April 10, 2019 Band Booster Minutes

Meeting called to order at 7:37 pm. In attendance: Rob, Brett, Annika, Cynthia acting as secretary, and 6 other parents.

March minutes approval motioned by Annika, seconded by Brett, all in attendance approved.

Tom absent due to injuries sustained in motorcycle accident.

Save the Music in Paradise fundraiser summary: $11,300 in cash/checks. About $2000 in Go Fund Me. Jupiter donated around $30K in instruments. Thanks to Tom for all his hard work getting it organized, and the other music directors for participating.

Disney trip recap: Sue and Melinda. All thought it went really well and the kids had a great time. Lessons learned:

How to distribute medications: explore possibility can the kids do themselves?

Medical person should not also be a chaperone. And are we required to have a medical person on each trip?

More time in Disneyland was desired. This can be improved by earlier planning so that a performance can be scheduled at Disneyland adding another day.

Sue/Melinda will make a Disney trip binder to help plan future trips.

Came in under budget (great job Sue and Melinda!), and includes an End of the Year party, at which the Disney recordings can be shown. Potential dates Friday nights in May: May 3, 17, or 31, suggested site All Student Center. Sue and Melinda will plan.

Trip costs $57,984, trip revenue $58,850 (revenue included an anticipated $4,000 from boosters, of which about $3200 was used).

Reno update: Carolyn: Still determining costs for parents, discussion of meals, bus logistics and costs for driver staying in hotel. Rob will work on getting permission slips.

Tom’s absence: All in attendance approved up to $1000 to pay for a substitute teacher with musical training to help in the classroom. Rob will follow up.

May 4 and May 11 performance details to follow.

Senior Concert: Slide show for seniors, music chord for graduating seniors, some awards. Question of who organizes these? Will follow up with Tom when he’s more recovered. Cake provided by Boosters.

Treasure’s report: Brett: Band booster contribution to Disney trip was ~$3200. Boosters general fund is in good financial standing with total income of $39, 151, and total expenses $31,289

Discussion from concerns expressed by a fellow parent unable to attend tonight (concerns had been emailed to Rob:

1. The recent tuba purchased for the bands was not purchased from Watermelon Music, with the concern that we should be supporting local businesses. Rob informed those present that we do in fact support Watermelon music by purchasing music and instruments, including purchases this year totaling more than $4,000. The brand of tuba purchased, Mack Brass, had been discussed and approved at the previous meeting: it was within booster’s reasonable price range for purchase of about $2500, as opposed to other tubas which cost $8-10,000. Watermelon does not carry the Mack Brass tuba; hence it was not purchased through them.
2. Discussion regarding trips in general: concerns had been expressed that trips should be educational and provide performance opportunities, questions whether they should be yearly, and more than 60% of students should be attending. Those present gave reasons in favor of yearly trips:
   1. For many students the yearly trip is a motivation and major factor for enrolling in band.
   2. All trips have been educational and provide performance opportunities. The Disney trip included a day at the Grammy Museum which included two lectures, the Disney recording session, and public performance at Magic Mountain.
   3. They allow the students to make new friends, which is especially helpful for those in 10th grade or more naturally shy or introverted.
   4. Annual trips (instead of every 2 years) allows all students to have the opportunity to go on multiple trips. Because DHS is a 3 year program, doing trip only every 2-3 years there would be some students who would only be able to go on one trip.
   5. It is unclear why a minority of students and families choose not to attend. Cost of trips should not be a factor, as it’s emphasized that all students can participate regardless of ability to pay, including paying for the entire student amount. The fact that a minority of families choose not to go should not preclude the majority of students/families that do want to have a yearly trip. The Victoria trip did have ~90% participation.
   6. All agreed with the concerned parent that just because the band has taken a particular trip previously does not mean that same trip must be done. Having said that, it was discussed that the Victoria trip, which would traditionally be the next trip, is a trip that many previous and current students have said was their favorite trip: incorporating music education and performance opportunities in another country. It was unanimously decided by all present that we will continue to have an annual trip, and next year’s trip will be Victoria, British Columbia.

Victoria trip, May 2010:

Trip information and trip itineraries from the last Victoria trip in 2017 were available to review. Cynthia reported that in a quick search of previous minutes it was unclear the actual total trip cost and how much boosters contributed.

Melinda Grow has agreed to be the trip leader, but needs a co-leader, as it was established that have 2 people plan the trips is extremely helpful. Rob/Cynthia will send out an email announcement of the trip for next year and request another volunteer to co-lead with Melinda.

Trip planning needs to happen now, to secure hotel and performance/educational opportunities, and to notify the school for trip approval. These should be done ideally in May.

Meeting adjourned at 9 pm.