

# Minutes - SFMA

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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.**

## November Meeting Minutes

- Approved

## Directors Reports

Seth Jones – High School Band Director

- Still thanking everyone for their help with the Marching Band Season, agrees that it was aggravating and not really the vision he had in the beginning
- Indoor season has begun, wants to mention the inclement weather policy, Spring-Ford School District makes the decision if school building is opened or closed, Mr. Jones finds out around 4pm so please be patient with the late notice, will be sure to talk to Danielle and Mike about clear communication throughout the winter, If school is closed, then 99% of the time activities are canceled, usually with an early dismissal the message to parents is that all after school activities are canceled.
- Band concert is tomorrow night, really excited about it
- Jazz band is almost ready, have to do placements, it takes time, final placements should be out by Friday and the schedule should be posted, jazz band starts in January
- Chaperones will be needed for indoor; Guard is claiming that they only need one but Sam Reina states they need two by law, Sam requests Mr. Jones still runs all chaperone decisions through her
- Band director “world” has been discussing the length of the marching band season, some schools have said they are frustrated with practice after Daylight Savings Time because they don’t have lights, directors are discussing if the season could end a week sooner, before election day, Cavalcade would need new place to host championships because Hershey contract is for that one weekend and can’t be moved.
- Would Spring-Ford want to be a host site? Mr. Jones doesn’t think it would be an issue with the school district side, but would the SFMA team be able to host a large show two times in one year? Need to look at the logistics, not something we can decide tonight, would like SFMA and parents to write down some questions that can be submitted to Cavalcade. Ie: Would SFMA profit be different? Can SFMA volunteers handle 2 days in a row? We can’t host our own division so we would host one day and have to

perform somewhere else the other day. What about parking and all of the trucks? Would we park at another school and run a shuttle?

- Question asked as to why we don't compete with US Bands instead of Cavalcade. Their championships is 2 weeks earlier than Cavalcade's. Answer: more expensive, not responsive to the directors' needs, the parent company recently went bankrupt and was bought out so not unsure of the stability

#### Kris Jennings – Middle School Band Director

- Intercounty Jazz Band concert is November 9<sup>th</sup>, no one from Spring-Ford got in, very disappointed in the 8<sup>th</sup> graders, 2 didn't even try out and they were very good, Mrs. Jennings was a judge for the saxophones section and only 2 tenors tried out and they only take 2 so it was a huge, missed opportunity for the MS saxophones
- Did get 11 MS kids into Intercounty Band, Concert is 1/21 at Arcola Middle School at 7pm, Hope to get the 8<sup>th</sup> graders excited to then go and try out for districts in 10<sup>th</sup> grade, first rehearsal is Saturday 1/7
- Jazz Band season starts the last week of February, hoping to do 4 Jazz Festivals, need to figure out with the parents who is available
- MS Indoor Guard, announces show schedule 2/11 Council Rock, 3/4 CB East, 3/25 Boyertown, 4/1 Upper Dublin, 4/15 Abington, the last clinic is this Wednesday and then January they begin the Wednesday and Saturday rotation
- Band concert is tomorrow, proud of the progress of the group over the weeks, it has been fun to see

## Officers Reports

### Vice President

- Able to assist with the craft show with merchandise selling, was a win all around, sold a few items that were sitting in totes for quite a long time, just shows you that you have to have the right audience

### Treasurer

- Closed out of outdoor
- Putting deposits out for indoor for buses and uniforms and floors
- Shared the vendor fair's numbers: \$2k for table fees another \$2k for day of sales, very successful event
- Concerts have had merchandise sales at each, as of now at around \$1400 for merchandise and another \$300 in candy/flowers

### Assistant Treasurer

- SPA's updated with pie sales and November Raise Right, still waiting on Mattress Sale

### Secretary

- Vendor fair was fun and successful, still receiving many emails from vendors saying how wonderful the HS student volunteers were and the musicians, some asking for a Spring event and definitely want to be asked back next year
- Raffle winners have all been texted and pick up is scheduled for Saturday 12/17 12:00 – 4:00

