

Norwalk Gamer Symphony Orchestra

Minutes for the General Meeting of August 21, 2018

Meeting called to order at 8:06 P.M. by Bryan.

Committee Reports

- 1.) Non-Profit Formation Committee, report by Rachael and Ben
 - a.) Articles of Incorporation signed after last rehearsal, but not submitted yet; will mail off soon.
 - b.) Some hesitation regarding possible name change (see New Business 3)
 - c.) Bylaws sent off to two pro bono lawyers, currently waiting for response
- 2.) Rehearsal space report
 - a.) East Norwalk Library works, but costs the same, roughly, as Factory Underground
 - b.) Danbury Music Centre will probably work out for free (see New Business 3)

Old Business

- 1.) Getting more e-mail accounts through Google - *Rachael introduces motion, Mike seconds*
 - a.) \$5 per account.
 - b.) ... or, 30 aliases per account, for free!
 - c.) Aliasing risks messing up the e-mail inbox, with lots of distinct sets of communications, and introducing a lack of accountability or responsibility for who responds to what within the same inbox.

Rachael motions to close the floor, Pradeep seconds

New Business

- 1.) Motion to discuss rehearsal etiquette - *Rachael introduces motion, Mike seconds*
 - a.) We have younger members joining - in seeking to be good role models for younger musicians, we should strive to:
 - i.) Talk less during rehearsal, as it takes away from rehearsal time.
 - ii.) Watch for profanity.

Rachael motions to close the floor, Pradeep seconds
- 2.) Motion to discuss communications to members and non-members - *Rachael introduces motion, Pradeep seconds*
 - a.) Rachael currently waits for someone to come to one rehearsal, and then grants them access to Discord and the Music Portal, to verify they're truly interested in joining.
 - b.) Sam currently sends out the link to join the Discord server in the e-mails to the whole mailing list, which includes people who have never come to a rehearsal.
 - c.) We currently have some safeguards:
 - i.) We manually add people to that mailing list.
 - ii.) Some of our Discord channels are locked behind a member status an admin must grant. Bryan and Rachael are the only admins, and ultimately that responsibility falls to Rachael right now.
 - d.) We could re-purpose the mailing list as more bare-bones general, concrete announcements, and have a second mailing list for people who're "members" in a more involved sense.
 - e.) There's currently a large number of people on our mailing list who are not currently attending rehearsals or otherwise involved in the group.

f.) Sam opines that openness with Discord or the mailing list isn't necessarily a bad thing; it opens up two more avenues for people to get connected.

Rachael motions to postpone discussion on this, Pradeep seconds

3.) Motion to discuss Danbury Music Centre for rehearsals/concerts - *Pradeep introduces motion, Rachael seconds*

a.) Pradeep went to check out venue.

b.) Bobby and another board member of the DMC think it would be fine for us to rehearse and/or perform there, despite lack of insurance, and furthermore think it wouldn't cost us anything.

c.) Due to estimated increase in travel time for most members, we'd be limited to weekend rehearsals, and carpooling would be important. Also, would this work for younger members?

d.) Due to weirdness of playing/practicing on instruments that one would not be performing on, we'd like to not shake things up right now.

e.) We can look deeper into this after our current concert season.

f.) If we start practicing in non-Norwalk places, are we still the Norwalk Gamer Symphony Orchestra? Our current plan would still have most of our rehearsals in Norwalk, and a plurality of our membership is still from Norwalk. But what's in a name? Proposed alternatives include the Connecticut GSO, Fairfield County GSO, SW CT GSO.

g.) *Bryan moves to question: Should we remain the Norwalk Gamer Symphony Orchestra?*

Motion passes

Sam motions to close the floor, Pradeep seconds

4.) Motion to discuss East Norwalk Library game festival concert - *Sam introduces motion, Rachael seconds*

a.) It would be on Saturday, November 10th, 2018, in the early afternoon.

b.) Mike (Guitar) unable to make that date.

c.) We should gauge participation in-person at rehearsals - when2meet is not cutting it for us.

d.) We can adjust rehearsal etiquette to suggest that people don't pack up and leave until after announcements are done. This means announcement-doers should be prepared to speak concisely and impactfully.

Sam motions to close the floor, Rachael seconds

Rachael motions to adjourn the meeting, Mike seconds

Announcements

1.) Next General Meeting scheduled for September 18th, 2018, 8:00 P.M.

2.) Rehearsal tomorrow, Wednesday, August 22nd, at the Main Library in Norwalk, from 6:00 P.M. to 8:15 P.M.

3.) Rehearsal after that on Saturday, September 1st, 2018, from 1:30 P.M. to 5:00 P.M. at the South Norwalk Library.

4.) Our concert is currently scheduled for Sunday, October 14th, 2018, starting around 5:00 P.M. at the Wall Street Theater in Norwak.

5.) *Octopath Traveler* has good music, according to Mike. We might see some in our repertoire someday...