

Minutes - SFMA

September 13, 2022

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Mission Statement

The Spring-Ford Music Association, Inc. has been organized for the purpose of promoting and supporting the instrumental and vocal music programs of the Spring-Ford Area School District.

President

Lisa Corey –

- Welcome and brief rundown of meeting agenda

Directors Report

Mrs. Jennings-

- Home Show this Saturday, Middle School meet at the 9 th grade center at 3:30
- Will perform 2 out of 3 numbers, the 3 rd number will be ready for Own J Roberts show, October 1 st
- A few weeks off then homecoming and 2 Halloween parades
- High school trip to Hershey for Championships has fewer 8 th graders going this year, estimating around 30 or less.
- Jazz Band information meeting is some time the week of Homecoming
- Jazz Band starts the first week of November
- Orchestra and Chorus just had 1st rehearsals
- No word yet on the intercounty band and if it is happening this year

Mr. Jones: (Not in attendance read by the secretary)

- Thank you to Becky Fretz and her team for sizing and fitting all of the students into uniforms and show costumes
- Thank you to Becky Landry and her team for props building
- Thank you to any parent that has chaperoned thus far. We will have more opportunities coming up
- Thank you to the parents heading up the Hospitality Team. They will be working on making the quality of life on show days much better for the kids. If you are interested in helping out physically or financially, please speak to them. I'd love to have as much opportunities as possible for the kids
- We always need help with the home show, please consider signing up or donating if you can
- I would like to wish good skill to all of our 4 th grade band students that are starting band for the very first time this week

Mr. Slifer: (Not in attendance read by the secretary)

- As the elementary band director, I teach 4 th graders at all 7 elementary campuses and teach between 160-200 students per year. I teach these students in small groups throughout the year and then hold morning rehearsals in the 5 weeks leading up to their spring concerts. During the pandemic, SFMA was able to provide bell covers for students which allowed us to follow the safety protocols and ensure band was able to continue like normal. SFMA has been extremely helpful with growing the beginner band/string population through our annual Meet the Instrument Night. At this event, 3 rd graders try out different instruments to help them decide which instrument they would like to pursue in the 4 th grade. SFMA helps with setting up the cafeteria and providing assistance with registration, picking up food for our volunteers and answering questions our new instrumental families may ask. I am extremely grateful for SFMA's involvement with the beginner students and I look forward to working with you in the future.

Officers Report

Vice President

- Things are getting busy, he is helping as much as he can

Treasurer

- Please review the budget, everything is as it should be at this time of year
- Only a few fundraisers have been put in and spending for the season has begun, it will even out soon
- Football games have had very busy concession stands, that will help
- The budget has a spot for 110 essentials fees, but we only have 89 kids
- Currently beginning to work on the budget for winter percussion but Mr. Jones still has to go to the board for that, so we are waiting

Assistant Treasurer

- SPA has been updated except for the Ad Book
- July's Wawa points and August Raise Right points are all in
- Please ask if you would like to learn how many points you have and/or if you would like to use it for essentials fees or anything

Secretary

- Lot's of fundraisers and events coming up, please be on the look out for email and Sign Up Genius'
- I try to make the subject line very specific so you know which you want to open and which you might want to skip. Hoping to make it easier for everyone to not have to read every email.

Committee Reports

Concessions: (Not in attendance read by the secretary) -

- Still need volunteers to work both shifts at both stands for the home show, and we still need someone to grill at the away stand for the second shift
- We are also desperate for half sheets of macaroni and cheese, consider buying them at Costco and baking them at home
- Thank you to everyone who has been volunteering in both stands, we've had a great season so far
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Raise Right:

- Started the discussion speaking about her experience as a chaperone over the weekend, she was shocked to see band parents giving students non-approved food and beverages while in uniform. Lisa Corey points out that many parents are new. Lauren Chyota said they were not new. Becky Fretz would like the uniform food rules to be reviewed with parents again especially the volunteers at each event. Mrs. Jennings would like the MS band to be allowed to get what they want because their uniforms are machine washable. Lisa Corey ends the topic at this time with a promise to speak with Colleen Felder and have her remind the concession volunteers what can and can not be eaten while a student is in uniform
- 18 families bought \$12,000 worth of gift cards this month
- This is the highest month year-to-date
- There was an increase in costs for shipping and handling but SFMA still netted \$180
- Asks Mrs. Jennings about MS parents and their knowledge of Raise Right, agrees to attend the parent meeting when concert band starts up, the sooner they start the more they will have for HS trips, etc

