

Minutes of North Stafford Band Boosters Meeting
General Membership
October 19, 2009

- Board members in attendance: Robin Keller (President), Lola Cruise (Vice President), John Mahon (Treasurer), Kim Matalavage (Secretary), Lisa Cottrell-Cumber (Parliamentarian), and Austin Nicholas (Director of Bands).
- 13 members were in attendance according to the sign-up sheet; a quorum was present.
- Robin Keller opened the meeting at 7:36 p.m.
- The minutes for the September board and general membership meetings are posted on the website and were approved.

Treasurer's Report:

- John Mahon presented the Treasurer's report. He reported that we do not have an exact final figure regarding invitational but that we made about \$8,000 which is the goal!
- We have a checking account balance of \$28,754.34 with \$3,000 in reserve for concessions, \$1,000 in reserve for donations/charities, \$3,000 in reserve for scholarships, and we have \$2,396.60 in student accounts. So our available balance is \$19,357.74. The report was accepted as filed.

Director's Report:

- Mr. Nicholas said that 10/19-10/24 is recruitment week and contains our final competition.
- Upcoming events include: Monday and Tuesday: rehearse, Wednesday: in uniform in stands at HHPMS performing the first half of their football game and then we perform 1812 overture at half time (we need volunteers for this and Kyra Potts, Jerilyn Stribling, and Mary Hamilton offered to help). We then return for students to eat their packed or brought dinner before the wind ensemble concert at 7pm. We will perform lastly, after the choral groups and the strings. Thursday: we rehearse with the 8th graders. Friday we rehearse, eat dinner with the 8th graders at 5:30 PM, and then they march in with us doing pregame and sitting in the stands. Rain is expected.
- Saturday is our final competition at Lee Davis HS in Mechanicsville. Mr. Nicholas moved us to AAA so that the students have a challenge, perform under the lights and for a larger crowd. We will be the smallest. Itineraries are out on the website Monday.
- The 24th is getting us ready for VBODA on Saturday, October 31st, at Massaponax HS. This is not a competition but for the first half of our rating for superior/honor band the 2nd weekend in March. The 2nd half comes in the spring when our ensembles perform.
- After October we wind down with senior night on November 6th. We will only rehearse Thursday the 5th that week. A staff raffle will occur.....students may purchase a raffle ticket to have a band director/coach/assistant perform in their spot and the student may go up to the press box to watch the performance. This gives empathy to the adults. All monies will go the band boosters.

- Whether or not we have a spring trip will be announced at the rehearsal on Thursday, November 5th. The trip will be the week of 3/26 and will cost around \$500. The first payment will be due 12/21. The cost of the trip will be within \$50 at this time and we are going to decide/book further in advance this year. The date will not work to combine the trip to save cost with chorus.
- Our football team is 6 and 2. So we will probably be asked to perform at continued football games/playoffs. We are hoping they are home so that our concessions can bring in more monies.
- Our end of the year picnic is November 14th and may be affected by the playoffs.
- The symphonic band rehearsal schedule for the upcoming winter/December concert will be out soon. Mr. Nicholas is flexible if a student comes to him IN ADVANCE with any conflicts.
- The wind ensemble concert this Wednesday night is difficult music: Grade 5 and Grade 6.....very high level music.
- Mr. Nicholas discussed invitational at length. Wendy Colby was not there and will have more insights to share. He communicated with the directors and they knew there was the possibility of the event being moved inside due to rain. The safety of the students is his number one priority. For next year, we will go over more details on what to do in order to move the event inside in case of rain but we were only off by 20 minutes/one band! Judges enjoyed the hosting we did and we are known for having top judges at our invitational. The exhibition band (UVa) helped us financially and many of their parents traveled to watch them perform, and then ate the food we were selling. UVa sent us a nice thank you note. It helps them to recruit as well so it is a win for both of us. We may go to Oakton HS' competition next year. We have an excellent relationship with their director and they wanted to be certain we did not find them rude in not staying for awards. We are always striving to make our invitational even better.
- If we have any concerns regarding communication, Mr. Nicholas is flexible and willing to put reminders on the website for us.

Concessions

- Robin Keller said the concession stand is moving along. We overbought and are hoping to sell some food to Mountain View HS and return some unopened items. There is concern of when people storing frozen food items for us may be relieved of them. Our band freezer is full and this was not nailed down.
- Regarding JV games, we are experiencing a good turn out by both student and parent volunteers.
- Discussion regarding one day renovating our concession stand occurred. We brainstormed ideas and are not hopeful this will happen soon financially/logistically. We are the only concession stand in the county with fountain soda still. This allows us to make more money and to have less to store. Robin ran into a woman at Wal-Mart who used to be involved with band many years ago and discovered we are still using items from 20 years ago! A new warmer, refrigerator, cabinets would all be nice. Our shed is nice but full and we could use another shed for both golf cart space and concessions. Good idea to have a remote concessions near visitors but we are not sure that it will be feasible. Baseball got their new stand mainly due to needing plumbing/restrooms. Mrs. Lowry does not want us using the "hill" near concessions for football games but it is okay during invitational as it is a different crowd.

Fundraising

- The pie fliers are now due Wednesday, October 21, 2009. You may bring it to Tracy Rera, fundraising chair, at the Wind Ensemble concert Wednesday night if your student does not return it that day. It went out at 2 weeks versus 2.5-3 so we extended the due date by 2 days. Pies are to be delivered November 4th.

Website

Please check this often for events/information! Click on a competition to receive the students' schedule, a performance schedule, and directions.

Next meeting: 16 November, 2009, 7:30 p.m. in the band room
Meeting adjourned at 8:16 p.m.