

CARL SANDBURG MUSIC BOOSTERS
Minutes of the February 2, 2010 Meeting

The meeting of the Carl Sandburg Music Boosters held on Tuesday, February 2, 2010, was called to order at 7:07 p.m. by Mary Bragg, President. Board members present were:

Mary Bragg, President
Debbie Kelly, Vice President
Tammy Carmody, 2nd Vice President
Mark Wiltgen, Treasurer
Janet Donne, Secretary
Cathy Maher, Sergeant at Arms

Also in attendance were Mrs. Levinson, Mr. Bailey and Ms. Hardy.

MINUTES

The minutes of the January 6 meeting were distributed and read. They were approved with one minor change following a motion from Deb Feingold, seconded by Patti Brucki.

TREASURER'S REPORT

Treasurer Mark Wiltgen noted that our biggest expenses in January were festival and competition fees, although we had budgeted for these expenses. We also had repair work done to the trailer because of parking lot issues at Stagg, as discussed at earlier meetings. However, we had unanticipated dry cleaning expenses for marching band uniforms that needed repair work, and this bill was paid for with directors' discretionary funds. The discretionary funds will be reimbursed with 2010 uniform fees. There was some discussion of whether we should add money to our reserves for cleaning fees since these unexpected cleaning charges have occurred two years in a row. We also discussed increasing the uniform fee paid at registration, although no decision was reached. Mark Wiltgen also informed us that Music Boosters may face a late penalty from the IRS. When Music Boosters was incorporated as a non-profit in 2008, the wrong form was filed with the IRS. We are appealing the late fee, which otherwise would impact our budgeted activities for the school year.

As of January 31, our checkbook balance was \$73,104.11, with total deposits of \$3,802.60 and total checks in the amount of \$6,323.68. A motion to accept the treasurer's report was made by Deb Feingold, seconded by Linda Ferguson. All were in favor and the motion carried.

DIRECTORS' NOTES

Despite conducting its own fundraising activities, Ms. Hardy said that Winter Guard was short on funds, partly because of a championship competition March 27th-28th. Last year, the students spent about \$300 for hotels and expect to pay about the same this year. Additionally, Winter Guard has an outstanding uniform bill of \$236.03. Deb Kelly suggested Winter Guard might want to set up its own candy table at the Craft Fair, and Ms. Hardy was receptive to this idea. Music Boosters presented Winter Guard with a \$250 check after the meeting to help the organization cover costs.

Mrs. Grueneberg was not present at the meeting but submitted a report detailing orchestra activities. Both Sonia Mantell, cello, and Madalyn Frigo, violin, were chosen to perform Senior Solos at the Orchestra Masterworks Concert on March 11. Abbey Wolfenson was chosen to perform a violin solo at the Honors String Recital on April 23. In other news, Sonia Mantell served as principal cellist for the IMEA Honors Orchestra in January, which makes Sonia the No. 1 high school cellist in the state of Illinois! Abbey Wolfenson was also placed in the Honors Orchestra, while Madalyn Frigo, Lizzie Na (violin), and violists Joe Hacker and Daniela Tomas performed in the All-State Orchestra. For the choir, Charlie Donne (bass) and Tasia Malliaris (soprano) performed in the Honors Chorus, and Melissa Trentacoste (alto) performed in the All-State Choir. Congratulations, Sandburg musicians!

For choir and orchestra students going to London, a cookie dough fundraiser is beginning this month. The first orchestra rehearsal for London musicians is scheduled for Feb. 18. Mrs. Grueneberg also noted that Honors String Quartet 1 performed for local school boards meeting January 26 in the PAC foyer. Honors String Quartet 2 played at curriculum night for incoming freshmen.

Mr. Bailey reported that 80 band students are performing in the basketball pep band, directed by Ms. Sarmiento, which is a great turnout. He also congratulated Olivia Harmening, who attended IMEA All-State for the Future Music Educators Seminar. A jazz concert was held January 12, and January 23, the jazz ensembles performed in the North Shore Jazz Festival at Glenbrook South High School. Jazz Ensemble II will perform at the Jazz Festival at New Trier High School on Feb. 6, and the percussion bands will participate in the Percussion Festival at Lincoln-Way Central on February 13. On February 11, Symphonic Band I will perform at Andrew during the day. A play-a-thon is planned for after school on February 12 to help raise funds for the Texas trip, scheduled March 22-28. Band members will participate in Solo & Ensemble contests on February 16, and mid-year band concerts are slated for February 24. The Rolling Meadows Jazz Festival is February 27, the same day as the Midwest Music Festival for Symphonic Band I and II. Percuss-o-rama is scheduled for March 16. Meanwhile, members of the pit orchestra are rehearsing for the spring musical, "Parade."

