

SHS MUSIC BOOSTERS

Minutes November 10, 2022

Board Attendance:

Michaela Turbitt, Paul Duhamel, Melissa Moroni, Laura Field-Swallow, and Katherine Young

General Attendance:

Sami-Lee Harrington, Julia Butera, Joshua Lynch, Jenn Garcia, Lisa Harrington, Francine Ayrassian

Secretary's Report:

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

Paul Duhamel moved, seconded by Melissa Moroni, to approve the minutes. Approved.

Treasurer's Report:

Missi Moroni stated the account balance as of 10/31/22 is as follows: \$9655 for the Gala Fund, \$7362.07 for the Take Your Seat Campaign, and \$13442.16 for the Operating Budget.

As of 11/10/22, two checks were distributed: \$1061.10 to School Department (student activities fund for music) for their portion of the Cabaret, and \$1061.10 to Dana Farber (portion of proceeds in memory of Sandy Barrett's sister). After cost of gift cards (used as door prizes for student attendees of music concert) and new Pep Band jackets (\$838), the Operating Budget is \$10659.96.

Ms. Moroni stated the Gala Fund is now closed; those funds were donated to the School Department (approved by School Committee) to be used for auditorium and equipment as originally designated.

Ms. Moroni stated the Take your Seat Fund will maintain approximately \$100 as this is an ongoing fundraiser.

Mr. Duhamel asked if the School Department will spend those funds on the items specified by Katherine Young and Dan Kelley (spotlights, transmitter/receiver, and headsets). Ms. Moroni will be following up with Business Manager next week as those items were not considered to be part of the original project, they are additional items. As such, it may need to go out to bid and require a new Purchase Order. Ms. Moroni added there may be benefits to this such as better warranties, etc. It was noted these items will be needed for March.

TRI-M Report

Tri-M Board Members Sami-Lee Harrington, Julia Butera, and Josh Lynch provided update to attendees. Tri-M will be running a Toy Drive for McAuley House where students who bring in a toy will be allowed to use that donation as community project.

Ms. Turbit asked if it were possible to include Toy Drive opportunity with the Winter Concert. Josh will provide additional details next week.

Tri-M has been utilizing their Instagram page to promote activities and involvement. Also they opened a TikTok account to promote Tri-M and the Boosters.

The Board congratulated Tri-M on taking such initiative. Mrs. Young added how impressed she has been with everything this Tri-M Board has been doing.

It was noted that the use of the Gift Cards (as door prize to incentivize students to attend concert) was very successful. Several attendees stated compliments regarding the concert were still being received and it was great to see attendees who did not have any children at SHS.

Choral/Band Report:

Mrs. Young stated the fall concert was a success and well-received. \$500 was donated that evening and an additional \$1000 was received by an anonymous parent donor the following week.

Mrs. Young stated Mr. Buller started Jazz Band and it is meeting two days per week (Tuesdays and Thursdays). Mrs. Young and The Tri-M members agreed they sound great already!

Mrs. Young and Mrs. Barrette are working to finalize a collaboration with students in Grades 4 and 5 playing (recorder) an arrangement of Jingle Bells. They are hopeful Durham will donate buses for the December trip.

Mrs. Young stated there have been some concerns raised regarding the overlap between the December concert and the SHS Showcase. Aside from potential parking issues, Band/Chorus students would miss out on other areas of the showcase. Mrs. Young will notify everyone if date of concert changes.

Mrs. Young stated Legally Blonde has been selected as this year's musical. She stated this year there has been an increase of the number of students signing up for auditions; many of whom have never taken part in theatre previously.

Regarding the trip during April vacation (April 13-16) to New York, the cost for two Coach buses is \$23K, and the approximate per student cost excluding transportation is \$600 which includes meals, a Broadway show, etc. There was discussion of possible sponsorship and various fundraisers to help students offset costs.

