

Band Boosters Meeting Minutes, May 9, 2023, Upper Arlington High School Band Room

- I. Jane Brown (Past President) brought the meeting to order at ~7:00.
- II. A motion was made to adopt the minutes from the April meeting. The motion passed; minutes were approved.
- III. Executive Board and Committee Reports
 - A. Jane Brown introduced the executive board (slate of returning and new board members)
 - B. Amy Turnbull (Current President and former Vice President) said there have been discussions of when to schedule the boosters meetings because of the conflict with vocal music boosters, of which many parents are involved in both programs. Discussions are currently underway to move the meetings to Monday evenings in the upcoming school year. Amy said band registration is in the works and a link will be sent out through MailChimp soon.
 - C. Fundraising/Development report: Michael Geygan said digital donuts sales are ongoing, with no recent sales to report. \$133 was made from the Awesome company for a recent swag sale. Michael is currently exploring having a seasonal and ongoing swag store that will remain open for sales. \$326 was made from the spring concert sale of old band camp t-shirts. Michael thanked all that helped with the spring flower sale; 789 items were sold. A sale of fall mums is planned for August/September. No winter flower sale is planned. Car wash fundraisers are planned for July 1 and August 12. Tickets will be distributed at the 8th grade meeting and high school students will receive them from the band directors. Cost will be \$10/car; the salesperson will get \$7 for their account and workers will get \$3 collectively. Donations will be split among the workers in that shift. Top selling students/sections/or rows may get an incentive. The summer uniform store will open May 10 and will close June 1. There will be a link at the 8th grade meeting and booster newsletter. Purchase of summer uniforms is not a fundraiser, but cost + shipping only. Kristin Lach said men's medium shorts are in short supply. Summer uniform store closes on June 1, 2023 in order for students to have uniforms in time for the 4th of July parade. Luis Alicea wanted to know if in the future there could be shorter shifts for parent volunteers for sales such as the flower sale. Michael said he would split the shifts next time around. Summer uniforms would be shipped directly to the student's home this year.
 - D. Uniforms: Kristin Lach said ordering is underway for suspenders, accessories, etc. The cost of plumes has risen dramatically (roughly twice the cost), so new members will be issued used plumes, as available. Kristin is working on new hat box estimates. Uniforms are at the dry cleaners currently. Dates have been determined for uniform fittings over the summer. Mr. Fessler said the current role for student uniform managers is in discussions.
 - E. 8th grade committee: Rada Terzieva said the 8th grade parent meeting on Thursday, May 11 at Hasting Auditorium at 6:30 is set and the slide show presentation has been created.

- F. 3rd quarter refreshments: Jane said the purchase of 2 new water coolers is approved (for replacement of coolers that cracked last season). Nancy Stevens will explore purchase options and coordinate with Noelle as there is no Amazon prime selection option currently available.
 - G. Co-Treasurer: Noelle said 5 practice batons have been purchased for \$772.50. Charms has been renewed for \$329, MailChimp service has been renewed for \$13.98/month. Checks are in process for student account for travel, and insurance was purchased for \$694. Michael mentioned that car wash permits have been secured and Bob Gillette has prepared the IRS documents. Luis asked how much the fees for website maintenance were and this is going to be explored. Rada mentioned the website is not using PayPal at all and there is a need to review what features we are not using currently with the website so that we don't pay for functionality we are not using.
- IV. Old Business
- A. Michael said there is no update on the trailer. Regarding the 501 reinstatement, the application is ~95% done. The attorney needs full budgets determined for 2020, 2021, 2022. Bob Gillette will work on the Ohio part of the process. Mr. Fessler offered his assistance with determination of past expenses. Michael said there was ~ \$66,000 reduction in funds in 2020 or 2021, there is some question if this was in part due to the cancelled Disney trip refunds or other legitimate expenses incurred. Michael will be working further on this. Lanyards for parent volunteers obtaining football field/inner track access should arrive next week. Jane reported that graduation band cords have been ordered from Jostens and are yet to arrive.
- V. New Business
- A. The budget is complete. Student band fees are \$395 if paid by cash/check. If digital payment through Square, the fees are \$407.11 to offset digital transaction fees.
 - B. Freshmen and first year members will be provided initial accessories included in their band fees.
 - C. Scott McWilliams reported the budget is now more transparent and more detailed information is included as to which fundraisers are for general band accounts vs. individual student accounts. The budget is based off 167 members next year and the framework for checks and balances is now in place. He reported bleacher buddies will not be a fundraiser this year due to the poor shape of the chair backs. Participation in 99 pledges will be dependent on the 501 status. There was a motion to approve the budget which was seconded and the motion passed.
 - D. Uniform fittings will occur during summer K row rehearsals. Pictures will be taken August 3.
 - E. Year-end celebration will occur Tuesday, May 16.
- VI. Director reports
- A. Mr. Fessler said the band is growing and transparency is important-many thanks to the parents that are volunteering.
 - B. The next season's marching band half time shows have been determined: features are Styx, Elton John, Metallica and a TBD senior show.

