

Scotch Plains Fanwood Music Boosters

Minutes of the Meeting September 22, 2014

7:35 Meeting called to order by Joe Guidi

Presidents welcome and introduction:

Joe Guidi introduced himself, and co-president Ken Litwin, and board members present: Steven Oster, Kalapan Kumar, Fran Wagner, former Presidents Grace Cheney and Amy Davies, and advisor Dan Murphy. He spoke about his background and explained that the organization is there to promote music for the whole district from elementary to high school and choral and instrumental. Joe shared his background as a student and with Mr. T. in the program himself a graduate who participated in marching band, Moonglowers and choir.

Ken Litwin introduced himself and welcomed everyone. Stated that the organization represents the entire district. Thanked Grace Cheney and Amy Davies.

Treasurer Report:

Steven Oster introduced as new treasurer. Organization is in a very good position fiscally. Last year Music Boosters netted \$10,000 from all of the activities from last year.

Presented the budget for this year (see attached PDF) differences are estimates. New item is insurance. He inquired with how this is handled with other organizations PTA and Scholarship foundation as to how they handle their insurance.

Each year there is an a gross of over 500,000 a year and audit is require by 3 people. Lorraine Staniec, Carol Ann Lisanti, Teresa Casserly volunteered themselves.

Home Show numbers are in. Show last year grossed 13,800; This year over 22,000.

Motion made by Gil Isaacs to approve the budget, seconded by Lorraine Staniec.

Recording Secretary:

Fran Wagner, Meeting minutes from the last meeting will be reviewed at the next meeting.

Staff Reports:

Mr. Durand Thomas Marching Band home show was a great success. He thanked everyone from the bottom of his heart for all the efforts of the Music Boosters. Home show started 16

years ago, went from 5 bands to 16. Credits it's success due to our organization's help. Because of upcoming holidays, no marching band activities this weekend.

Mr. Vincent Tuturiello discussed the strength of the Music Program, praised it's teachers. Discussed what the Music Boosters have been and where it may need to go. He challenged the Music Boosters to attract more members. He described the importance of increased membership numbers as a way of communicating the need to continue to support the program at the Board of Ed level. He expressed that many people feel that the Music Boosters is a marching band association and it is not. He felt communication efforts should be directed toward this. Were SPFMB membership district wide to exceed say 200 or 300 members, it would be reflected on the budget received from the Board of Education. Recent district purchases were new choral risers and new lights. More membership recruiting needed outside of the high school instrumental program. Mr. T asked the music boosters to make a focused effort on the choral program, as well as in the elementary and middle schools.

Moonglowers performed at Susan G Komen Race for the Cure in Manhattan. And in October they will be performing at St. Barnabas.

Mr. Tuturiello has been nominated for a Grammy Award. His daughter created a Facebook page and spoke about the many former students responded with wonderful positive memories on Facebook, at this point there are over 700 people on Facebook following the progress. During the Home Show there were many former students who came out to see the show.

Reach out to Mr. T for anything. If there is a problem, see me directly. We have a great staff that cares about kids.

Mrs. Allen Report: read by Grace Cheney:

My teacher page is up and running - check calendar for schedule regularly. For new parents, they can access choral information and schedules on this page.

Choir uniform information has been made available to all students. All choral students are expected to wear these uniforms in the choral performances. The forms and payment are due to the Blue Box in the music office by Wed, October 1. See Grace Cheney with any specific questions regarding uniforms.

The 3 mandatory Choral Concerts for the 2014-2015 school year for ALL choirs are:

Winter Concert - Wed, December 17, 2014

Cabaret Night - Wed, February 11, 2015

Spring Concert - Wed, May 20, 2015

All are at 7:30 PM in the SPFHS auditorium. Also, the dress rehearsals for the concert are always the day before after school. See Mrs. Allen's teacher page for a more specific dress rehearsal schedule.

*We had our Repertory Theatre interest meeting about our upcoming production of Grease last week. Audition sign-up's will start next week, and the audition dates are in October and listed on my teacher page.

Thank you all for your ongoing support of the SPF music program!