Ideas successful in the past included ads in the musical playbill, calendar raffles, restaurant fundraisers (Five Guys, Chipotle), bidding on cakes, and bake sales. Mrs. Young suggested a Spree of Trees fundraiser where raffle tickets are sold (20/\$20) for a chance at goodies hung from trees. Donations of trees as well as items would need to be secured. Ms. Harrington suggested a LIVE Christmas Card idea where students would sing Christmas Carols outside homes for donations. Also suggested was a coffee truck outside the school allowing teachers/students opportunity to purchase coffee, etc.

Old Business:

Regarding the auditorium, we are waiting on the spotlights and headlights as mentioned earlier.

Ms. Moroni stated the Swag Store is now closed and items should be received before Christmas.

Ms. Young stated the Pep Band was asked to perform at the Thanksgiving game; however neither she nor Mr. Buller can attend due to travel. Ms. Young stated Alex Garcia could step in to cue the students. The game is scheduled for 10 AM and Jenn Garcia (Alex's mother) believes Alex will be available.

Ms. Turbitt stated the Pep Jackets are in and will be picked up this weekend. Ms. Turbitt updated attendees the Pep Jackets purchased are same model/style as those we have so now each student will have a jacket going forward. Ms. Moroni suggested jackets be numbered and stored by size when received.

Ms. Turbitt added a few years back, Pep Band members wore winter hats and so these were offered for sale this year. 31 hats were sold.

Regarding portable signs, Ms. Moroni brought in a foldable easel (which clips at top to secure signage) to determine if something like this might be suitable. (The portable signs used during COVID clinics, etc. are no longer available for purchase.) Ms. Moroni offered use of easel until a purchase is made. Ms. Turbitt informed attendees the purpose of the easel is to hold signage which advertises SHS Music. Signage and log were discussed. Ms. Turbitt stated preference is to remain local if possible, but will research pricing. Ms. Moroni suggested vinyl to make it easy to roll sign.

Paul Duhamel moved, seconded by Jenn Garcia, to approve the purchase of an easel and signage, not to exceed \$250. All approved.

New Business:

Holiday Concert is scheduled for December 14 and assembly of cookie trays is scheduled for December 13. However, if the date of the concert is changed, the date of assembling trays will move to the eve of the concert. Based on previous sales, more larger trays were suggested. Should the concert date remain same evening of SHS Showcase, a rolling cart was suggested so that trays can be put away as parents enjoy the concert. Many like to purchase the trays before the performance, so tags are placed on trays and they are picked up at the end of the concert. Mrs. Young will do an inventory of the music closet to determine what is needed.

Ms. Swallow nominated Lisa Harrington for the position of VP, Chorus on SHS Music Booster Board. All approved.

Ms. Turbitt stated hangers were needed to hang the uniform pants. Francine Aryossian moved, seconded by Paul Duhamel, to purchase 30 hangers. All approved.

Ms. Moroni stated the music closet needs to be organized and item properly stored (perhaps in totes, etc.). It was suggested this could be a project for Tri-M members.

Ms. Turbitt stated Michelle Pereira (former Music Boosters President) suggested holding a red carpet type of event for those that donated to the Gala which was cancelled due to COVID. Ms. Young stated the most appropriate time for such an event would be the Festival Concert in March which showcases the students' best work. After discussion, members felt it was unnecessary as so much time has passed and donors have been thanked. Rather, a thank you sign to businesses/donors would be appropriate and could be placed directly outside auditorium.

Tri-M Miss Harrington asked about selling t-shirts for the musical. The t-shirts mimic the poster art. It was suggested hanging the art submissions, and perhaps making 20 of each for students to purchase as a fundraiser as students wear such shirts all year. Once the design is chosen, shirts are given to cast and crew though additional shirts could be ordered and made available for sale.

Legally Blonde (this year's musical) is scheduled for March 10-12. Miss Harrington stated Tri-M will post on social media to promote and can do the same for the t-shirts.

The next meeting is scheduled for December 13 to assemble cookie trays.

Ms. Moroni moved, seconded by Mr. Duhamel, to adjourn the meeting at 8:10 PM. All approved.