- C. The drill writer is on board to create the shows. Squad leader auditions are in progress. 168 students are anticipated to join the band; some are still on the fence, so there could be more. The deadline for registration needs to be June 1 so that the drills can be written with an accurate number of band members.
 - D. Spring bandquet is scheduled; plaques are ready to be picked up. Next year's band officers will be announced at this event.
 - E. Quartermasters and uniform managers are TBD.
 - F. 8th grade meeting is scheduled for later this week.
 - G. Graduation band rehearsals are in progress and many concert band members have been moved up to join the symphonic band members as many seniors will not be playing for graduation.
 - H. 5th grade night is set of May 10 as a recruitment event. Fittings will occur in the fall for 5th grade. Buckeye Brass and Winds will assist to provide higher success for all students in instrument selection.
 - I. A drumset has been donated by a retired director. Kolin Redman said a band family member (grandparent?) at the Hastings concert wanted to make a donation, but that currently this donation is not tax deductible. He wanted to know where to direct them to make a donation. Rada said there is a place on the website that accepts online donations.
 - J. Mr. Fessler wanted to know about the possibility of a revamp of the website and wants to revamp the *UA Bands this Week*. He said the functionality of the website is fine, but that it is visually outdated. Luis said that he could fix functionality problems and Elaine Alicea may be able to assist with revamp. Work needs to happen with the website calendar.
 - K. Mr. Fessler would like to apply for grants. A pressing need is to purchase tubas. Piccolo, bass trombone and sousaphone orders are proving difficult to fulfill.
 - L. Twenty-three members are anticipated for K row this fall. Auditions are planned. Jon Honeycutt will be the lead percussion instructor and Nate Gambill will be assisting. Options for additional drums are in consideration. 4 additional flub (tom) drums are being considered as a preparation for those not quite ready to play snare.
 - M. Mr. Fessler is working on making the band room a safer place (redesigning the set up) and drum shields are in consideration to protect regarding sounds concerns. There is increased interest in double reed instruments so bassoons may soon be a pressing need also.
 - N. Mr. Fessler mentioned that coaches have approached him about how they could achieve the same culture that the band has. He mentioned that the directors place a focus on kindness and caring individually about the students. If parents have concerns, he appreciates when they are brought to his attention.
 - O. Mr. Fessler thanked everyone for a great year.
- VII. There was a motion that passed to adjourn the meeting. Meeting adjourned.

Attendance: Jane Brown, Michael Geygan, Scott McWilliams, Nancy Stevens, Amy Turnbull, Luis Alicea, Todd Fessler, Kristin Lach, Kolin Redman, Meredith Healey, Renee Rodabaugh, Brad Conway, Rada Terzieva, Noelle Fox, Sarah Gemperline, Elaine Alicea. Zoom attendees: Emily Geygan, Dale Johnson (?), Lawrence Sheline

Respectfully submitted,

Nancy Stevens, Communications manager