

## Smithfield High School Music Booster Minutes - 10/14/2021

Meeting called to order at 7:04.

Attendees: Michaela Turbitt, Paul Duhamel, Melissa Moroni, Jennifer Hirons, Phil Hirons, Lu Duhamel, Sandy Brenner, Michelle Pereira (by video), Desiree Hirons (Tri-M Rep).

Michaela stated that both Mrs. Young and Mrs. Chartier had scheduling conflicts with tonight's meeting and could not attend, as did Tracy Bosco. All had expressed several times they wished they could attend.

**Secretary's Minutes** - minutes from the September meeting had been emailed to members. Sandy Brenner wanted to clarify that when she contacts Valley Breeze they *may* include a link to the membership page/website, but it is not a guarantee. Minutes were approved as emailed to membership.

**Treasurer's Report:** Melissa Moroni

Operating account: 10,154

Take your seat account: 6594

Auditorium account: 9780

Pending check of \$ 62.64 from the pizza party. Michaela stated the check has been cashed two days ago but probably has not cleared yet. Also have money in PayPal from memberships that needs to be transferred over. Small amount of money (approximately \$30) is kept in the cash box for sticker sales so that we can be ready to sell quickly without having to go to the bank for seed money.

Michelle Pereira clarified that money in the auditorium account cannot be considered available funds as this money also needs to be used to fund the gala.

**Band Report:** Paul Duhamel (via Kelly Chartier report)

- Band will be playing at homecoming tomorrow night

**Choral Report:** Michaela Turbitt (via Katherine Young report)

- Chorus will have a school wide performance at the pep rally tomorrow. First school wide performance in a long time.
- Group outing to RENT at PPAC is a non-school sanctioned event. Open to students, families, boosters...anyone who wants to attend. Cost is \$34 and the show is January 16 (matinee).
- Still finding out details for October 26 concert (i.e. if we need to contact trace). They would need help with that if they do.

- There has been a positive response to the October 23 Sarah Potenza performance. Chorus will perform Lean on Me and Keep Holding On (Sarah's original). This is also a non-school event.

**Tri- M update:** Desiree Hirons

- Held their first meeting September 29. Overview of Tri-M was given and they spoke about service project ideas for the year. Next meeting is October 27.

**Old Business:**

- Membership update: currently have 25 paid members. Will make an announcement and have forms available at the concert.
- PR update since last meeting : Held off on concert announcement in the Observer because there was still uncertainty as to who could attend. Will request a photographer at the concert or submit our own photos.
- Take Your Seat: currently have approximately 10 to be installed. Will make final announcement at Fall concert with deadline of 10/30 for installation by Holiday Concert. Spoke about having three installs per year (before the winter concert, before the musical and by the end of the year). Michaela brought up the possibility of purchasing a portable sound system at some point. as the auditorium project is not currently being funded, and the main complaint about events in the auditorium is that people cannot hear. Grants have been sought by the school department but currently no money is allocated in school/town budget for this project specifically. Need to see if this is something the teachers/school desires. More discussion needed on whether Take Your Seat funds can be used for this purpose if it is considered an "auditorium upgrade" and whether or not the system would then belong to the music department or school.
- Merch store - decision made to open October 18, keep open for two weeks only (through November 1). Can display a sweatshirt at the concert and also make announcement.

**New Business**

- Present/review budget for 2021-22 school year - tabled as further information is needed.
- Change next meeting date - November 11 is Veterans Day. Meeting will be Tuesday November 9 . It is VIRTUAL this month.
- Update on green sashes for Sentinel Singers- boosters had offered to purchase, but Jennifer Hirons volunteered to finish sewing as there was leftover material. Jen stated the elastics are already in and they just need to be stitched. Jen currently has a hand held sewing machine only, so if anyone knows anyone who would be willing to sew, contact us. Michaela offered to have boosters vote to pay for seamstress/tailor if needed. Jen will let us know if she needs help.
- Concert Tuesday October 26 - volunteers needed to sit at door for music department donations, sell stickers (Cash box has been purchased!)
- Suggestion was made for a door prize at the concert. Would like to make a Fall themed basket. Michaela to go to area farms to see if they can make a small donation which we

can combine into a basket. If anyone would like to assist please reach out to Michaela. Jen will contact Seven Cedars for passes to Haunted Hayride. Several of the music students volunteer there.

- Holiday concert in December - ideas for a fundraiser similar to cookie trays if we are unable to assemble/sell as usual? Suggestion had been made for gift card fundraiser but we will only pursue this if we cannot do cookies. We are hopeful we can do cookie trays this year.
- Proposed invite for mattress fundraiser- SHS girls' basketball coach approached Mrs. Young about teaming up for a mattress fundraiser. Girls' basketball does this every year (not last year). Michaela spoke with Nicole (coach) and she stated they have raised between \$600-\$900 per group in past years. She felt teaming up with a different group would bring in new people/contacts. Students would need to attend a meeting, then advertise by placing fliers and signs around town. Would need to volunteer day of sale (November 20). After discussion it was felt that because this fundraiser heavily involves students it would not be a good fit for boosters, but we are happy to promote it if the department chooses to take it on.
- Newly formed arts task force in the district - Michaela and Paul have been invited to participate as the booster president and VP. Task force includes music and art teachers in the district. First meeting is Tuesday, October 19 . Will report at next meeting how it went, purpose of task force, etc.
- Michelle Pereira stated that she has written a grant (Max and Victoria Dreyfus) for the school department to submit for the auditorium. She wanted to make boosters aware she cited them in grant as having completed fundraising for the auditorium, as well as the approximate amount in the Take Your Seat account. She stated corporations like to see alternate funding sources when someone applies for a grant, so this would be a helpful addition to the application. Board will meet to discuss this further. Deadline for grant is November 9. Discussion occurred as to the original intent of Take Your Seat funds. They are currently earmarked for auditorium upgrades. Michelle Pereira stated the original flier states funds may be used to "promote music department activities". Decision was made to look back through old minutes to see if a vote was taken as to how to use the funds, although for the last few years we have been clearly stating they are for auditorium upgrades when we advertise/sell seats.
- Next meeting **VIRTUAL on TUESDAY November 9, 7:00 p.m.**
- Meeting adjourned: 8:25 pm.

Minutes submitted by Michaela Turbitt