

WJMB Alumni Meeting Summary
Saturday, November 24, 2007 2:00 pm
Location: Niles Masonic Lodge, 22 W. Church St, Niles, OH

James Cunningham called the meeting. There were about 10 people in attendance and a sign in sheet was available. Attendees included:

Jim Cunningham
Paula Franklin
Diane New (Franklin)
Margaret Franklin
Margie Smith (Franklin)
Larry
Marci Dubec (Meiers)
Bonnie Emerick
Sarah Winston
Wendy Mundell (Slee)

There was a discussion on creating an alumni association to help keep the alumni informed on current activities and to raise funds to help the band. The Troopers in Wyoming (under the direction of WJMB alumnus Fred Morris) were mentioned as having a nice alumni association setup that has gotten quite a large membership. Modeling our new organization after theirs was suggested.

There was a discussion concerning the current WJMB band issues, such as financial problems, performance issues, low membership, lack of support from the local music community, lack of a primary band director and the fact the band did not tour.

The group decided that all in attendance should try to contact any alumni that they can reach and that another meeting would be scheduled in late January to early February 2008 in order to avoid conflicts with the upcoming holidays. The next meeting was planned to be the beginning of the new organization where an election of officers would take place.

Unofficial WJMB Alumni Group Activities since the November 24th meeting

Since then, a group of alumni, including Jim Cunningham, Dan Davis, Mike Ceci, Stacie Salyard (Williams), Wendy Mundell (Slee), Tom McGuire and Mike Harlan have been working, through many emails and a short meeting, on planning for the creation of an official non-profit WJMB Alumni Association.

We've been working on the following:

- Contacting alumni and collecting information for the alumni database
- Creating a new alumni web site (www.wjmbalumni.org)
- Gathering information on non-profit creation requirements and fees
- Coming up with more ideas for fundraising. Such as:
 - Bus trips to New York, Niagara Falls, Chicago
 - WJMB album auction through silent email bidding
 - Spaghetti dinners at the Niles Masonic lodge
 - The Masons have already offered their building for our use since we are planning to raise money to help youth.
- Coming up with ideas for how the association should operate. Such as:
 - Membership types
 - Membership dues
 - How donations to the alumni organization should be handled
 - How donations from the alumni organization to the band should be handled