

Lawton Philharmonic Society

**Annual Meeting**

Lawton Country Club

May 15, 2025

President David Jackson opened the meeting at 12:10 pm.

Last year's minutes of the annual meeting were approved as presented (.).

Patty Neuwirth presented the financial report for April 2025. Total revenue July 1 through April 30 is \$285,075.16 with operating expenses of \$277,914.82.

Musical Director Jon Kalbfleisch's report was presented. He lamented that we had to cancel our final concert. He also remarked on the video at Lawton airport that "extolls the virtues of Lawton/Ft. Sill" but does not include any of the arts. He also mentioned getting MMA to cover the orchestra pit to give them more stage space.

David Jackson thanked everyone for their support of LPO. The season was one to be remembered for many reasons, but for David the highlight was our participation in the Carnegie Hall Link-Up program and cancellation of our April 26 concert for flooding concerns. The Link Up event had and will continue to have a long-lasting effect on the students who participated and the two thousand who attended. David hopes to continue this going forward. He presented Carol Gardner with her Volunteer of the Year award.

Patty Neuwirth thanked everyone for making this a great season. We had 2 outstanding concerts and an amazing Carnegie Hall youth concert. Now we need to raise funds to continue. She has ad book forms ready to help sell advertisements for 2025-26 season. Also ready are the Season Subscription packets.

Committees:

Concert - Options for cancellations were presented. 1. Donate the ticket price, 2. 2025-26 Flex passes. 3. Credit on 2025-26 tickets. 4. Request a refund.

Grant-Writing – Ronda Norrell reported that she would like to pursue both Priddy and McCasland grants for next season.

Hospitality – Carol Gardner thanked the board for the donations to our musician hospitality.

Marketing – Patty Neuwirth presented packets for selling ads for our 2025-26 program to fund our next season.

Nominating – Doris Lambert reported the board members to be voted on to return to the board for a new three-year term are: Case, Chapman, Diley, Fritsch, Gardner, Knecht, Mariano and Norrell. Motion passed unanimously. Officers nominated for next year are : President-David Jackson, Vice-President-Doris Lambert, Treasurer-Jo Ann Knecht, Recording Secretary-Linda Chapman. Voting will take place at our June meeting.

Fundraising – The golf tournament is being postponed from May 19 to a later date.

Personnel – Our Musician Contractor has resigned. Tanya Case reported we are in negotiations with someone from OKC Phil. She hopes to have an answer soon.

AFA Festival – Ronda Norrell thanked everyone for a great AFA Festival. This year they added an "Shepler Gallery" for artists. Next year she hopes to add an Youth Gallery. The AFA office

had water damage from the April 26 weather. Karen is now rooming with Patty at our LPO office and will soon move into a temporary office in City Hall.

AFA Summer Camp – Plans are moving forward to accommodate 1000 students four weeks in June. Classes will be 8:30 to 1:00 four days a week. LPO will possibly be having a Soiree with celloist Nat Chaitkin for sponsors and supporters.

Meeting adjourned 1:03 pm.

Our next regular meeting is June 19, 2025.

Submitted by Patty Neuwirth for Linda Chapman, Recording Secretary

Members Present: Melissa Beck, Pam Brisolaro, Tanya Case, Tim Diley, Janice Fritsch, Carol Gardner, Katherine Hickman, David Jackson, Doris Lambert, Ronda Norrell, Cindy O'Connor, and Sally Simpson.

Absent: Linda Chapman, Blake Dutcher, Jo Ann Knecht, Piere Mariano, Conner Sasseen