

Pioneer Band Association Meeting Minutes

Tuesday, October 4, 2011

Present: David Leach, Nancy Waring, Marianne Blaesing, Kathy Shipan, David Baum, Paulette Schonsheck, Carol Flannagan, Bill Maxbauer, Jan Maxbauer, Bart Polot, Lisa McKarns, Amy Higgins, Marie Therese Hocott, Amy Olszewski, Cathy McKenny, Carolynn Hayman and Jeanette Bradford.

Meeting called to order at 7:35; all attendees introduced themselves

President's Report – Marianne Blaesing

The Band Handbook is available online, and is only being printed upon request. The Band Directory is being worked on. Linda Verhun is researching fundraisers. Gail Stout has agreed to lead the Centennial Project.

Secretary's report – Bill and Jan Maxbauer reporting

Minutes from September 13 meeting were reviewed, and were unanimously approved without changes.

Treasurer's Report – Carol Flannagan

- Program fee income: \$5,340 has been paid, \$1,380 is outstanding. Paulette has invoiced those who have not paid.
- PBA paid a deposit for the NYC tour in July; operating costs were more than usual because we had some unexpected copier expenses.
- We need a PTO Thrift Shop person. This is not an intensive job; the Thrift Shop has money, and is looking for worthy not for profits to give it to. Typical tasks include arranging for ad placement in programs/directories; and organizing "fill a truck with stuff" a project to arrange for non-clothing contributions to the thrift shop). Amy Higgins suggested Alison and Graham Battersby. She will contact them.

Directors' Reports

Nancy Waring:

- Working on interims right now. VB was outside for 2 weeks and now they are inside. We are getting to know the kids and their playing abilities. We are helping them with practice techniques and everything is going well.
- David Leach and I spent Saturday as guests of the Michigan Marching Band, which includes many Pioneer Band alumni among its ranks. Patrick Fleming's funeral was today. There were 100's of people at the funeral. We have received many, many emails. Thank you so much for your support.

David Leach:

- It has been one heck of a September. Thanks for all the support within the Pioneer Bands. There are two scholarships set up in Patrick Fleming's honor. David recommends donations go to the Michigan Marching Band's fund in Patrick's name. This scholarship was started with a \$50,000 donation by Donald Shepherd.

- The first two home football games came quickly and SB did great. Very pleased to have time to work on concert music in the middle of marching season. SB is enjoying the music. We go back to marching tomorrow.
- David wanted the PBA to know that he was approached by a football parent regarding the band not staying until the end of the football games and playing a post game show. The football boosters are putting the pressure on. The band leaves with very little time to go in the 4th quarter. This is a safety issue, not a slight to the football team. There have been issues with cars trying to go through the band. A parent was actually killed in Chelsea several years ago. We have the full support of Lorin Cartwright (AD) and Michael White (Principal). At some point, a representative from the PBA may have to speak with a football booster representative.
- The game next week with Huron High School (October 14) may be the last time that the two schools perform a combined halftime show. This is due to budget cuts. David will be meeting with fellow directors Steve Roberts (Huron) and Jason Smith (Skyline) to determine whether this tradition can be continued.
- The last game of the season is senior night, and will feature the combined Symphony and Concert Bands. Band Seniors will be honored at the end of the show, and will be joined on the field by their parents. Concert Band marches this game and they are doing a great job so far. They are energetic and enthusiastic!
- Jazz Band: Professor Rodney Whitaker from MSU is bringing his Jazz I ensemble down to play a combined concert on December 1st. David has two requests for help:
 - Feed the MSU group a light lunch and dinner
 - Publicity, so we can fill the auditorium
- Jazz Band will play at Cliff Bells in Detroit on December 11. If you haven't been, you must go! It is an actual speakeasy.
- Solo and Ensemble stuff is due late in October. All State audition registration was already due. Auditions are in Saline October 29 & 30. We have more kids than ever auditioning (12).
- Tour: The kids voted to see Wicked, but the cheaper seats were not available and David did not want to ask band parents for more money. They will be choosing 3 more shows and the kids will re-vote. There is a tour meeting on Monday, October 10th.
- David is encouraging as many kids as possible to attend State Festivals in March and score in the high 90's, so they can play in the Youth Arts Band. H. Robert Reynolds (former director of the University of Michigan Bands) will be conducting this year and he is not to be missed!!

Vice President Report– Kathy Shipan and David Baum

- We have two new people to help with uniforms! Lisa Jibson and Nancy Eubanks are on board!
- We are still looking for a PTO Thrift Shop liaison (as mentioned before) and a Zippy Car Wash organizer. This is another easy job; get flyers to kids, kids take orders for car wash coupons, place order and distribute coupons. Coupons are \$10 a piece and the band receives \$5 from each coupon sold.
- Two new co-chair positions have been filled. Helen Starman is working with Lisa McKarns on Gala and Raleigh Sadlier will be working with Amy Higgins on the Car Wash.
- Thank you Amy Higgins and Angela Larkin. They did a great job pulling the Community Car Wash event together at last minute!
- A big thank you also to Jamie Martin! She is the Picnic Chair and did a wonderful job.
- And last, a big thank you to Daryl Hurst who is stepping down from the job of Pioneer Band Historian and Centennial Project coordinator. He had been very engaged with the band. He was a band member and a band parent who continued on after that! PBA is very grateful for all of his years of service!

Committee Reports:

Funding- Car Wash, Amy Higgins reporting

This was pulled together on short notice. Community Car Wash was very welcoming. They encouraged a winter car wash. February 5 is a possibility. We are looking at doing a spring car wash in PHS parking lot. Community Car Wash does not quite offer the bonding experience for band members that our own car wash does.

Funding –Otis Spunkmeyer, Allison Pudduck company representative

Allison shared cookies and the seller packets. These are the cookies that you find in Subway, Starbucks, Hilton Hotels etc. Ninety percent of school lunch programs serve Otis Spunkmeyer cookies. They are now in charge of their own operations. They are all natural and of the highest grade quality. Cookies come pre-portioned, 36 cookies to a tub and all tubs cost \$15.00. There are 16 different items available for purchase. The forms are easy. Some of the proceeds from two of the cookies are contributed to Susan G. Komen and Make a Wish Foundation. The band makes \$6.00 per item sold. Allison recommends a 2 week or 2 weekend sale. They deliver only what is ordered, no rounding up. We have 8 hours from truck to freezer. We can offer incentives. Cash can work well with High School kids. For every case of cookies we would need 2 volunteers to help unload, sort etc.

Meeting was adjourned at 8:50pm.

Submitted by Bill and Jan Maxbauer, Co-Secretaries