Introduction of Board Members:

Jeanne White as Vice President

Kalpana Kumara as Corresponding Secretary. Kalpana stated that she has received a few emails from former members with requests to unsubscribe. Please let her know if you need to get emails and you haven't been getting them yet. You can email Kalpana at spfmusicboosters@gmail.com.

Committee Chairs Reports:

Home Show, Barbara Oster: it was fantastic night. Very successful group effort. 181 kids in Marching band, every parent did something. Great time had by all.

Pasta Night, Lucia Diaz-Romero: coming up October 22nd. Lucia will have a brief meeting this Thursday at her house. Or contact her by email. It is one of the biggest fund raisers the Music Boosters does. It requires a lot of hands and a lot of people. Please consider donating time. Pam Sayles has made a fantastic poster. It requires publicity and other people to help out. The evening includes musical performances. Presently: Sensations will be singing and the band, Frank the Barber perhaps as well, if any of your kids want to perform. We can have a Music Booster sign up wearables that night.

Lucia is also Terrill Liason.

Question posed about changing the perception of Music Boosters being just for instrumental music vs. being there for all schools and all musical involvement. Pam Sayles mentioned going to different schools. We discussed marketing the way that the booster affects choral music. Promoting when equipment is purchased, and explaining that Mrs. Allen comes with requests we support them. Ask Mr. T. to get one kid from each group to do a poster of each group.

Trip Coordinator: Lisa Zimmerman was not present. Ken Litwin spoke stating that every group in the program except marching band performs. The trip is to Washington DC April 16 to 19. Meeting on Sept. 30th. If there is a marching band only student that wants to go on the trip they should see Mr. Thomas to discuss.

There are fund raisers to help with the cost.

Scrip, Mark Schuman: detailed information about the Great Lakes Scrip program. You can buy scrip by email or physical card. You get the gift card plus a certain percentage from each company or store. It can add up. Physical scrip cards get ordered about once a month as

physical gifts. There is a Scrip Now immediate scrip available as well. Payment is electronic through the Presto Pay Co. Money raised goes toward the trip. List is available online

Supermarket Scrip, Grace Cheney: Cards available for purchase at Shop and Stop, A&P or Shop Rite. 5% of money goes into students account. Fill out a form drop a check in a lock box at her home.

Yankee Candle, Grace Cheney: needs a helper.

All fundraiser info can be found at <http://spfmusicboosters.org/fundraisers/>

Pit Crew, Joe Guidi: The men and women who move all the stuff. Volunteers needed to help. 3 trucks this year and a trailer. It's like moving a circus every week. Don't have to be big and strong but you have to be willing to help. Please consider volunteering for pit crew during the next few weeks.

Membership, Randi Traimen: so far 90 families membership and renewed members as of today. Most came from the marching band show. Lengthy discussion of ways to increase membership as proposed by Mr. Tuturiello, including having meetings at the other schools.

Open chairs: Senior Music Awards will be filled Yvette Speranza, takes place on June 3rd. Clothing drive: Lorraine Staniec. Carol Ann Lisanti volunteered to help Amy Davies with Jazz Festivals going forward.

Photos, Dan Murphy: explained the photo website and requested please send photos videos. The photo website is at: <http://spfmbphotos.blogspot.com/>

General Discussion:

Stacy McAnulty offered to improve the information on the website Jeanne White offered to get information from all of the schools together.

News from Terrill: Mr Thompson is working a production of Diary of Ann Frank, on November 21st and 22nd and a musical in the spring.

Reminder to support our sponsors.

Betsy Ringel thanked everyone who supported the Home Show, reminder that crockpots and coolers are by the back door.

New business: With September 13th performances in the rain Marcia Zimmerman discussed purchasing raincoats like the other schools. Preliminary research shows they are about \$80 each. Discussed a fundraiser of a Marching Band Picture Book using Dev Anjaria's photos Estimated \$15-20. Need to look into this and other possible fundraisers.

Stacy McAnulty started a discussion of where the extra money music booster raises should go: PA system, expanding the grant program. The needs still far exceed the revenue.

Next meeting October 21st 7:30

Motion to Adjourn: Pam Sayles, Marcia Zimmermann seconded.

Meeting adjourned at 8:55.pm