



EBPO Meeting Minutes – December 8, 2015

ATTENDEES:

Dorit Askenazy, Sue Berry, Scott Chesson, Henry Cook, Ginger Fletcher, Jenny Goeglein, Debbie Labriny, Sarah Kolo, Karen Maline, Chrissy Martinez, Jaime Martinez, Charlie Mitchell, Betsy Sandtrom, Adam Sklar, Lee Ann Sklar, and Vickie Uddyback.

CALL TO ORDER

The meeting was called to order at 7:10 p.m. by EBPO President Karen Maline.

APPROVAL OF NOVEMBER MINUTES

Karen asked for a motion to approve the November minutes, which were passed out at the meeting. Scott Chesson moved to approve the minutes; the motion was seconded and the minutes were approved as written.

PRESIDENT'S REPORT

Karen reported that the banquet would take place on December 12 and asked about the status of planning; especially what the committee still needed help with. Sue reported that the marching band bears were shipped. Ginger said that the committee was still accepting donations of gift cards for prizes and for the auction at the end of the banquet. Jenny listed some of the prizes she was able to assemble, including a musical tie, coupons, and gift cards. Ginger sent a "Sign Up Genius" to the mailing list so people could volunteer to help set up/break down the cafeteria and list what they are bringing to share, and a link to a different site used to RSVP so we can get a count.

In response to a question from the drum major, Karen asked how much time the seniors will have to give their paper plate awards. Since the banquet is a celebration for them, they can have as much time as they need. The program is expected to last about an hour, including welcoming remarks, the director's awards, paper plate awards, drum major's awards, and the handing out of the bears.

Winter Spectacular: Karen reported that she attended a meeting on November 17 to begin planning the two-night Winter Spectacular. The meeting was called by Beth Krause, President of the Choir Guild and also included Lydia Theunissen, Drama Booster President. Mr. Mitchell was able to explain his vision for the event, tell us which components he needed help with (decorations, securing volunteers, and details about the "Santa Room"—where kids can have their pictures taken with Santa), and provide a schedule for the evenings. At that meeting, Mr. Mitchell informed us that orchestra would be in charge of (and benefit from) concessions and band would be responsible for ticket sales. Chrissy and Jaime Martinez

were also at the meeting. Jaime asked for information about the decorations he was designing, including large snowflakes and a huge dreidel, and what time Santa should show up. An email with all the information and a "sign-up genius" went to all members of each booster organization.

Barnes and Noble Gift Wrapping: Karen reported that gift wrapping, especially on Black Friday, did not seem as lucrative as last year. She said that the gift wrap started near the café this year, instead of behind the registers, but that it was moved the next day to be closer to the front of the store and she hoped this would increase traffic. She also said students from Lee High School Orchestra, who had a shift before ours, played carols and were successful at bringing customers to the giftwrap station. She said she would ask Mr. Mitchell when he got to the meeting if he could get students to sign up for our gift-wrapping shifts. We are one of the store's favorite groups because we always show up when we say we will, and they invited us to add Christmas Eve to our schedule. No one signed up for Christmas Eve, and they said that's usually the best day. After asking if there would be enough coverage, we decided to add Christmas Day; Dorit will add it to the "Sign-up Genius" and re-send it.

FINANCE REPORT

Sue handed out the *Finance Report*, which shows an anticipated total of \$18,179.46, including two reimbursement checks, one from the school for a meal at the Oakton competition, and the other for fixing the trailer. Combined with our reserved fund of \$15,337.55, the EBPO has a total of \$33,517.01.

Sue reported that the banquet committee prepared a budget of \$2,000, but there is no line item in the band budget for the banquet. However, thanks to parent donations, "hospitality" is almost \$3,000 under-budget, so we will use \$2,000 from the remaining hospitality funds to pay for the band banquet.

COMMITTEE REPORTS

Chaperones/Volunteers: There was no chaperone report. Dorit will send an email asking for volunteers for the remaining shifts at Barnes and Noble. Mr. Mitchell said he would get students to play during our shifts.