OLD BUSINESS

Candlelight Bowl, scheduled for February 12, may be canceled for lack of interest. As of today, no forms have been turned in. We can accommodate up to 144 bowlers, and tickets are \$25, which includes dinner, three games of bowling, and rental shoes.

On the good news side, Deb Kelly reported that we have 109 crafters signed up for the Craft Fair, compared with 99 at this time last year. However, we need parents to help supervise the bake sale, which is 100 percent profit, since Patti Brucki has a work conflict that weekend. Mary Ciurej volunteered to handle this. Thanks!

Mary Bragg noted that Music Boosters needs to recruit several new officers and directors for next year since we have several parents of seniors who will be graduating.

GUEST SPEAKER

Michael Hastings, a member of the District 230 School Board, spoke to the Boosters about planned capital expenditures that would benefit the high schools. First, air conditioning is planned for the Eagle Gym, which is good news for anyone who has suffered through 8th grade graduations and pep assemblies. He also said improvements will be made to the Stagg parking lot, which our trailer dads know are sorely needed. In addition, vans owned by the schools will not be used to transport students after July 1, according to state law, so these vehicles can be used to carry equipment. Mr. Hastings also spoke of another improvement that will be voted upon at the February 25 board meeting. The district has set aside \$3.2 million to install artificial turf at Sandburg, Stagg and Andrew football fields. This would increase field usage time and would allow the marching band to practice on the field instead of the parking lot. Although the turf is expensive – approximately \$800,000 for each school – it would save millions in reseeding, watering and drainage problems. It would also lead to fewer injuries. Mr. Hastings encouraged Booster members to call him with questions in the coming weeks.

NEW BUSINESS

Incoming freshmen will be at Sandburg on Saturday, February 6 for registration, so we will need volunteers to help sell Spirit Wear. We will have a table set up outside the Gold Gym, so we should catch lots of families walking past.

Mary Bragg reported that Joseph Kruiuzenga, a BP employee and father of clarinet player Lauren, nominated Music Boosters for a “BP Fabric of America” award. Music Boosters was awarded a check from BP in the amount of \$500 for its “positive contributions to the community.” Thanks to BP and the Kruiuzengas!

Mary Bragg also mentioned that she received a phone call from a prom shop that offered dresses and tuxedos at a discount rate as a fundraiser. No one was familiar with the shop or this sort of fundraiser, so Mary said she would check it out.

COMMITTEE REPORTS

Marching Band uniforms – The uniforms are back after repairs and cleaning, although Cathy Maher says she would like to check and make sure the repairs were made. Kim Silkowski offered to shadow Cathy with the uniforms next year.

Color Guard uniforms – No report.

Formalwear – Tammy Carmody says she would like to know who is performing on Feb. 24th so that we can get volunteers.

Hospitality and Concessions – No report.

Publicity – Deb Feingold said she asked Sandburg art students to do signs for the Craft Fair, and the results are terrific. We will have 100 yard signs (size 18” z 24”) at a cost of \$425. Since these signs say “Craft Fair This Weekend,” we can use them every year. The Craft Fair also will be featured on the sign at LaGrange Road and 143rd Street, which is very visible. In addition, Deb will drop off signs at Andrew, which holds its craft fair the week before ours, and offer free admission to Sandburg teachers. Per usual, she will promote the event in community calendars of local newspapers.

Craft Fair – Already reported.

Spirit Wear – A table will be set up Saturday at registration for incoming freshmen.

Security/Traffic Control – No report.

Equipment Moving – The trailer is fine after repairs, and Tony DiGrispino reported that the shelf is up in the uniform room. It extends almost around the entire perimeter of the room, creating much-needed storage space.

Telephoning – No report.

Candlelight Bowl – Already reported.

Alumni Group – No report.

Open Discussion:

Mary Bragg reported that some students still owe money for the Texas trip, and a few students are not planning to attend, although they participated in fundraisers.

ADJOURNMENT

The date of the next meeting is Tuesday, March 2, 2010. A motion to adjourn was made by John Sinott and seconded by Lori Koning. All were in favor and the motion carried. The meeting was adjourned at 8:18 p.m. by Mary Bragg.

Janet Donne, Secretary