminster. These students were gifted harmonicas bought by the GLBS for their participation. Tuesday evening, a workshop was held for members at 765 Old East Bar and Grill. This session was videotaped by Gail Roy and will be available for viewing on the web once editing etc. has been completed. Total expenses for this event are approximately \$4,300. Unifor was kind enough to donate \$2,500 to our BITS program, and the remainder of the monies were raised through fundraising and partnerships. The David Wilcox show vetted us \$800 towards BITS for next year.

### **4.0 ROAD TO MEMPHIS FUNDRAISER – Eastside Bar and Grill**

- .1 Starts in September 2016 for 3 Sundays.
- .2 Guitar raffle tickets will be available at the Trio of Trios show.
- .3 The guitar is a brand new Epiphone Les Paul Standard donated by Long and McQuade.

### **5.0 FINANCIALS**

- .1 A month ago, members were sent, in an e-blast, a financial statement from September 2014 to March 31, 2016. Earle reported that the board has taken a conservative approach by not having as many big shows to allow the coffers to rebuild, and the fact the US\$\$ is so high. The board chose to co-present (LMH, LMC, and Karma), this offers lower risks. Partnerships have been different for each venue. At the Music Club, we sponsored shows (commissioned). The Music Hall has gifted us tickets, and asked only that we pay for the opening act.

### **6.0 MEMBERSHIP**

- .1 Bonnie Tucker reported there are currently 143 members. She stated that founding members are not renewing their memberships. Earle Taylor asked about doing a survey of members using Survey Monkey on the web.

### **7.0 OPEN FLOOR DISCUSSION**

- .1 Bluesfest – will there be one? Things are in the works, and the Society will be involved. There will be no Windsor connection. Possible dates are in late June. Stay tuned!

Posters are available tonight for the Trio of Trios show. Please take some and spread the word.

### **8.0 WHAT'S NEXT**

- .1 Trio of Trios – Part II – Friday, 27 May 2016 at the London Music Hall. We are partnering 50/50 with Karma Productions on this. Artists are MonkeyJunk, Paul DesLaurier Band, and Cecile doo-Kingue.

- .2 Tickets are VIP Tables - \$350 for non-members  
\$300 for members
- .3 General Admission \$30 for non-members  
\$25 for members
- .4 Social Media has been a great way to get news out, and to focus on groups.
- .5 The Society has been approached by Chris Murphy who, along with Lance Anderson, have offered an alignment for "A Tribute to the Last Waltz" event on a sponsorship level. This event will be held at Centennial Hall, November 12, 2016.

## 9.0 ADJOURNED

- .1 The meeting was adjourned at 8:05 pm.

Minutes prepared by: Pegg Saunders, Secretary