## **Committee Reports**

Concessions - not present

### Fundraising

- November fundraisers: pie sale earned \$944, Ornaments earned \$227, Raise Right earned \$306.55
- MS parent zoom meeting with Mrs. Jennings to talk about Raise Right, very successful, 14 additional families have signed up for Raise Right from that meeting
- Upcoming: December 21 Uno dine out, January is Wawa, February is Bag Bingo, May is the Trivia Night and then a Flower Sale will run in March to earn SPA points for Dayton trips and have the flowers available for Mother's Day delivery
- Ornaments will be available for pick up at the concert tomorrow night

Hospitality- not present

### Ram Crew/Vehicles

- Indoor Percussion is "trucking along" with props
- HS guard doesn't need a lot
- Once percussion is in a good spot we will start the cave for the MS guard
- Need truck drivers for the MS guard

### Membership/Data

- One new family has signed up, there are still tons of families not signed up for SFMA

### Chaperones

- Indoor percussion needs chaperones
- MS is managing their own

### Uniforms/Apparel (not in attendance, read by Vice President)

- All indoor students have been measured for uniforms, should arrive in 2 months, will need volunteers to help with fittings
- Selling general music merchandise at all of the concerts, will also have jackets available for pick up as well

## **New Business**

- Indoor Guard Show:

- Last year we had a total of 14 groups including our 2, this year we already have 31 signed up, it will be a very busy day, in the beginning stages of planning, it is a week later than usual on the calendar so there is more time to plan and prepare
- Teacher Gala:
  - date is January 20<sup>th</sup> this year, not the same weekend as the guard show so volunteers won't be as exhausted as they were last year
- Marching Band 2023:
  - would like to purchase next year's show with this year's budget. Here's why: the budget flips in July so to wait that long delays everything in the summer months, if we have this one shift it would make all other seasons be able to be purchased the year before since the money in 2023 budget will not be used for 2023, it can be used to buy the 2024 show, there are many things that we buy in advance so this isn't an unusual request but with the higher amount of money it should be put to a vote, it will cost around \$4000 to purchase an already designed show from a HS in Texas, it is a better quality show than we could afford to have designed specifically for us but at a lower price because it is "used", no one in this area will recognize it since it is from Texas. President put it to a vote, and it was approved emphatically
- Sign Up Genius:
  - Many people were stating that they were not receiving sign up genius emails to volunteer, Lisa Corey called the company and learned that many email addresses in the SUG system had been rejected as spam by the individual email providers of each person, the recommendation is that everyone needs to put SUG in as a contact to avoid it being rejected, but how do we let people know? Perhaps sending the SUG link through a mail chimp email with a disclaimer asking everyone to add to contacts, will also need the directors to help since not everyone receives the mail chimp emails, it is pointed out that if they don't receive mail chimp then they are not members and if they aren't members then they can't volunteer anyway

## Old Business

- Indoor Percussion Dayton Trip:
  - season fees total will be \$800, front Ensemble is \$25 less so they can buy their own jeans for their uniforms
  - there was a problem with the hotel being under construction, there is a block of 10 rooms for the kids and there will be another block for parents, the rooms cost \$159 a night
  - volunteers and anyone who is going will pay out of pocket for room, food, and show tickets which will be less expensive than the amount the kids are paying due to the bus
  - There will be an option to make 2-3 payments spread out over January and March
- Indoor Color Guard Dayton Trip:
  - Dani has already bought the tickets for finals
  - Trying to figure out how to work the adults into the trip
  - Cost will be a significantly higher cost than percussion, there are a lot less kids going which increases the cost for the bus and hotel, but they won't need a truck or trailer so that helps

- Question raised if parents will have the option to ride the bus which could then reduce the cost for everyone. Lisa Corey states that it is Danielle's hands, and they don't know how she wants to handle it.