

## **SHS MUSIC BOOSTERS**

### **Minutes October 19, 2022**

#### **Board Attendance:**

Michaela Turbitt, Melissa Moroni, Laura Field-Swallow

*Absent:* Paul Duhamel, Katherine Young

#### **General Attendance:**

Tracey Bosco, Kristi Morin, Francine Ayrassian, Sherri Briggs

#### **Secretary's Report:**

Michaela Turbitt distributed September minutes via email. There were no questions.

Tracey Bosco moved, seconded by Melissa Moroni, to approve the minutes. Approved.

#### **Treasurer's Report:**

Melissa Moroni updated new attendees on the 3 accounts: Take Your Seat Campaign (\$6818.29), Gala (\$9655), and the operating budget. All accounts have been audited to ensure all deposits and expenses have been allocated appropriately. Sign-off on bank audit was completed.

Note: The Take Your Seat Campaign will be lower as we are awaiting final invoice for the last round of plaques ordered. This fundraiser will continue 'lightly' via mentions at events and laminated QR codes placed at Auditorium until all seats are 'sold.'

Ms. Moroni is working on a viewable (Google) doc so that donors can locate their seat. Notification will go out once available.

The Gala account will be closed out with monies donated to the district (once the School Committee approves receipt of donation). A meeting with the Superintendent to begin this process has been scheduled for next Tuesday. Ms. Turbitt and Ms. Moroni will provide an update at next month's meeting. The decision on which items (list of 'potential extras' was provided to the committee) will be purchased will be best determined by Mrs. Young and Mr. Kelley.

As of this meeting, the general operating fund is \$14,089.38. However, there will be two payments made: \$1,061.10 to school and \$1,061.10 to Dana Farber (portion of Cabaret ticket sales was designated to Dana Farber in memory of Sandy Barrette's sister).

#### **Choral Report:**

Mrs. Young submitted a report in advance.

Chorus performed a song at the Pep Rally. It did not go great because of sound issues and students not realizing we were about to sing, so many were talking. It took away some good lessons for next time. Now we're focused on the concert next Tuesday - can't wait to showcase their hard work!

**Band Report:**

Mrs. Young submitted a report in advance.

Pep rally worked out great for Band! It's just easier for them to be heard in such a noisy, echoey environment. They played the National Anthem and some pep songs as students walked in. The football game as always was a blast. We realized we needed a scout up in the bleachers to tell us when to play. From where we were sitting, there was a row of football players blocking the field from view. Luckily, Alex Henson on the team was able to cue us! Alex Garcia also did a fantastic job conducting. It was a blast!

Mrs. Turbitt noted that the .6 music teacher has been hired; awaiting details on the start date of Jazz Band. A welcome card will be placed in his mailbox.

**Old Business:**

Regarding the auditorium, we are waiting on the new speakers though they are expected to be in the Fashion Show.

The price list of potential 'extras' was received; total cost for all is \$25,000. As we have approximately \$16,000, Mrs. Young and Mr. Kelley will best determine what is most needed. Based on policy, SHS Boosters must request approval from the School Committee to make donation to the school. A meeting has been scheduled with Superintendent Bartz to discuss with hope of being placed on the agenda for the next School Committee meeting.

Mrs. Turbitt noted the Fall concert is on Tuesday and Halloween themed. Mrs. Young suggested offering a free raffle ticket for door prize for any student that attends.

Kristi Morin moved, seconded by Francine Ayrassian, to approve purchase of three \$20 gift cards to be used as door prizes.

Mrs. Turbit notified attendees School Committee member, Ben Caisse, sent an email to the Boosters thanking us for advocacy for this project.

Mrs. Moroni stated the Swag Store is now open and will remain open until October 30th. DMK states two weeks seems to be the optimal time. Mrs. Moroni added that we chose to operate the store at our cost to afford more students the opportunity to purchase items, but can be reconsidered if we choose.

Mrs. Turbitt will make an announcement on Facebook page and QR codes can be printed for concert attendees as well.

Mrs. Turbitt noted currently there are 31 members. A QR code can be added to the concert program to encourage folks to join.

**New Business:**

Pep Band Jackets were purchased pre-COVID for the Christmas Parade. Of the 22 purchased, 15 were returned which is not enough for current band members. Mrs. Turbitt confirmed with Cool Air Creations the same style jacket is available at a cost of \$49 each. To ensure all students both this semester and the two being added next semester, at least 17 are needed. After discussion, it was decided an additional 3 should be purchased. If order is placed this week, they should be available for the performance at the Thanksgiving Day game. Tracey Bosco moved, seconded by Sherri Briggs, to approve the purchase of 20 jackets at \$49 each to match the style of existing jackets. Approved.

There was discussion on the hats students wore for the Homecoming game and whether they should be made available for purchase (public). Mrs. Turbitt will find out the price to determine if we should sell hats at concerts, events, etc. (Note: all band students can purchase a new hat.)

Regarding portable signage to display at performance venues (Smithfield High School Music), Mrs. Moroni is checking with EMA to see where COVID signage was purchased. These signs were compact and lightweight. Mrs. Morin will also check Restaurant Depot as they sold many signs for COVID restrictions, etc.

Mrs. Turbitt discussed the need for a fifth Board position, especially for voting purposes. Typically, there were two vice president positions: one for chorus and one for band. The VP of Chorus is unfilled; however, a position of Recording Secretary or Membership Secretary are possible suggestions. If the position is changed, the by-laws would need to be updated. Duties of each were discussed.

Winter concert is scheduled for December 14 and time has been changed to 7:30 PM as the SHS Showcase is scheduled 6-8 PM the same evening. Some concerns were raised such as whether this would impact sales of Cookie Trays or donations which both tend to do very well. Possible solutions included trays being placed on a rolling cart so that an attendee was not required during the concert or offering community service hours to National Honor Society students who could oversee trays. Both would allow parent volunteers the opportunity to enjoy the performance.

Another concern of the overlap of events was parking. Often, parents and grandparents attend the performance. This is dependent upon the number of people attending the Showcase.

Mrs. Turbitt informed attendees Jayna Barrette's *The Great Gatsby* will be running this weekend only at The Assembly Theatre. There are several SHS students in the cast.

Mrs. Moroni stated the Football Team is doing very well this year and there is a chance they make it to the SuperBowl. If so, could bussing the band to that game (Cranston) be considered. Attendees noted the team is quite large this year so there may be multiple buses and a separate bus for the cheerleaders as well so it's possible the band could ride with them. Mrs. Moroni is

going to reach out to the coach for information. Mrs. Turbitt added that Mrs. Young's availability for that game would also need to be confirmed.

The next meeting is scheduled for Thursday, November 10 in the Chorus Room at 7 PM.

The December meeting will be the night before the concert (December 13) to assemble the cookie trays.

Mrs. Moroni moved, seconded by Mrs. Morin, to adjourn the meeting at 8:20 PM. Approved.