

Minutes of the SME Orchestra Boosters Meeting

January 20, 2015 - 7 p.m.

Officers Present:

Amy Wulfemeyer – President
Karen Armstrong – President Elect
Diane Levin – Secretary
Janet Monday – Membership
Heidi Bennion – Fundraising
Vicki Sharp - Treasurer

Not Present:

Director Present:

Jonathan Lane

Members Present:

Tiffany Flanagan	Liz Glidewell
Guy Wright	Paula Langdon
Teresa Stewart	Kristy Moore
Steve Moore	Michael Wegner
Tom Olson	Carmen Ames
Sarah Biles	Kelley Gasperi
Doug/Libby Cunningham	Laura Wiltfong
Lena Vassilevsky	Pam Estep
Rob Hack	Chuck Robinson
Carrie Condon	Rachel Meiring
Julie Hessenflow	Lisa Engelken
Tash/Bob Davis	Mary Lang

1) Review and Approval of Minutes from November 4th, 2014 Meeting (Amy Wulfemeyer)

- Amy asked members present if there were any questions or comments on the minutes from the November 4th meeting, noting that minutes were made available by email. There were no comments or questions.
- Amy then requested a motion and a second to accept those minutes.
- Motion was made and seconded and minutes were approved.

2) Update from Orchestra Director (Jonathan Lane)

- Mr. Lane said students are busy preparing for the Collage Concert. There would be many new pieces including: Shostakovich, Brahms Academic Festival Overture and a jazz pianist who will be playing with the Symphony Orchestra among others. Additional music selections are still under consideration.
- The woodwinds will rehearse with the orchestra starting Friday and the students are excited to have them join. .
- Mrs. Mitchell, who is retiring, will be honored at the concert for her years of teaching strings and will play with the orchestra during one piece.

- In response to some questions he had received, Mr. Lane noted that there is no ‘theme’ for the Collage Concert other than the variety of music.
- In regard to the Philadelphia trip, Mr. Lane said he is working on the music the students will play with the Philadelphia Symphony clinicians and associate conductor.
- Mr. Lane noted that the KSHSAA Large Ensemble Festival will come quickly after the trip on April 15th, so the students will have to prepare quickly.

3) Treasurer’s Report (Vicki Sharp)

- Treasurer presented a review of Booster expenses school year to date. Vicki noted that the financial status of the Orchestra Boosters is very good at this point. There is approximately \$26,000 in booster checking that is not trip related. \$2000 of this is earmarked for music. Mr. Lane is looking into a composers’ contest to create an original piece of music for the orchestra which will likely be in the 2015/2016 school year.
- Plans for further income consist of the upcoming Collage Concert. Proceeds from this concert go to the Orchestra Booster fund and is a primary booster fundraiser. Boosters usually earn approximately \$2,000 from this event.
- Upcoming expenses consist of the Solo Festival and the Spring Banquet and Senior Recognition, with the Philadelphia trip being the primary expense for the year. However, the trip is primarily funded by parents and fundraising.
- At year end, the Booster finances should be solidly in the black due to the effort in managing expenses and recurring income. Nancy Milgrim also obtained a grant from the East Fund for orchestra clinicians, which helps further reduce Booster fund expenses.
- Positions of Treasurer and Treasurer Assistant are open for next year. Boosters will be without a treasurer beginning in May, so please notify Amy Wulfemeyer if you are interested in either position.

4) Philadelphia Trip Update (Vicki Sharp, Lisa Engelken)

- Tash Davis distributed t-shirts this week, including shirts for the Philadelphia chaperones. Please contact her if you ordered one and did not receive it.
- This year the trip committee has planned for Rachel Meiring, a professional photographer and orchestra parent, to accompany the group to Philadelphia. She will be taking photographs during the trip and CDs of these will be distributed to students following the trip.
- Students are staying at the Hilton Garden Inn. There will be 4 students per room.
- Chaperone to student ratio will be 5 to 1, with one extra chaperone along as backup.
- A detailed itinerary will be distributed at the mandatory student/parent meeting prior to the trip. An approximate itinerary follows
 - Thursday, April 9: arrive KCI at 5:15 a.m. for 6:40 a.m. flight. Arrive Philadelphia (via Chicago) at 11:55 a.m.
 - Upon Thursday arrival: take Historic tours around Independence Hall and Center. Check into hotel.
 - Friday morning: clinical and performance with Philadelphia Orchestra assistant director at Kimmel Center. Orchestra will work in two sections. When not performing, groups will tour Kimmel Center.

- Friday afternoon: trips to student selected sites: Oddity Museum, Ben Franklin Museum, Penitentiary, Philadelphia Ducks Tour. Evening Ghost Tour of the City.
 - Saturday: museum tours, a meal at the Melting Pot, attend evening Philadelphia Orchestra performance..
 - Sunday, April 12: depart hotel at 5:15 a.m. for 7:30 a.m. flight. Arrive KCI (via Chicago) at 11:00 a.m.
- Vicki stated that the cost of the trip has been reduced to \$900. The \$400 installment for the trip is due now for every student attending. If students drop the trip after January 31st, the deposit is not refundable. The last installment for students will be due February 10th. The last installment amount will vary depending on what each student has earned in fundraising.
 - Tiffany Flanagan gave an update on adult training essential for chaperones. Many still need to complete one or more phases of training. Contact the district office for training schedule availability. This MUST be completed or chaperones will not be allowed to travel.
 - Karen Armstrong asked if uniforms will be required for the trip. Mr. Lane said that students will not need their uniforms, but will be expected to dress respectably for the evening of the Philadelphia Orchestra performance.
 - Students will be able to check one bag and take their instrument and a backpack on the plane. Cellos and basses will be rented. Mr. Lane will take a case for cello and bass bows. He will determine whether school or student bows will be transported.

5) Fundraising Updates (Heidi Bennion):

- The Orchestra Boosters will sponsor a clothing drive on February 6th and 7th.
- A 'pod' like container will be placed in the SME parking area and students can drop off clothing, accessories, shoes and all 'wearables'.
- The provider will pay \$.15 per pound for items collected..
- Heidi stated the need to coordinate with the SHARE Club which will also be collecting for their annual garage sale. More information will follow.
- Proceeds will not be allocated to individual trip accounts, but will be contributed to a general trip account to be used to fund some special activity or food for the whole group.

6) Collage Concert (Kristie Moore):

- The Collage Concert will be March 4th.
- Students are encouraged to participate in a poster design contest. Entries are due January 26th. In order to get poster to the printer in time. Amy Phillips has offered to have the posters printed again this year.
- Janet Monday will be creating the program for the event.
- Laura Wiltfong will coordinate the cookie reception.
- Nan Josephson will print the tickets and fliers.
- Tama Kapros will be the videographer for the event.
- Thank you's to all the above volunteers!
- Volunteers still needed include: publicity, ticket sales and promotion, prize solicitation and award, concert night ticket sales and ushers.
- Watch for emails for more information and to volunteer for specific activities.

7) New Business and Questions from Booster Membership

- Question: When will the next SME Orchestra trip occur? Answer: Orchestra trips occur every two years.

8) Meeting Adjourned

Minutes recorded by:

Diane Levin, SME Orchestra Booster Secretary