**Mel Bay Subcommittee**

**Minutes**

**Thursday, April 15, 2021**

**Virtual Meeting**

**The meeting was called to order at 5:00 PM by Zoe Perkins, Chairperson. In attendance: Zoe Perkins, Christy Beckmann, Ellen Edman, Glenda Hares, Art McDonnell, Bill Ruppert, Kyle Henke (Staff Liaison), Rick Duplissie (KPAC Manager). Not in attendance: Joe Walsh**

1. **CITIZEN COMMENTS –** There were no citizen comments.
2. **NEW BUSINESS**

The meeting began with a statement of purpose, biographical information on Mel Bay and introduction of subcommittee members. Zoe has had email conversations with Bill Bay and Susan Banks, children of Mel Bay who support this project but need to approve any final plans.

Discussion began with ideas that were proposed in the approved motion including a concert series, scholarships, and a sculpture.

It was agreed that a concert series could be started that would fund music scholarships and eventually/possibly a sculpture. It is hoped that a big name performer would draw a large crowd to a benefit performance with tickets upwards to $100 depending on the design of the event. Bill Ruppert noted that Pete Townsend of the Who and a bus loaded with the band, the Eagles attended to Mel Bays funeral. He felt we could get a lot of support from musicians. Rick stated that the weeks of December 4/5th and 10/11th are open for a concert this year. Zoe asked that people bring recommendations of performers to the next meeting. Rick thought the first concert was a good way to determine the support in the community. Hopefully this would be an annual benefit event. Kyle acknowledged that KPAC has BMI, ASCAP and SESAC licenses. Ellen suggested we could broaden an event with other performances and dinners.

Discussion about a scholarship program determined that it should reach out to a broader St. Louis base and not just Kirkwood High Students. Glenda volunteered to learn more about the perimeters for establishing college level scholarships. A representative from Kirkwood High School in an earlier phone conversation said that they could help facilitate a KHS scholarship. Zoe informed the group that the University of Missouri has a Mel Bay music scholarship. Depending on available funds possibly two scholarships could be offered.

Zoe acknowledged that the Missouri Historical Society has an exhibition planned. She is going to contact the curator.

Next Meeting Date – April 29, 2021

**Staff Liaison:** Kyle Henke. Phone: 314-822-5856 Email: henkekk@kirkwoodmo.org

**Chair:** Zoe Perkins

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