

CCSA board meeting minutes

June 12, 2025

Attending: Andrew Shaud, Tim Eisele, Maria Bergstrom, Leyre Alegre, Sean Lonnecker

Tim called the meeting to order at 7:05 pm.

Minutes of the May 8 meeting and the May 10 annual meeting were reviewed and approved.

We welcomed a new board member, Sean Lonnecker. Jon Ensminger is also new but was unable to attend this meeting. Tim briefly reviewed our policy governance approach. We will review governance documents in August/September.

Executive Director Report

Financial update: we are at about the same place we were last year. We are about one payment behind to Michigan Tech (a holdover from the Covid years).

Budget for 2025-26:

Includes a 4% increase in tuition for next year, which just barely balances the budget. Andrew is considering adding to the bills a 3% processing fee to help cover the expenses of our online payment system.

A suggestion was made that the bill also include language that explains that tuition fees alone do not cover all expenses. The bill already has an option for an additional donation for the scholarship fund, which did result in donations that mostly covered our scholarship funds.

MACC has announced that they will not open grant applications until they know how much federal and state money will be allocated. Grant applications will be delayed until at least September.

Elevator maintenance: it will probably cost about \$1500 per year for upkeep. One of the requirements is a working phone with a dedicated phone line. Otis Elevators would be happy to do service for us and provide a monthly service contract. Currently it isn't working at all.

Updating our brochures: Andrew will reach out to Haley for the file from the previous brochure. Suggestions included: adding a QR code for our website and possibly also a QR code directly to our "donate now" button.

Fundraising

Andrew suggested a Gala concert to celebrate our 55th anniversary year (2027). Perhaps we could try out a smaller donor concert this year—a small concert featuring some students and inviting donors from last year and this year. We could hold it at our building and offer a tour, highlight future projects, etc. Maybe a "Donor's Dessert Concert" combined with or in place of the advanced student recital. Have a one page flyer available with facts about the organization, opportunities to support projects, etc.

About \$825 in donations has come in so far from our direct appeal campaign, along with a couple of donated instruments.

Andrew would like to suggest that we take a break from Fun Cards for next year. Instead we can promote the cards again in the fall.

Summer happenings

Keweenaw Early Music Ensemble concert was last weekend. About 15 audience members attended. Advertising could be expanded. There will be another concert in Calumet in August.

June 21 invitation to play in the lobby before the Bergonzi Trio concert. Kids who play will get free tickets to attend.

July 3-4 Dollar Bay 4th of July Bash: Andrew attended their organizational meeting last week. He would like to have something associated with the kids event on the 3rd—maybe make shaker instruments. After the parade we can perform in the fire station. Maria can help out and will also make and print some kind of postcard-sized handout geared toward adults taking lessons. Also, we should advertise the August yard sale.

August 23 Sale and Open House: get the word out to CCSA folks early to be keeping items for the sale. Notify when they can drop off items (not too early). Facebook Marketplace is a good place to advertise with photos of some of the items. The hope would be to have tables in the parking lot. Leyre has volunteered to help—she is not back in town until the 14th. Sean will put together a checklist for the sale and think through the timing. A suggestion was made to consider setting up a Venmo account to receive money. Sean and his wife can also help at the sale. Could we also include a bake sale? Because of food safety restrictions, we can't set a price—only offer food by donation, and we must mark allergens (“might have nuts or gluten” or label clearly).

Leyre will prepare an email for CCSA members about the July event and the August 23 sale, asking for volunteers to help.

Board updates

Jared Anderson asked Tim again if the board had decided on raises for Andrew and Brian. Tim inquired whether a 3% raise would be possible within our budget. Andrew suggested the cost would be around \$2500. Maria moved and Leyre seconded to approve the 3% raise for Brian and Andrew. Motion carried.

No July meeting. Next meeting, August 14, 7 pm.

Leyre moved and Maria seconded, meeting adjourned at 8:20 pm.

Respectfully submitted,
Maria Bergstrom
Secretary