

TKOB – Band Parents Association

General Meeting Minutes for June 10, 2020

Virtual Meeting using Zoom

Call to order at 7:34pm

Pledge of Allegiance

President's Introduction:

- Last meeting was February.
- New Executive board was sworn in and has been meeting.

Last meeting's minutes From February:

Motioned by: Aida Duffett

Seconded by: Donna Tropea

Minutes: Approved

Treasurer's Report by Lucy Kataryniak:

Motioned by: Sam Arabia

Seconded by: Al Wester

Treasurer's Report: Approved

Band Director's Report:

- Thanked us all for the drive by on Monday, June 8. It was quite unexpected and she misses all the kids.
- We cannot start practice until the school says we can start. She has been asking for a possible starting date, but has not gotten any answers. So until she gets an answer, she can't say.
- In the beginning, she was having weekly zoom meetings with the marching band design team and they completed the show. However, that stopped. It is a complicated show with a lot of moving parts. In order to execute it, we would have needed to start rehearsals already. Plus we haven't recruited the 8th and 9th grade students. We haven't had a new parent meeting. We need to fill in the holes left by the seniors. That training needed to start in June. Right now, the original show planned might not be doable.
- She will probably have more staff meetings to see what can be done. Most students don't have their instruments at home. She is thinking of arranging instruments to be delivered to their houses to rehearse. Marimbas and vibes are at the school not being used.
- She wants to meet with the seniors to get an idea of what they think. Maybe have the seniors help with the vision and make it fun.
- Plan B would be to have more of a collegiate season and not a competitive season.
- US Bands is asking what the schools are doing.
- If there are any seniors that were supposed to be in the spring concert, please let me know where they are attending school to be recognized.

- Graduation: She would love to get a band together, but it is not realistic. There's been no rehearsal and we have not been asked to play. They will probably go with a recording.
- Question from Kim Wester: Can siblings of the graduates play for graduation?
- Answer from Melissa: The instrumentation would not be correct and will not sound good. She would want it to sound good and to have everyone have a good impression of the band.
- Kids in Melissa's classes: She has been very understanding during these past months. As long as they do their assignments, they will be graded. It is important to finish the assignments this week. She has been trying to go as light as she can.
- The fall season is on the schedule. BOA University of Maryland might not happen. She left so abruptly in March that the charter buses and hotels were not booked. So many questions: Can she even put four kids in a room? How would the bus work with social distancing? BOA is still on, but they put out a questionnaire to all the schools if they were attending. She couldn't even answer it. With that said, BOA might not happen.
- For regular band camp, the field is booked. But we don't know how that is going to happen especially with the wind instruments. Some universities have been doing studies. We know the flutes are unsafe. Brass they aren't sure with the spit valves.
- She does not have access to mail in the school. She is waiting for refunds for deposits. Some kids will get money back from indoor. She will reach out after she gets the mail with refunds and figures out the fees for next season. Between the money spent on props for indoor (floor, wings, costumes, etc.) and fundraisers already paid for and no 2nd home show income, she will figure out the balances and refund money to the students. Hopefully during the summer.

Questions:

Al Wester: Any feedback from other high schools? What are they thinking?

Melissa: Most schools are going with their plan B. Dartmouth is going with their Plan B. NJ is different from other states. A school in Tennessee is rehearsing. We might not be at 100% rehearsals in July and even if we were, we haven't done any recruitment. To do the original show would be too difficult.

Rosie DeSimon: Will Mini band camp happen in August?

Melissa: Mini band camp is usually in May.

Al Wester: If we go with option B, does Melissa have a show?

Melissa: It will be something thrown together quickly and more simplistic probably with no props.

Kerryann Silvestri: Indoor show ads, will you refund the money?

Melissa: The majority of the ads were for the 1st show. There were only a few for the 2nd show, which was cancelled. Those checks were not cashed. If anyone gave cash, she will need to look that up.

Liz O'Keefe: Second order of indoor percussion sweatshirts and t-shirts, was the order filled?

Melissa: Sam Arabia called John. The order is filled and is waiting for pick up at his house.

Chris Cheek: Marching band pit crew shirt and two hoodies order?

Julie: Sandi Robayo handled those and I will reach out to her to see about those orders.

General Fundraising:

- Need a chairperson for fundraising. The last person stepped down.
- Sign Up Genius is set up for all positions needed.
- A former band parent put together a face mask fundraiser. \$5 per mask. TKOB will get 100% of the proceeds. It is a gaiter type face mask. We need volunteers to help sell or set up to sell in their yard.

Membership:

- Tracey Paul is heading up membership
- The form is on the Band app
- Mail the form and check to her house instead of the school.
- Only members can vote in meetings.
- \$25 per family; \$15 per individual;

Senior Scholarships:

- 14 scholarships were awarded.
- Two thank you notes were sent: Matt Robayo and Ved Patel
- Aida was put in the letter to receive the Thank you notes, but they should be emailed to Julie or Melissa.

Fundraising Committee:

- We have no fundraisers right now. So we can't say how much is going towards the fundraising commitment.
- Multiple Sclerosis Foundation in Spotswood is having a virtual trick tray. Maybe we can do something like it. To practice social distancing anyone with a ticket is assigned a timeslot to put in their tickets. Tickets are picked on Facebook live. You can wait in the parking lot or pick up your prize later.
- Clothing drives – We have a couple of companies in mind. Jamie Powell will help set it up. With the last company, they changed the way they calculated our proceeds. We didn't get as much money as usual. So we are thinking of going with another company.
- Rosie DeSimon will coordinate the clothing drive. Melissa will let the school know that we will be using the parking lot for drop off and pick up of clothing bags.
- Lucy Kataryniak has six tricky tray prizes she needs to give to someone.
- We have eight Disney one day passes that expire 4/2021.
- Lucy Kataryniak has put in for this year's passes. They are not accepting any more applications. Someone will need to submit the application again when it opens back up.
- Fundraising commitment was \$200. Either a \$200 check or the sale of \$200 in raffles or tickets to our events.

- Sign-up for committees is on the Band app using Sign-Up Genius.

Questions:

Aida Duffett: For students that have instruments at home. How do we get them to Melissa?

Melissa: Hold on to them. Melissa will pick them up. Let her know who has an instrument that needs to be picked up.

Beth Cellini: For rising seniors, if the senior cruise is happening, will they be allowed to attend if it falls on a practice day?

Melissa: Yes, they will be allowed to go because it will not be a competitive season

Tracy Paul: Member fees for uniforms, shoes. How much would they be?

Melissa: The season probably will be inexpensive. No Fairview band camp. The original show had a fee but we're not doing the original show. It depends on if we do US Bands and NJMBDA. It depends on number of students. If membership is low, we will need to charge more. I reached out to NJMBDA to do a home show. We still need US Bands because we need the income of the home show and I like to give them the experience of Met Life stadium.

Motioned by: Sam Arabia

Seconded by: Donald Bennett

Meeting approved to adjourn

Meeting adjourned at 8:34pm

Next meeting:

July 8, 2020 at CSMS unless we need to practice social distancing. Then it will be zoom