

Pioneer Band Association Meeting

October 8, 2013

Present: Angela Anderson, James Anderson, Marianne Blaesing, Dawn Blair, Tim Douthit, Kathleen Ford, Anne Gilbert, Carolynn Hayman, Amy Higgins, Yung Hwang, Alan Kabana, David Leach, Helen Luo, Kim McLean, Cathy McKenny, Steve Mihans, Susan Mihans, Beatrice Packmohr, Stacey Pakela, Kim Palfey, Barton Polot, Raleigh Sadlier, David Schreiber, Carrie Scott, Nancy Waring, Pam Wright, David Zacks

Meeting called to order at 7:34.

President's Report — Marianne Blaesing

Marianne welcomed everyone and asked them to introduce themselves, and to make sure that they signed in. She announced that she is looking for a shadow for her position for next year. Candy sales are going well. Have two more football games; the last one on October 25 is senior recognition.

Secretary's Report — Anne Gilbert & Raleigh Sadlier

Anne Gilbert presented the minutes from the September 24, 2013 meeting. Amy moved that we accept; James Anderson seconded. Approved.

Raleigh announced we will have an online directory that will be posted and password protected. An updated band handbook is coming.

Vice Presidents' Reports — Amy Higgins & Stacey Pakela

Amy reported that senior night is coming up on October 25. Concert band marches with Symphony Band. At half time, all seniors are announced, along with their parents. A picture is taken of each senior, and they receive a boutonniere.

The band picnic went well. Had 188 people sign in; probably had 200 attend. Kids seemed to have a good time. Had some questions, but didn't seem to be any major problems with the change in venue. Only complaint was that there was no shade; will plan to accommodate that next year.

Treasurer's Report — Steve and Sue Mihans

Susan reported that we saved money because we didn't have to pay for the park. The expenses this year were \$1095, reduced from last year's \$1263. We sold about \$200 worth of apparel and three mugs.

There are still lots of mugs left. We will sell them at concerts.

Directors' Reports:

Nancy Waring, Associate Director of Bands

Varsity band is working inside and sounds amazing. Students have chair tryout parameters. Tryouts will start on October 28. Have two games left: October 18 – Symphony Band, October 25 – combined show with concert band.

David A. Leach, Director of Bands

Symphony band auditions are underway. Just about all symphony band students are going on tour.

Concert band music went out; chair auditions will start on November 4. There are sound files on drop box. Concert band playing Holst First Suite in F and Of Sailor and Whales by W. Francis MacBeth. Students will be singing this year. Concert band learned the first part of their drill today. Researching about six different locations for concert band to go on tour. Have a student group and adult committee.

Please keep checking the webpage.

Michigan Music Concert: buses have been paid for. Will pick here on Friday in morning of 7th hour exam day. Every student will get two tickets. Final concert of the day at DeVos hall. Looking for a place to eat dinner before the way home. Will return that day. January 17.

Committee Reports:

None

New Business:

Amy mentioned that we are looking for someone to chair the newsletter. Many people liked it, but directors had to do a lot of the work. We have two people who could do it in terms of content and layout. Nancy agreed that it's another good way of reaching out to parents. Could be sent electronically, since only one family does not have email. Amy asked what parents would like to see. Ideas: reminders for things that will be coming up (schedule), including details about events; would be nice to have something about the world of band for new parents (will get him a handbook); could highlight something each month; get some of the students to write articles.

Discussion about Solo and Ensemble for new families: Solo & Ensemble is an opportunity for students to prepare a solo or ensemble, usually with their private teacher. (Directors usually don't get involved.) Have a judge who gives feedback and scores them. This year, student can identify their piano accompanist. Last Saturday in January at Livonia Franklin High School.

Adjournment

Amy Higgins moved to adjourn, Stacey Pakela seconded. Approved.