

## Minutes for BHSN Band Booster Meeting—December 12, 2007

### Attendance:

**Boosters:** Becky Robbins, Becky Connor, Esther Smail, Judy Fulford, Jenny Shedd, Gale Nichols, Susan Dybvig, Ralph Gaebler, Darlene Pratt, John Langley, Nan Morrow, Terri Arnold, Melanie Miller

**Band Directors:** Janis Stockhouse and Thomas Wilson

### Meeting Convened at 7:05 pm

#### Agenda

##### **November Minutes were distributed to attendees.**

VOTE: A motion was made to approve the minutes. The motion was seconded. A vote was taken and was unanimously approved.

##### **Overview of fundraising for band program and finances**

Other successful band programs around the state run their programs on a combination of fees and fundraising. Recommendations people have made include:

- Keep doing Jazz Under the Stars
- Look into corporate sponsorships (maybe for the marching band, putting corporate logo on T-shirt)
- Mardi Gras event
- Spring Run
- Annual Parent Fundraising campaign

We should set our sights on each major fundraiser generating \$10,000.

Sue Dybvig explained that, according to our budget, the band boosters need to raise \$40,000 to \$50,000. The funds we raise this year will be used in the following year. The fees that parents pay for marching band do not cover the costs. It was suggested that the marching band fees be increased to \$300.

We have a reserve account of approximately \$30,000 for the inevitable replacement of the band truck and uniforms. We also have an endowment fund with approximately \$30,000 that is intended for scholarships and student assistance.

Tom Wilson pointed out that the students are invested musically in the band program, but not financially. We should consider a pitch to the students about the importance of helping in fundraising activities. We should send out an email about band costs first before sending out information on selling ads. Materials will be available for students and parents regarding ad sales at the February 20 concert. It was suggested that maybe we could find something meaningful to the students as an incentive for fundraising (VIP parking space, priority seating on marching band bus, etc.)

Tina Peterson will come to our January meeting to present some general, effective fundraising tips.

**Mardi Gras Committee Report:** Jenny Shedd and Cindy Creek will chair the committee, with help from John Langley. The first priorities include finalizing details including admission price of event and activity fees, getting publicity started, creating the flyer, making piñatas, finalizing menu. The sub-committee heads will detail what they need. Everyone should try to sell tickets to the event. The ticket selling will be accomplished in a similar fashion to orders taken for gift-wrap or Girl Scout cookies (i.e., name of purchaser, how many tickets—adult and child, phone number contact, being sure to collect the money at the time of sale). Activities suggested for the evening include music from the jazz bands and combos, piñatas, auction baskets, New Orleans style food, desserts, King cake contest, selling beads, making masks. Janis also suggested that for the atmosphere, perhaps Francesca Sobrer could arrange for some students to be Living Statues, allowing the Theatre department to keep any tips they make.

**Spring Run:** Need to find someone who will chair this event. A little research has shown that a 10K run would generate more interest than a 5K. Janis will contact Joe Hoffmann regarding the event.

**Jazz Under the Stars:** Gale reported that the actual money made from the 2007 event came from sponsorships and beer and wine sales, not the ticket price. Gale spoke with the Deer Park caterer, Cake and Caterer, and they are willing to prepare a meal for comparable price to what we paid previously. The committee is looking at changing the time of the event to a Friday night in late August or September at Deer Park Manor. (There is a significant savings with renting on a Friday night.) There was discussion about which date to secure, and based on prior commitments, other events, etc., it was decided that next year's JUTS would be Friday, August 29.

### **Upcoming Events**

The Bloomington Jazz Fest will be held Friday December 14 and Saturday December 15 at BHSS. All of BHSN Jazz bands and combos will perform.

Friday January 4, concessions will be sold at the North-South basketball game. Jenny Shedd will handle the concessions.

The ISSMA Solo and Ensemble contests are January 26 (vocal/piano) and February 2 (woodwind/percussion/strings). Ewa Balewski is taking care of arranging volunteers. Jenny will help with concessions.

### **Directors Reports—Janis Stockhouse and Tom Wilson**

Janis Stockhouse spoke about the Music Advisory Panel. Enrollment is down in music and performing arts, especially in the middle schools. The Bloomington community may not know that these programs are at risk; that the arts are slowly disappearing from school curriculum. A Music Advisory Panel is beginning to meet. Each music teacher at MCCSC is invited along with a parent advisor. Janis and Becky Robbins will attend the next school board meeting to talk up the music program.

Tom Wilson reported that he has been pursuing funding from MCCSC for a new, safer, more permanent marching band tower. These towers typically cost \$22,000 and upward. The tower we currently have is barely adequate in regards to needs and safety. There's a possibility that when the North parking lots are refurbished, a new tower could be installed at that time. Most schools in our class have these towers. Tom thinks this is a facility issue that the school corporation should fund, especially considering the safety issues involved.

Also, looking ahead at our needs, uniforms will have to be replaced in approximately 2014. Many school corporations help fund 50% of marching band uniform costs by setting aside a yearly sum over time. Tom is looking into initiating that.

Marching band materials will be sent to parents at the end of February.

### **Other Business**

#### **Next Meeting**

The next Band Booster meeting is scheduled for Wednesday, January 9 at 7:00 pm in the Band room. The Fundraising committee will meet at 6:00 pm prior to the band board meeting.

### **Meeting Adjourned at 8:10 pm**