

Band Boosters Meeting Minutes Nov 8, 2022, Upper Arlington High School Band Room

I. Jane Brown, President, brought the meeting to order at 7:00 PM.

II. A motion was made and seconded to approve last month's minutes. The motion passed; minutes were approved.

III. Officer and Committee Reports

A. President's report. Jane Brown provided the President's report, thanking Greg and Nancy Stevens for all of their efforts putting together the video for the concert.

B. Vice President's report. VP Amy Turnbull had no report this month.

C. Past President's report. Wanda Berk provided the Past President's report. She expressed concern about the low attendance for recent Boosters meetings. She encouraged everyone in attendance to bring a new person to next month's meeting. This generated a discussion about reaching the parents generally. Comments were made that we need to do more social things as parents. Could we do a Zoom link for the meetings as well? We need people to take over the jobs of the graduating parents. Amy pivoted the discussion to how we can have a better feeling of volunteerism. Often, at events, it is hard to know what to do if you signed up to help. Volunteers will come back if they feel like they are useful and needed. The suggestion was made that we have name tags for events or identifying lanyards for whoever is the leader for an event. Buddy families would also be helpful. Katie Petronella stated that she tried to get this started last summer but ran out of time.

D. Treasurer's/Assistant Treasurer's report. Christine Foulke (with assistance from Noelle Fox) provided the Treasurer's report. The budget was revised with the feedback from last month. A clarification of the "budget" was made: the provided budget showed the allocation of the band fees for our known/recurring costs for the year. This is not a complete financial report. Christine also mentioned the need to close the Pavillion Account. A motion was made and seconded to close the Pavillion Account and put the money in the Uniform Account. The motion passed. Soozie Cole Hamilton suggested that we approach the Education Foundation for funds for instruments. We also discussed how much band fees should be raised for next year. This is dependent on where band camp will be held. Mr. Fessler is unsure about which option is better: the high school or Camp Swoneky. He believes there was a benefit to having kids sleep at their own houses at night when band camp has been held at the high school. Also having band camp at school reduced/eliminated kids' anxieties about going away. Other parents stated that the camaraderie of going away to band camp is valuable as well. Other financial topics discussed include raising funds via selling ads in the program. Katie Petronella suggested that a paper program would be a better way to feature ads for sponsors. Other suggestions include getting sponsors for halftime shows and bringing the Blitz back next year. A motion was made and seconded to approve the budget allocating the band fees for marching band expenses and other recurring things. The motion passed.

E. Communications Manager's report. Katie Petronella offered the communications report. The 8th grade outreach committee is meeting with 8th grade band parents prior to the middle school concerts coming up Nov 10 and Nov 15.

F. Uniform Committee report. Uniform chair Kristin Lach had no uniform committee report this month.

G. Fundraising/development report. Fundraising/development manager Michael Geygan provided the following report. So far, \$24846.46 has been raised. Soozie suggested a 50/50 raffle. The Boosters were reminded that candy bar sales were voted down as a source of fundraising. Michael is planning to have a new spirit wear store up and running soon. The trailer wrap will likely be \$5500. The interior buildout will likely be ~\$15000-20000. Michael reminded the Boosters to be sure any sponsor information is permitted in the context of the 501c3 reinstatement. (We can tell potential sponsors that we are anticipating this being reinstated soon.)

IV. Old Business. Instrument purchases were proposed by Mr. Fessler previously: two piccolos (\$1600 total); two bass trombones (\$3828 x 2). A motion was made and seconded to allocate funding for these. The motion passed.

V. New Business. A handful of students would need scholarship assistance to go to Disney, ~\$5500 in total. The executive board had previously discussed whether we should provide scholarships. There are several details the executive board considered: (1) We typically have not provided scholarships for past trips as they are optional. (2) Should students be expected to have contributed via fundraising? (3) The Disney trip is expensive and came up later in the calendar than usual so students were not aware of the trip prior to the spring flower fundraising opportunity. If we move forward with scholarships, we will rely on Mr. Fessler's judgment regarding financial need/extenuating circumstances. A motion was made and seconded to agree to provide scholarship funds for the Disney trip (not for all trips moving forward). The motion passed. A request for donations should be made via social media; donors can mail checks to the PO box or use the Paypal link on the website. Katie Petronella will pass that request along to Julie Easterling.

VI. Directors' Report. Mr. Fessler's report included details about elementary school tours that will occur during class registration time. These are coordinated with choir and orchestra. There will also be a related arts combined presentation for elementary school kids in January/early February. Then fittings will be scheduled. The directors are hoping to get a new piano for jazz ensemble soon but Mr. Fessler is still assessing the best model. This would cost \$1500-2000. The directors would also like three Zoom recorders for the concert bands. These are ~\$100 each. The band director office also needs a set of shelves; perhaps someone has an old book shelf that could be donated. Concert band auditions are coming up, and clinicians need to be paid. There will be three concert bands this year, and two will go to OMEA contest. Pep band dates are scheduled and will be shared soon. The indoor concert was great; having the shell opened in

the back helped with the balance. The middle school concerts are coming up. \$2400 was collected via EZ Pay for instrument repairs. Jazz ensemble auditions are also happening, and Mr. Fessler is hoping the jazz ensemble will play at the choir concert Dec 14. Students will be going to the Mid-Ohio Food collective Saturday, Nov 12, for a service project. There were 19 OSU Honor Band nominations submitted; two students are participating in regional orchestra. We need to get a bandquet date on the calendar with award presentations. This generated a discussion about the best timing for this, and the Boosters agreed that it should be after the Disney trip. We are hoping to have this at the high school but need to be cautious about the rules regarding food in the auditorium.

VII. Motion to Adjourn

A motion was made and seconded, and the motion passed 8:30 PM to adjourn the meeting.

Respectfully submitted,

Katie Petronella, Communications Manager

Attendance: Jane Brown, Renee Rodabaugh, Michael Geygan, Todd Fessler, Katie Petronella, Noelle Fox, Christine Foulke, Wanda Berk, Amy Turnbull, Rada Terzieva, Kristin Lach, Luis Alicea, Nancy Stevens, Kolin Redman, Rashmi Nemade, Soozie Cole Hamilton