

SECOND CHANCES COMMUNITY BAND SOCIETY OF NOVA SCOTIA

REPORT OF DIRECTORS, ANNUAL GENERAL MEETING, SEPT. 26, 2016

GOVERNANCE

It was apparent at the last Annual General Meeting of the Second Chances Community Band Society that there were some misunderstandings concerning the nature of the elections at the AGM and the governance, in general, of the Society. One of the Board's activities at its first meeting of the 2015-16 operational year was to have a workshop clarifying the matter of governance.

The Second Chances Band Society is a creature of the applicable statute law (The NS Societies Act) which creates the legal entity of the non-profit society. The society is governed by the applicable statute, regulations made by authority of the statute and its own Memorandum of Association and By-Laws. The By-Laws define the manner in which a person becomes a member of the society and how the members elect persons to govern its activities.

The Second Chances Band's By-Law presently provide that 8 directors be elected to the Board of Directors by the membership at the Society's AGM. At the end of the AGM, the Board may meet for the purpose of electing the officers, i.e., the President, Vice President, Secretary and Treasurer (the executive). The executive and the Board are charged with the management of the Society. At the last AGM, 12 people were elected as Directors, and at the first meeting of the Directors it was decided that 8 members would be the voting members and that 4 would be considered "ex-officio" members. In keeping with previous practices, each member of the Board who was not an executive member, would take on responsibility for a particular area of Band activity (their "portfolio").

Below is listed the members of the Board for 2015-16 and their "portfolios";

Laurie MacKay, Librarian
Dan Campbell, Registrar
Rhonda Calcott, Band Activities, concerts
Janet McKinnon, Advertising, promotion
Martha Suhr, Treasurer
Heather Kirby, Vice President
Perla Canales, Secretary
Tony Sweet, President
John Moar, ex-officio member, Logistics
Ralph Saulnier, ex-officio member, Band Photography and Publication Graphics
Anne Marie Archibald, ex-officio member, Social Media
DiAnne Campbell, ex-officio member, Band Fest Chair
Holly Irving, ex-officio member, Past President

As can be appreciated by the wording of the Special Resolution being proposed at this AGM, the Board decided that it would be appropriate to amend the By-Laws to increase the number of Directors to 12 and that the term of such election to the Board would be one year.

In addition, the Board, in accordance with the By-Laws, adopted the policy that membership in the Society is accorded to a person who has paid the fee for either the Fall or Winter terms and that the membership year is from October 1 to September 30 of any given year.

LOCATION OF REHEARSAL SPACE

About two weeks into the Fall Term, a decision was made to move, at that time, temporarily, the Band's rehearsal space from the Spryfield Christian Community Church location. As a result of the generosity of Long and McQuade, space in the company's building on Herring Cove Road was made available to the Band on a temporary basis at no charge. Due to a number of factors, including the size of the Band and the limitations of the Church facility, parking concerns and accessibility, the Board decided to discontinue the Band's relationship with the Community Church effective the end of October 2015. Notice was given to the Church group and rent paid for September and October 2015.

The search began for a more "permanent" home for the Band's operations which, incidentally, generated some media attention and publicity for the Band courtesy of the CBC. While the Long and McQuade location proved to be desirable in terms of parking and flexible use of a large space, the Company was not in a position to commit to long term relationship with the Band until mid January when negotiations led to the Board approving a written agreement whereby the Band pays rent for the space and will be able to occupy the current location for the foreseeable future. The relationship between the managers at Long and McQuade and the Band has been very positive and the company has been consistently supportive of the Band's activities and requests for use of facilities in the building.

CONCERTS

The ongoing issue of the finding the optimum concert venue for the end of term concerts was, once again, a matter that concerned the Board. After exploring many options, St. John's Anglican Church was chosen as the concert location for both the December and April concerts. The venue had many advantages including ample

parking, the provision of promotion and front of house services as well as refreshments at intermission. The financial arrangements were a simple split of the gate with the Church and both concerts resulted in the generation of income to support the Band's operations. The Board continues to examine the matter of finding the most appropriate location for the end of Term concerts.

The Concert Band also participated in the Spryfield Santa Claus parade and several "outdoor rehearsals" and a joint concert with music students that served to increase the Band's profile in the community. In addition, through the year, the Second Chances Jazz Band performed at several successful concerts which also generated revenue for the Band's coffers.

BAND FEST

Once again, the Band hosted a very successful Community Band Fest in the metro area. Thanks go to DiAnne Campbell, the Band Fest committee and Chris Ward and many others who volunteered their time, for the work organizing and executing the Band fest this year. The Board continues to include Band Fest matters on its agenda at meetings and provides support for the Band Fest committee as required. The work for Band Fest next year is already underway.

FUNDRAISING

The operation of the Band Society is primarily funded by the fees paid by its members to participate in the programs offered. In light of the Band's present favourable financial position, the Board decided not to increase fees for the Band's programs for the 2016-17 fiscal year. Other sources of income for the Band include revenue from activities such as flea markets, occasional rental of its instruments (chimes, tympani etc.) concerts and the coffee fund.

The Band Society is a non profit organization, but does not have charitable status as recognized by the Canada Revenue Agency pursuant to the Income Tax Act. As such, it cannot engage in any fundraising for donations from individuals on the premise that a receipt can be issued to a potential donor for purposes of a tax deduction. It was determined that the Band Society does not likely meet the criteria established by CRA and the Income Tax Act to be considered a charitable organization and no formal application in this regard will be made. In addition, the Board approved action to relinquish the Band Society's CRA business number and GST/HST accounts which had been established in 2013 .

PROGRAMS

The Board is exploring the possibility of expanding some of the Band's program offerings and has established a Programming Committee to determine the direction of

this initiative. A first step has been the polling of Band members as to whether there is sufficient interest in attending specialized music learning sessions outside of the Band's usual rehearsal times. Data is being collected upon which further work and decisions about the implementation of such an offering can be based.

In summary, the Board has taken actions it felt would support the Band's programs and activities which, in turn, provide the inclusive and enjoyable musical learning and social experience that is the Second Chances Band.

Respectfully submitted,

Tony Sweet
President and Chair of the Board of Directors