

State College Music Boosters Meeting Minutes
Tuesday, October 6, 2015
Room 38
7:00 – 8:00 p.m.

Introductions

Attendance: Sue Cunningham, Heather Bodenschatz, Margaret Higgins, Paul Leskovicz, Jessica Redmond, Scott Thomas, Wendy Warner, April Simpson, Beverly Hibbert, Gregory Fox, Jill Ross, Leigh Hurtz, Sue Tighe, Kristy Bagley, Brendan Bagley, Jane McCandless, Judy Shue

President's Report

New events were successful: "Meet the Band" Night for Marching Band, and "Used Shoe and Shirt Sale" for Marching Band. The Band Shack is up and running.

Treasurer's Report

- In the fall we tend to take in money, and spend in the spring.
- Used instrument sale is "ahead" this year.
- Online membership is a popular choice.
- Membership and donations is down. Choir and orchestra families have not received the Booster emails yet. Should we staff membership tables at concerts? Discussion led to these suggestions:
 - Send email to choir parents again next week (before Fall Choral Showcase), and consider staffing a table at this event when all choirs are present.
 - Back-to-school night has an open house format. Could be an opportunity, but may be difficult to take advantage of a membership table in this format.
 - Create a dedicated email to choir parents, and orchestra parents. Heather offered to write.
 - 8th grade parents pose great potential. How to tap them? Send emails to them to join. Staff their concerts. Consider an end-of-the year push at receptions.

Music Director's Report

- South Building is changing. All music programs are up and running. Jazz email for HS went out.
- Partners in Music at PSU has 160 students participating (5th grade).
- Paul is visiting faculty in the district, and has seen about 80% of the classrooms; he is thrilled by what he is observing in the classroom and from the students.
- Fall Choral Showcase Oct. 20; Jazz at Lincoln Center Oct. 7, and the "sound check" prior to the event should be a "go".
- Jan. 20 concert for 10th grade choir and band will need to be rescheduled.
- Tri-M is up and running. Students are leading the 15-30 minute meetings.
- Solo Ensemble Festival is Nov. 14. Open to all instrumentalists grade 5-12. Adjudicated format helps students get feedback after playing. Tri-M will help at event. At PMEA District 4 Meeting, Paul will offer to have others in the district attend. Question was asked about having a table at this festival? In the future, Paul would like to add vocal adjudication.
- Regional Orchestra Feb. 25-27 will be co-hosted by Mr. Robinson and Bellefonte. Hotels will be used rather than family housing, but Mr. Robinson will need help with Snacks.

Old Business

1. Used Instrument Sale – thanks for the help! John Cunningham will meet with Roy and Mary to update forms; maybe put on-line to do ahead; and possibly different numbering. Dave Wilson

did try to conduct a private sale of instruments that didn't sell; someone at door caught an instrument sale that had not paid 10% to Boosters. Future ideas: need a check-out table for instruments that didn't sell so owners are not just walking out with their instrument; need more faculty committed to helping; and don't need more than 3 students/instrument to demonstrate. Heather suggested signs outside directing people to where they should go.

2. Homecoming Potluck – numbers worked better this year of who would bring what, less waste; need to continue to remind families that there is no access to refrigerators or microwaves.
3. Homecoming Parade meal for Marching Band – Jean is all set; \$4/meal, same price since 2012 from Food Services. Wendy picking up the food on Oct. 9.
4. Restaurant fundraiser – Nov. 4 at Moe's (they only do fundraisers on Wednesdays); 15% of proceeds from lunch through dinner benefit Boosters; need to bring the flyer, or show the flyer on phone. Texas Roadhouse is starting fundraisers; and we will go back to the Greek.
5. Citrus Sale – no longer offering door stop direct (customer orders, fruit delivered to their home) in the Spring; in Spring only option is pick-up. Offering door stop direct in time for Christmas. Boosters will do Citrus on-line at same time as Cookie Dough sale. Need a shadow for Citrus Sale this year.
6. Updates – Cookie Dough will be delivered by Thanksgiving; the last clothing orders are due by Oct. 15 for non-embroidered items; Popcorn sale from home football games brought in \$105 in the first check; Cookies and Hot Chocolate for last Marching Band rehearsal being organized (Weis will donate Hot Chocolate, and will donate ½ the needed donuts for band, and we pay \$5/dozen for the rest; since Eat-n-Park closed, Wendy approached Weis for donations and donuts); Music Formal committee is waiting for theme from Tri-M, and Beverly is looking for a co-chair, event is June 4 at MNMS.

New Business

1. Guest, Judy Shue – requested funds to take her students to visit nursing homes in the area. After discussion of the event, she requested assistance in funds to pay for the substitutes needed to cover her classes while she takes the students: \$236.28 for 4 half-days. Scott moved we approve, Brendan seconded, Membership approved.
2. Sponsorship in Thespian program, an "ad" for James and the Giant Peach – Margaret has a history of spring shows only. Discussion followed. \$140 pays for a half-page ad for both the fall and spring shows. Sue moved we approve, Beverly seconded, Membership approved. Margaret will get check to Sue Tighe (Bravo Boosters treasurer), someone from Music Boosters will need to provide logo and print text to Thespians for program.
3. Whipple Dam Marching Band picnic, and reimbursement for band president – this picnic sponsored by MB president and drum major families. Students pay for supplies, and need to collect from other students. Sue asked if Boosters could/would reimburse MB president (Cecelia Leskovicz) for out-of-pocket expenses. Discussion about what or if Boosters should support: if we weren't involved in the planning, is it right to "bail out" now? Is there another format or venue for the MB at end of summer than Whipple Dam? Ask current president and drum major to keep notes of thoughts/best practices. Booster's does bay \$58 to reserve the pavilion in January. Assess who is in charge of this event, and what does the history show.

Discussion led to an agreement that: (1) this event needs to be re-evaluated by Paul and the MB leadership, and (2) Boosters would not be reimbursing/supporting this year.

4. Bus for Europe in 2018 – Boosters historically has paid for the bus transportation for the European Music Tour from State College to the departing airport (ex: Baltimore, Dulles, etc.). In the past, this was approx. \$4,500; in 2015 the cost was \$6,000-7,000 and \$5,000 had been dedicated by Boosters. Margaret asked to approval of the funds for 2018 so that Paul could get estimates and being planning, knowing what he had from Boosters (any difference in cost is absorbed in the cost to students). Scott moved Boosters donate \$5,000 toward buses for 2018; Beverly seconded; membership approved.

5. Woody Herman Band concert – this year is the 40th Anniversary of the State College Jazz Festival; event is Saturday, May 7 (which happens to be PSU Graduation weekend). Paul has Mr. Victor as one of the adjudicators; and would like to bring in a band of great notoriety. Paul has been in conversation with the Woody Herman Band: estimate for flights and hotels \$16,000; north auditorium holds 700-800; if 400 tickets sold at \$30/ticket that is \$12,000. Robert Sides is willing to donate \$750. What about sponsorship by instrument companies or local businesses? Beverly will talk with the Marine Corps league about sponsorship. Would this be Crescendo Fund eligible? District funds? Margaret will look at Heritage Fund to see if this is possible. Suggestion made to charge \$15/student; \$30/adult. After much discussion: Paul will meet with Margaret to look at funds available; Boosters will add this topic to the November agenda to continue discussion; possibly subsidize student tickets up to ___ amount?

Adjourned approximately 8:30 p.m.

Submitted by: Jane McCandless