

SFMA Meeting Minutes

August 8, 2023

June Meeting Minutes - approved

Directors' Reports

Mrs. Jennings

- Major construction happening at the 5/6/7 center. Therefore there is no access to the band room until 8/18.
- First practice is 8/9 which gives the kids only 6 days and 12 hours to prepare for preview night on 8/29
- Uniforms might not get worn to preview night because there just isn't time to get everyone fitted
- Mr. Straka is coming back as assistant band instructor
- Still seeking an assistant guard instructor, SF graduates are coming back to help
- Band is definitely on an upswing, with 72% being 7th graders this year, and it should grow each year moving forward
- A few middle school parents are interested in volunteering, concessions and chaperones, and possible truck driving
- Miss Anna Hann has replaced Miss Baisch

Officers' Reports

Vice President

- No report

Treasurer

- Didn't print a budget sheet for this meeting, nothing has happened yet so it looks just like the last meeting
- Instructors have just started to order things for the new season
- Essentials fees are set for high school and they still need to set the middle school prices
- The SFMA budget in total ended a little ahead, which is good

Assistant Treasurer

- SPA has rolled over for the new year
- July Raise Right and Wawa sales have not been added yet
- Don't forget that you can use your SPA for essentials fees

Secretary

- Home show Sign Up Genius about to come out. Please speak up tonight if you want to have a specific position reserved for you
- Many Sign Up Genius's will be coming out for the season. Keep an eye on your email

Committee Reports

Chaperones:

- Planning to have a meeting with Mr. Walls to talk about the rules and get an idea of his expectations
- Will also schedule a time to meet with chaperone volunteers to teach them how to plume shakos

Concessions

- First home game is in 2 weeks
- Sign up Genius will be out this weekend
- There is a new job title on the SUG this year, it is cashier. This person needs to be willing to download the app to process electronic payments
- There will be the first, and largest, Costco run on 8/23, will need either a trailer or a flatbed

Fundraising

- Wawa sale there were 950 coupons sold, next sale is in the winter
- Handel's dine and donate is on 8/23, please bring the flyer, a picture on your phone is fine
- Corbi's flyers will be ready for hand out before the 1st day of school and at practice

Raise Right

- This month had 12 families ordering 45 gift cards to equal \$6770 total, \$994 to the kids and \$108 to SFMA
- What is Raise Right? Buying electronic or physical gift cards for the items you buy everyday and earning SPA points. When you are back to school shopping, you can order the e-gift card while you are in line to check out. The places that aren't participants of the Raise Right program, you can always buy a Visa gift card with no fees and then use it at places like Costco. If your spouse or someone else is shopping, you can email them or print out for them the e-gift card.

Hospitality

- Took the summer off, but ready for the new season
- Already reached out to Mr. Walls to see what he wants and when he might want the kids to be fed
- Thinking possibly at Rutgers because it is a long day
- Not going to Hershey this year, so wondering if Mr. Walls will want a replacement meal so the kids can enjoy a sit-down dinner together. Will be able to decide that when the line up for champs comes out

Membership / Data

- The SFMA year turns over in July so there is only 22 members right now, need everyone to submit their memberships
- Remember, you can't volunteer or vote without being a member.
- If you registered for the elections in May 2023, you do not have to register again.

Ram Crew / Vehicles

- All vehicles are already scheduled for the Marching Band season
- There are a few new people interested in being drivers
- Anyone interested in taking over as head of Ram Crew, speak up now so you can follow and learn through Becky's last year
- Got the trailer back from inspection, everything was good
- Joe Domin is taking over the organizing of the prop builds
- Want to build the tree stumps next weekend, emails will go out
- New trailer search is moving along. There might be a vendor who can custom build to our needs and still cost less than others
- The Owen J Roberts show for the middle school is on 10/7 so they will need their own driver because the high school also has a show

- There are a lot of pit instruments this year and not a lot of pit kids so there we will need a lot of help getting on and off the field.

Uniforms & Merch

- The volunteers were so good that we got the entire band fitted in 2 days instead of 5
- There is a desperate need for help with the sewing part, no clearances are needed and it doesn't have to be perfect
- If you can't sew, there is always a need for help organizing merch and uniforms and help cleaning the white pants after performances
- Still searching for white Dinkles, hoping not to buy any but might need to just due to the sizes being donated vs the sizes of the kids' feet
- Lauren Chychota volunteers to help wash the pants
- It's almost the time of the year for a store to open, not going to have one for band camp this year, switching from an old vendor to a new vendor, the new one is closer and should help make the timing better but sells the same stuff
- Looking for help with the merchandise. Becky still willing to be the chairperson and help, but needs someone to help with connecting to the vendors and coordinating all at the same time
- The new band shirts will be for sale for parents and others, they are lighter weight and looks different but it should be ok to mix and match at events where blue band shirts are worn

New Business

Essentials Fees form & payment

- Information on the website is just for the payments, the google form to order the items can be found in the marching band handbook
- Please fill out the google form as soon as possible so items can be ordered
- There is an issue with people who have more than one band member, Lisa will look at the google form and adjust the settings so more than one form can be completed

Sign Ups for fall MB season

- For this marching band season, all of the SUGs will go out at the same time. The entire season will be there for you to select the dates that work best for you
- It will also be posted on the website so it can be viewed over and over

Clearances & Membership

- There are QR codes at the tables in the hallway and here at the front table to help you get started. It does take a few weeks for you to be processed so don't wait

Home Show

- No committee has been formed yet
- SUG is about to go out, please let Gwen know if there is a certain position you would like her to add you to before it gets sent out
- No timing for the day yet, won't be able to figure that out until we learn how many bands have signed up to participate
- The Alumni Band that Mr. Perry and Eric have been working on will open the show
- Kelly Griffin has agreed to create the program book again this year

Sponsorships

- Looking for some help to run this essential part of fundraising, it is open to local business or big businesses, the packages are already created, we just need someone to solicit new businesses and then organize the benefits that they receive from the package that they purchased

Preview Night

- The date has been moved to 8/29
- Middle School is included
- There will be a Penny Votes table
- Will need volunteers, not many, there's not much to do, but some volunteers to sell pretzels and water and manage the penny votes.