



## GENERAL BODY MEETING

**Date:** January 7th, 2020

**Location:** The Senior Center

**Time:** 7-8am & 8:30-9:30pm

**Members Present:** Tom Benson, Callie Morris, Anthony Brown, Maria Zepeda, Jack Stob, Joe Glassy, Nic , Natalie Schmidt, Jesse, Jocie, Roy Curet, Susan Morgan

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TOPIC | PRO's ASCAP, BMI, SEASAC, GMR LLC.

**Icebreaker Question:** Top Band's/songs 2010, Jon Bellion: Woke the 'f' up, London Grammar: Everyone Else, Vance Joy, Childish Gambino: This is America, The Portland Selection: Nancy's Waltz, Brandi Carlile: The Joke, Molly Tuttle's last three songs

### Updates:

- 501c3 application started
  - Welcoming extra eyes and advice
- 2 events under our belt - Meet Your MAMA and First Night: Resolutions.
  - 1 Baby MAMA event
- Looking for members to create a fundraising committee, currently fundraising is falling on Maria, Callie and Anthony. Adding a committee will allow for us to put our efforts into our other tasks.
- Songwriters Circle - location to change each month with January 31st @ Gentry House.
  - Songwriters Circle: Missoula used to be at Wave & Circuit with 48 individuals performing throughout the year.
  - Now Songwriters Circle: Montana opening it up to be a state wide event! If you are outside of Missoula and wanting to bring this to your community....CONTACT US!!  
mama4mt@gmail.com
  - These occur the last Friday of each month
- Still looking for office space: hold
- Event Coordinator - Kashya Boretzky.
  - Welcoming more people to create a committee geared towards building community based music events
- Creating a handbook & questionnaire for people in other towns to prepare for expansion
- Brand Ambassador - Jolene Lamon
- Baby MAMA is ramping up for spring semester, new member: Iris Jandreue
  - Looking to host an event celebrating music from every college in Montana
  - A band scramble or battle of the bands

- Looking to influence legislature
  - Reached out to Attorney General Tim Fox in regards to state wide funding to help businesses cover ASCAP, BMI, SEASAC licensing
- MAMA's taking a trip in May to Madison, Wisconsin to link up with the Madison Area Music Association to see what an established foundation can grow to be
  - [Between the Waves Music Conference](#) (May 29-31)
  - Wurst Times Music Festival (May 29)
  - MAMA Awards (May 31)

**Discussion:**

- Looking to see what we can do as a state to protect our local artists.
- Helping to create awareness prior to opening a venue as opposed to dealing with it when you get called upon by the PROs.
- When they (licensing companies) first send you an agreement it's under the assumption that you have broken copyright laws. They don't always know the venue.
- Per a phone call conversation between a venue and licensing company: even if it's original music if you have one BMI artist you are still liable.
  - Ascip has 670,000 venues, revenues 385 million dollars - 75% of staffing is interns.
- There are many companies and not a whole lot stopping more being created. Examples
  - Ascip, BMI, SEASAC, GMR LLC.
- There are two known representatives in Missoula that work to find venues violating copywrite laws.
- As an artist we can start asking venues if they have PROs licensing or vice versa. This is to help protect venues from being fined and generate a more beneficial, trustworthy relationship between artist and venue.
- Some venues have been able to negotiate fines or fees
- ASCAP [scholarship program](#)
- There may or may not be city/state wide licenses in larger cities and states.
- If an event is going to a public ear they could be on PROs radar.

Next Meeting: February 4th, 2019