

Grand Teton Music Festival Auxiliary Meeting

March 16, 2023

Next Meeting: Thursday, May 18

Auxiliary Attendees: Nancy Pasfield, Andrea Wood, Beedee Ladd, Louise Haberfeld, Nancy Martini, Patty Jaquith, Reade Dornan, Michele Pacifico, Terry Trauner, Ilene Garber, Robin Keeler, Priscilla Sorensen, Robin Keeler, Joan Goldfarb, Martha Birkett-Morley, Barbara Burns, Nanci Halper, Pam Niner, Chris Gulotta, Barbara Herz

GTMF Staff: Emma Leither, Tim Dodge

Meeting Minutes

Call to Order | Greetings to Members and Guests

10:00 am

Auxiliary Vice President, Nancy Pasfield, called the meeting to order. Minutes from the Jan 2023 meeting were approved.

Note to Auxiliary members: Please use the GTMF website/auxiliary portal for meeting information, agendas, and meeting minutes.

GTMF Staff Report – Tim Dodge

The staff is busy with subscription renewal campaign. As a point of interest, last year was their best year on record for subscriptions and it appears that this year will be the same. Single ticket sales begin the first week of April. A member asked Tim if he could explain why subscription sales have been so strong and he thinks it's a trend nation-wide.

Update on scheduling: Friday night concerts this season will begin at 7pm. The change was made based on a broad-based patron survey that was conducted last fall. The overwhelming majority favored the earlier start time. The Four Seasons has agreed to open the Westbank Grill at 5pm on Fridays to accommodate people who like to dine beforehand.

Last year the traffic was the worst on Thursday nights so start time will remain at 8pm. The survey results also said that patrons prefer a 6pm start for Saturday performances. Performance times:

Wednesday @ 7pm

Thursday @ 8pm

Friday @ 7pm

Saturday @ 6pm

Opera events – Tim reported that the two operas this winter were well attended. In June, The Magic Flute will play at the Center. Madam Butterfly will be performed this summer.

Andy has been immersed in building Education/Community Engagement activities for this spring and summer. The University of Wyoming Symphony Orchestra will perform at Walk Hall on April 14. It'll be free and open to the public. StringFest will take place on May 17 at Walk Hall. Auxiliary volunteers will be needed to provide cookies and serve at the event.

The Festival is investing and expanding the education program this year with Education Curator Meaghan Heinrich. We are locking in a 2nd location on the West Bank to provide free, interactive programs for kids. On the Road will return this year as well.

Nancy Pasfield informed us that on May 23 there will be a free concert featuring local musicians at the Center for the Arts in the lobby from 6-8:30pm.

Tim wrapped by letting us know if we have any questions about programs to contact he or Emma Leither at the office.

Report on Membership - Louise Haberfeld, Membership Chair

Nancy Jarrell is now a sustaining member and Pam Kohn resigned her membership. We have room for about 7-8 new members. We currently have 33 active members and 15 sustaining. Please encourage new members. If you invite someone to join, let Louise know two weeks prior to an upcoming meeting. (Members must attend at least 2 meetings a year and do 2 activities)

Louise reminded members that annual dues are due before the end of March 2023. Dues can be paid on the Auxiliary Portal or if members prefer, they can call Emma Leither at the office and she will facilitate. Emma will provide the Membership Chair with an update on paid dues.

Volunteer Activities – M.E. Weber

M.E. is out of the country and will catch us up on the status of volunteer activities when she returns. **There is an immediate need for volunteers for the upcoming StringFest on May 17**; two volunteers to provide cookies and two to serve at the event. Please email M.E. Weber if you can help. meweber23@gmail.com.

Ovation Group update - Andrea Wood

Andrea recapped the Ovation event that took place at the end of January. 150 prospects were invited and roughly 40 attended. Swiss raclette was served along with beer and wine. The event was a success and cost \$1200. Chris Gulotta mentioned that guests did not all know each other, and that they enjoyed meeting new people. The guests walked over to the Harlem Quartet concert after the cocktail party. It was agreed that this kickoff event was a great start for the Ovation Group.

There will be another event this summer that will include a cocktail party either before or after a concert. TBD. The plan is to ask some musicians to join the Ovation group at the cocktail party.

Auxiliary members are encouraged to submit contacts to add to our Ovation mailing list.

Old Business/New Business

Annual Meeting/July Luncheon – Nancy Pasfield will start looking at locations for our July lunch. She thinks our two best options are the Jackson Hole Golf & Tennis Club or Teton Pines. There was discussion about whether the Pines can rise to the occasion this year. If the Pines is selected, planners will have to give the staff some specific feedback and direction. Chris Gulotta offered to speak to Katherine Ward, who helped organize the Ovation event, for other suggestions as well. If any Auxiliary member has strong feelings on the matter, please contact Nancy Pasfield directly. Finally, members would like to have a musician perform at the lunch again.

Nancy also mentioned the possibility of hosting another social gathering of the Auxiliary at her home, last year's event was enjoyed by everyone. If so, it was suggested that we try to have a musician perform at that event, too.

Final reminder that we need volunteers on May 17th for the StringFest concert. Please contact M.E. Weber.

10:55am Meeting Adjourned

Upcoming Meetings:

May 18, 2023 – TBD

July 20, 2023 – Annual meeting/Lunch in person