Fundraising:

- Handel's Dine Out raised \$368, Wawa \$791
- There will be another Wawa sale again in January
- Joe Corbi's orders are due by September 19th and will be ready for pick up October 19th, volunteers will be needed to help with pick up
- Also happening on the 19th is the PJ Whelihan's Dine Out
- Mattress sale signs are here, please take one or two and put them out somewhere, ie: churches, libraries, yards, etc
- Clothing drive is the same time as the mattress sale and we will need volunteers for that as well, a sign-up genius will be coming out
- Linvilla Pie sales are happening again, the price per pie has increased this year

Ram Crew:

- Waiting on some material for the props, still lots more building to do
- The material for the big screens should arrive the end of the week
- Mr. Jones isn't using the stage for the football game on Friday but we will be using it for the
- Home Show Saturday, if you have a volunteer job that day don't leave it for Ram Crew, but if you can leave it and come help that would be great
- Students are not helping to move props yet, but maybe soon?

Data:

- 53 families have signed up to be members
- Remember, to see all the emails and be a volunteer you have to be a member
- Joe Domin states that there is a spot on the website that says “Join Our Mailing List” where do those emails go? Gwen MacDonell to ask webmaster Tom.
- Kelly Griffin asks if we can ask all the directors to send out an email asking parents to join SFMA,
- Lisa Corey states that this should already be happening, but many parents still don't bother

Chaperone:

- Thank you to everyone who has helped so far
- The sign-up genius is out for the entire season, BOA's are already full
- Need some more help for Senior Night and Homecoming
- Met with Diane Rudd, she is going to take over clearances, so the next Head Chaperone won't have to worry about that part, the job is getting easier and less time consuming
- Need to have someone please step up for next year so that you can shadow her now and learn all you need to know

Uniforms:

- Full band has been fitted for uniforms, amazing team got it all done in 3 nights
- Had a great team of 4 on Saturday and got entire band fit for costumes, hoping they can be worn on Saturday for the Home Show
- MS everyone is getting shoes as soon as they are paid for

General Merchandise:

- Mr. Jones shared in his email that the T-Shirt sale is up and running, an email will come out about ordering soon
- Jacket sale is a short sale so that the blue and white winter jacket will for sure be in before Christmas
- Made the decision to remove the 3-in-1 jacket from the sale, it was very expensive and only 3 have been sold in the past few years, the price has increased to \$200 for this jacket
- The items that were purchased before September 10 th are in and will be out on Thursday the beginning of practice, Eric Fretz will handle it, 6-7pm by the band room doors, an email will go out

Hospitality:

- The first meal is next Saturday before the Boyertown competition, the plan is to collect monetary donations and feed the students and staff after rehearsal and before leaving for Boyertown
- Christine Lyons and Laura Simons will be working the candy gram table at the Home Show if you would like to drop off your cash donation

- Venmo option? Heather Yonosh would like it all to go through SFMA and not through personal Venmo, need to keep track of the amount in case there is more donated than needed for one meal, this protects the Hospitality committee as well as SFMA
- There isn't a line item on the budget yet for Hospitality since it is a new program
- Maybe the bi-laws can be changed to make a separate fundraiser just for hospitality
- Committee is still working on the meal for Championships at Hershey, it really all depends on what time we arrive

New Business

Senior Night -

- There are 15 seniors who will be recognized with their parents at the football game
- Mr. Jones sent out a Google form for the information to be presented about each kid
- We need 3 parent volunteers, who don't have seniors, to organize this event
- Need to pick up the flowers from florist, organize the parents on the field and help the photographer
- Sam Reina states she spoke with Bob Rizzo and Senior Citizens can get a gold card and get into any sporting event at SFSD for free

Orchestra –

- November 4 th we are hosting event for 9 th grade students
- Need volunteers to help with concessions
- Lisa would like to have candy grams offered that night as well

Old Business

Essentials Fees –

- Don't forget you can use SPA points for your essentials fees. We purchased the show uniforms, so we need the money to help cover the costs

Sponsorship Program –

- Just a reminder that we unofficially launched the sponsorship program a couple of weeks ago, It is up and running on the website, Not pushing it out yet to all the SFMA members, but if you know someone who might be interested in purchasing a sponsorship, please share it with them

Dayton Trips –

- Not much to report right now, Guard is submitting paperwork to get approval to the school district this week, Percussion has already been submitted, Can't do much more planning until the school district approves

Meeting Adjourned