

Attendees: Ric Towner, Sue Burton, Rebecca Page, Marsha Grubbs, Scott Haarlammert, April Bruder, Tina Wuorinen, Mike Kennedy, Laura Carroll, Principal Jen Dinan

Secretary's Report – Sue Burton

Reviewed minutes from November 2017 meeting – Motion by Tina to accept those minutes.

Seconded by Marsha. Motion passed.

Correspondence – none

President's Report – Ric Towner

- Meeting with support organizations prior to the meeting to work on promoting improved collaboration/communication between administration and PTA, Boosters, FMPA – I'll fill you in tomorrow! (At meeting, he reports that support organizations will add an agenda item at their meetings to share other organizations agendas & keep each other in the loop. Ex. Suggestion of pep band at all basketball games not just some.)
- PEM concert was great fun – much better attended than in years past and we learned some more lessons for future years. Thank you April, Dan and Sue for helping out and saving the day in several ways!
- Heard good things about orchestra concert – really enjoyed the choir concert and looking forward to band this week.
- We put in our order for 12 luminary kits for Pineglen today – sounds like some other streets are trying to unseat Pineglen as the best lit up location in Finneytown. We welcome the competition :)

Staff Reports:

Band & Music Dept. – Mike Kennedy

Baby girl Leandry Kennedy was born on November 20. Congratulations to Mike, Karen and family!

HS Band - VP Tina Wuorinen

The band concert is this Thursday, for grades 6-12. The Marching Band reception will follow, with Kim Fain in charge. All band members and family members are invited to attend. The MP is reserved and tables are to be set up. Dr. Dinan and Mrs. Noe are scheduled to speak (thanks MK!). There are still open spots on the sign up to bring food/drinks or set up and clean up.

We have had 3 orders of marching band hoodies this fall, and are waiting on the last one to come in.

Orchestra VP – Heidi Rice

Chaperoning for the orchestra concert last week, went well. The students were great!

Dinner before the show: I already mentioned to April that I would be willing to coordinate ticket sales, both advanced and at the door. I just need more details...

Membership Report – Rebecca Page

We received 7 more memberships &/or donations at last week's orchestra and chorus concerts. Hopefully even more memberships will come with this week's band concert.

We are up to 57 memberships &/or donations so far this year, for a total of \$2,860.00. Last school year finished out with \$3,430.00 in memberships &/or donations, so we still have \$570 to go to match last year's totals. For those who haven't yet joined this year, please consider doing so :)

If anyone has any ideas as to how to drum up more memberships, I'm all ears. There are plenty of families who joined last year, who have not yet joined this year... any ideas as to how to nudge them to do so? All of last year's and current members received the 1st fall e-newsletter (prepared by Deb Amend and sent out by me).

Communication Report – Deb Amend

I have the draft of the December/January Music Notes off to our proof reader and will send it on to be approved by Ric and MK later this week for distribution at the end of this week.

Please send me anything you would like promoted on the Facebook page this month. Please put in the title of the email "FMPA Facebook Page December" so I can easily find it. If you have access as an editor please feel free to continue to post as you would like.

The idea of selling advertising space in the newsletter has been raised, as it was done in the past. I am not opposed to this as a method of raising some funds, however, I do not feel like I can coordinate it. I could insert it into the newsletter (I would need an image and some brief information about the company), if someone else is interested in taking the lead on the logistics of it.

Website report – Bill Fessler

I have a reminder set to shut down on-line orders for Light Up Finneytown at 6AM Friday morning (Dec 15) and will provide report of all orders for verification at that time. Also added a link to facebook for more dynamic content.

Private Lessons – Maggie Laird

Future newsletter idea – would be good to get a student testimonial about how private lessons are helping. Wd. be good to feature an orchestra student. Also a 7th grader.

Allison Sanders is orchestra teacher and she teaches multiple instruments not just one, which is unusual.

MK wants to solve: We have no voice private students for Michael Young, and only 3 orchestra. We will lose our private instructors if they have no students.

School Board representative – Scott Haarlamert

Scott's last meeting with us as he is leaving the board. He expressed his thanks and said "our kids are lucky, blessed, and privileged to live here in a community with quality."

Treasurer's Report - Heidi Reeb

None for December as previously discussed. Will report in January.

OLD BUSINESS

Savory Sweets

We still have cookie dough and popcorn left. We sold quite a bit at the concerts last week and will bring what we have left to the band concert on Thursday. We are selling them for \$15.00 each or 2 for

\$25.00. We take cash, check, or credit card! I will send out an email to all music parents with a list of everything that is still available after the concert on Thursday.

Luminaries: Sales in process. Light Up event is this coming Sunday.

Dinner Before the Show – April

- Tickets and flyers need to be done by mid-January. Heidi Rice had previously volunteered to help w/tickets, Sue B will assist as well.
- Need to have Krista do PR, along with the musical PR.
- Ric and Brad will reserve the audio with each other.
- Performers: Ric – Will have VOW kids early in program (?5:15?). Other suggestions are Nepali dancers, Seussical kids, Chris Lee, Michael (Mad Dog)
- Need single roll tickets for Raffle Baskets this year
- Want to focus on experiences for people to bid on. Also possibly bid on performances like Happy Birthday at your house done by choir or instrument kids, etc.

Additional Budget request for marching band for 2017-18

To go toward summer 2018. This year cut 16% from school board budget so absorbed some. In order to grow (Mid States competitions), need more money. We placed 16th of 22 at MidStates, scored very high in music, but lower due to show design. Thinking ahead to new arranger – \$2,000 in board of ed budget for this – previous band director Canter used to pay 6,500 for it. Currently have a 367 shortfall for flow-throughs for kids who couldn't pay (some color guard, etc.). Proposal is to close December, see where we are at and revisit at January 2018 meeting. Probably will request another 1,000 to draw down from our balances/reserves.

New pit equipment needed – Ric will have a proposal for January regarding new trailer needed. Working with Fains on this.

NEW BUSINESS

Student trip – MK shared alternatives to the cancelled Disney trip, that all kids can participate in at zero cost to them. Frontrunner ideas are: Orchestra and Choirs to see the King and I at the Aronoff and have pizza at Deweys. Band attend winterguard drumline and winds. Guard to guard event also. Would cost \$8,000 total but no cost to students. Dates for these are April 12, 13, 19. (Prom is April 21). We will discuss more formally at January meeting.

Next meeting - Monday January 8, 2018, location TBD.

Adjournment – motioned by Sue and seconded by Tina that we adjourn the meeting. Motion passed. Meeting adjourned at 8:35 pm.

Respectfully submitted,
Sue Burton, secretary