

WILMINGTON BAND PARENTS AND FRIENDS MEETING MINUTES FOR SEPTEMBER 2, 2009

In Attendance: Justine Palermo, Michele Capistran, Ann Ferraro, Maria Tashera, Doreen Donnell, Jennifer Baima, Craig Musicant, Cheryl Mallett, Linda Valenti, Jane Ammon, Susan Leiskau, Diane Harvey, Christine Hayes, Karen MacKinnon, Ann Marie Robinson, Athena Ouellette, Kathy Evans, Sheila Carter, Joanie Parisi, Cheryl Ricardo, Cheryl Gustafson, Carolyn Parece, Cathy Woods, Bob Fino, John Grealish, Bill Campbell, Laura Canty, Patricia Romano, Maria Goncalves, Patty Osborne Shafer, Lynda Spinazola , Kevin Bleier

Meeting Called to Order: By Kevin Bleier at 7:10 p.m. in the WHS Music Room.

Approval of May 2009 meeting minutes: Patty Shafer raised a motion to accept the minutes of the May 13, 2009 meeting. Craig Musicant seconded the motion. There were no corrections to the minutes and the motion was unanimously accepted.

Welcome: Kevin Bleier welcomed everyone to the first Band Parents meeting of the 2009 – 2010 calendar. He quoted the organization's by-laws: "The purpose of this organization shall be to provide additional support for the Wilmington Public Schools instrumental music programs." This is done through volunteer opportunities and fund-raising used to provide scholarships to a number of graduating seniors and to provide financial assistance with the purchase of items beyond the budget of the instrumental music program.

Ms. Mette's report: Disney trip dates have been confirmed as December 3 – 6, 2009. One hundred ten students and chaperones will be going on the trip. The cost has been estimated to be \$820 per person inclusive of transportation, hotel, park admissions, Educational program and meals. Chaperones requesting less than a quad accommodation will be paying a little more. The flight down will be on four airplanes from AirTran and Southwest, each with one stop. More details on flight times and itinerary will be available in the next few weeks.

One possible fund-raising opportunity is "Shop for a Cause", sponsored by Macy's in Burlington. Students sell \$5.00 tickets to an after-hours shopping opportunity and a raffle. Band keeps the \$5.00 collected for the tickets. Individual student funds can be credited.

A new style of polo shirts will be purchased as part of the band uniform. Initial thought was to phase these in, having sub-freshman and any other student wishing to buy one now make the purchase and over then next couple years, all students will eventually own one. An alternative, suggested by Ms. Mette is to request the Band Parents organization pay for 120 shirts at a cost of \$3150, which will become property of the band and the shirts can be assigned to students for the year. A vote was taken later in the meeting on this proposal.

The band purchased two new Drum Major hats and cases for \$485. Ms. Mette asked that the Band Parents organization donate money for that purchase. A vote was taken later in the meeting on this proposal.

Two students were in need of financial assistance for band camp, at \$195. Ms. Mette asked that the Band Parents organization donate money for that purchase.

Treasurer's report: Pat Banda provided the following information on the Band Parent's Finances:

Checking Account: \$10,985.87
Scholarship Account: \$6695.82
"Uniform" Account: \$6828.05

The checking account is account used for deposits from fundraising activities and for writing checks for organization expenses. The scholarship savings account is used to collect funds directed toward scholarships. The goal is to increase the amount in this account to cover two year's scholarships by the time scholarships are awarded. The uniform savings account was set up to maintain money for new uniforms. Last year, approx. \$4500 was spent on uniform piece (hats, pants) but the money was taken from the checking account. Money was left here because it was an interest-bearing account. Therefore, the amount in this account is not necessarily intended for uniforms.

Motions on spending of funds:

John Grealish proposed that financial assistance for two students for band camp at \$195 each be approved by the band parents. Jennifer Baima seconded the motion. The motion unanimously passed.

Patty Shafer proposed that 150 polo shirts be purchased and paid for out of Band Parents funds. Seconded by Lynda Spinazola. Discussion included looking into ways to donate current white polos to a group that may be in need. The motion was unanimously approved.

Bob Fino proposed that the Band Parents pay for the two Drum Major hats and cases, at a cost of \$485. Kathy Woods seconded the motion. No discussion, the vote as unanimously approved.

Officers: The following officers for 2009 and 2010 term were introduced: Kevin Bleier – President, Bob Fino – Vice President, Pat Banda – Treasurer, Craig Musicant – Publicity Director. Additionally, in non-officer roles, Mark Levine has volunteered to do videotaping of concerts. Patty Shafer has volunteered to work on publicity.

The office of Secretary is currently open. Patti Plante was not at the meeting, but had voiced her willingness to serve. John Grealish nominated Patti for the position. Patty Shafer seconded the motion. Vote was unanimous.

Old Business: Kevin thanked all who donated soda and who volunteered to assist in selling concessions at the Memorial Day parade.

New Business: A number of thank you cards and letters came in over the summer. Once card was signed by all of the graduating seniors. Also, scholarship winners Emily Pothier, Buddy Gormley, Jordan Higgs, Kathryn Abell, Amanda Morgan and Kimberly Evans sent thank you notes.

Yankee Candle fund-raiser begins September 21st to October 5th. Forms will be passed out on the 17th and 18th during band. Proceeds of the fund-raiser (40% of goods sold) will be deposited into the student's individual account, which can be used to defray the Disney trip. Cheryl Gustafson will be coordinating the fund-raiser. Candles will be delivered to her home before Thanksgiving. Questions can be directed to Cheryl.

Volunteers are needed for selling popcorn at the home football games on September 11th, 18th and 25th. Sign-up sheets were passed around.

Walkers will be needed for the two parades in October. Sign-up sheets will be passed around at the next meeting.

Suggestions were taken for additional fund-raising: Casino Night, Comedy Night at Giggles, King Triton sponsorship of parade, Golden Ginger gift certificate for raffle, Bruins ticket raffle. The Son's of Italy may be willing to provide assistance with certain fund-raising ideas or projects. (Kevin to write the President of the Sons of Italy.) These suggestions will be taken under advisement by the Executive Board. Additionally, volunteers are being sought for working on a fund-raising committee. Volunteers can contact Kevin Bleier.

The next meeting is October 7th, 2009 at 7:00 pm.

The meeting adjourned at approximately 8:30 pm.