Fund Raising: Chili's sent us a check for \$158. The December Spirit Night is scheduled for all day on the 15th at Olympians Family Restaurant and Karen Ruthrauff created a flyer for it. January's may be held at Noodles and Company, but we are waiting for the regional manager, who has not been very cooperative, to send the necessary forms. February's Spirit Night will be at Johnny Rockets, and they need forms identifying us as a nonprofit organization. We may do the Green Turtle, a new restaurant near Wegmans, in March.

Ginger was going to bring samples of popcorn from a fundraising company to the meeting but they didn't come in time, so she'll have them at the banquet. We discussed starting the fundraiser in mid-January to have time to earn money before Spring trip to North Carolina. Everyone agreed that the

popcorn fundraiser should go towards the kids' trip. There won't be enough time to off-set the cost of the trip since the final payment is due February 1st. In that case, Karen Maline suggested using the funds to pay for meals that aren't covered by the fees, which will still save money in the long-run.

Hospitality: There was a suggestion that the Sign-up Genius for the banquet be posted on the Facebook page to increase participation. Jen Goeglein did a count of possible attendees after talking to students, and it appears there will be about 130.

Pit Crew: Mr. Mitchell was asked how the season worked out using rental trucks instead of our own vehicle. He said he was happy with the way it went. Jaime Martinez suggested that the oil be changed in the ATV.

Publicity/Communications: Sarah is transferring responsibility for the website to Carl Sandstrom. She sent thank-you postcards with pictures of the band to about 42 large donors from Tag Day.

Uniforms: Jen Goeglein reported that she found a place to get replacement tops for the girls. She also needs replacement tux buttons and she doesn't have enough tux jackets for the percussion ensemble. Karen Maline asked if we can use money from the reserve funds to buy replacement or additional symphonic band uniforms. Mr. Mitchell said he prefers to save that money for replacement marching uniforms.

BAND DIRECTOR'S REPORT

Mr. Mitchell told the students that they should dress nicely to the band banquet.

There will be rehearsals on the Tuesday and Thursday before the concerts.

A Santa outfit has been found! Mr. Mitchell suggested that Mr. Martinez attend the Holiday Spectacular practices. Two drama students are acting as Masters of Ceremonies. Mr. Mitchell is requesting white lights and any additional decorating ideas.

Spring trip to North Carolina: Down payments are being paid and so far, 35 kids are signed up for 49 slots.

OLD BUSINESS

Bylaws Committee: Scott Chesson thinks the bylaws may be finished by January.

NEW BUSINESS

Recruiting Strategies: Chrissy Martinez, the 8th Grade Parent Liaison, has been working on a recruiting strategy for marching band, guard, and the winter guard. She noted that the key is timing the recruitment for the appropriate group of members during the year. February is important for recruitment because that's when the rising 9th graders sign up for electives. The focus of our efforts now are Mark Twain and Holmes Middle Schools and getting information to them about registering for marching band. She wants to emphasize that *marching band* is a family, not just an elective or a class like in middle school. She wants anyone who recruits to talk about band as the Edison Band *Family*.

Jaime Martinez will work on a display that offers information for interested 8th graders and try to place it in the school before registration begins. There should also be information and/or videos on the website just for rising 9th graders. Chrissy will talk to Mr. Perez and Mr. Helm before registration begins to find out what we can get for them so they can help us recruit.

January is the first target date for winter guard. Karen suggested talking to Mrs. Robinson, the new choir director, about helping us recruit here at Edison, for new guard members. We should invite them to competitions.

Dorit asked if we can take Edison students to Twain in their band uniforms to recruit and answer questions about marching band around registration time. Mr. Mitchell liked that idea. He asked that Mrs. Martinez submit her ideas to him so he could take some time to think about timelines.

The next EBPO meeting will be Tuesday, January 12 at 7:00 p.m.

ADJOURNMENT

Jenny Goeglein moved to adjourn the meeting; the motion was seconded and passed. The meeting was adjourned at 8:08.

Respectfully Submitted,

Debbie Labriny
EBPO Secretary