

## **Wilmington Wildcat Band Parents and Friends Meeting Minutes for Wednesday, February 6, 2008**

**In Attendance** (Attendance List held by President, Mrs. Boland)

**Meeting Called to Order:** By Mrs. Boland at 7:00 PM in the WHS Music Room.

**Minutes of January 2, 2008 meeting:** Mr. Ham requested a correction to the minutes concerning the wording of the motion referring to the money to be set aside for Scholarships. The wording was corrected. A motion to accept minutes as corrected was made by Mr. Ham and seconded by Mrs. White. There was no further discussion and minutes were accepted.

**Treasurer's Report:** (A copy of the report is attached to the hard copy of the minutes). Highlights of Mrs. Steven's report are: \$6000 was transferred from the general checking account to the Scholarship savings account to cover the 2009 scholarships.

### **OLD BUSINESS**

**Comedy Night:** Mrs. Boland thanked Mrs. White for doing a terrific job both in being the Band Parent's liaison to the Son's of Italy and for coordinating the sales of tickets. Mrs. White reported that the event was a big success. Two hundred thirty-nine people attended. The comedians were excellent. Additional money was raised through a raffle, and new this year: a silent auction. Proceeds will be split between the Sons of Italy and the Band Parents. Thanks to Mr. Kevin Caira and the Sons of Italy for their generous support of the Wilmington Band Parents.

### **NEW BUSINESS**

**Scholarship Discussion:** Mr. Ham introduced a discussion on scholarships by expressing his wish that money permitting, the Band Parents consider increasing the number of scholarships each year until all seniors are able to receive an award. Discussion included the high priority that the Band Parents organization puts on scholarships to graduating seniors, the concern for what happens when all but a few get scholarships one year and that the financial situation could change on a yearly basis such that we could not fund at the level of a previous year. Discussion ended without a vote, but with a commitment to look at the issue of scholarship awards on a regular and annual basis.

**Ski Trip:** This winter's ski trip for band members will be March 7 & 8. Ms. Mette reported that she is all set for chaperones. Fifty-four students are signed up. Many are able to defray part or the entire cost of the trip with the money accumulated in their individual candle drive fund raising accounts.

**Recording Secretary Position:** After numerous terms of dedicated service, Ms. DiLullo has decided to step down from the position. After a discussion on how to fill the position, Mrs. Joan Mara volunteered to be nominated for the position. Mr. Ham introduced a motion to nominate Mrs. Mara to serve as Recording Secretary. Mrs. White seconded the motion and Mrs. Mara was elected on a unanimous vote.

**Use of Band Parents Publicity for Non-Band Events:** A request was received by Mrs. Boland from Mrs. Farnsworth in the United Methodist Church Youth Group to forward an announcement of an upcoming event through the Band Parents group email.

Before doing so, she wanted to bring it to the attention of the group for discussion. There is concern of using the email addresses for other purposes since they were given to us by parents for the purpose of communicating Band Parents news. Discussion included the wish to help out other community organizations, what criteria would be used to decide which requests are accepted, who decides, and what is the best way to send out the information. A review of the by-laws did not provide any pertinent information.

A motion was proposed by Mr. Romano and seconded by Mrs. Hwang that the Executive Committee of the Band Parents would make the decision until such time that the by-laws were changed to provide guidance. The motion passed.

Discussion included that one criterion to be used is whether a band member is involved in the organization. It was also decided to ask Mr. Musicant if a "Community Links" area could be added to the Band Parents website. That way, Mr. Musicant could include a news item in the weekly Band Parents newsletter to look at the link on the webpage if one was interested. Also, it was decided that the by-laws be reviewed by the Executive Committee who will present changes to the group.

**Fundraising:** Mr. Romano will be organizing a meeting to brainstorm new fundraising opportunities. Contact him if you are interested. He will email a couple of dates and then set the meeting.

**Ms. Mette's Report:** Ms. Mette presented a "Wish List" of big ticket items which are likely to fall outside of the school committee budget for the Performing Arts Department. She would like the Band Parents to consider the list and help out in purchasing what it can. The list is attached. Members talked about additional ways of getting needed instruments such as donations from alumni or looking for donations from organizations that support music in schools. Recommendation on how to do that can be discussed at the next meeting.

The quote for uniforms is \$364 per uniform for 26 or more uniforms at a time. Current lead time is 4 to 5 months. Ms. Mette has requested Mrs. Benton to include a capital expense item in the next two school budgets for 26 uniforms each time. The budget will be voted on at the next School Committee meeting.

Band Camp is scheduled for August 17 – 21.

Ms. Mette addressed a number of items which were presented in the minutes of past meetings.

**Close of meeting:** Mrs. Hwang offered a motion to end the meeting. Mr. Romano seconded the motion. The motion passed and the meeting ended at 8:40pm.

Respectfully submitted by Mr. Bleier