

Band Booster Meeting Minutes
November 3, 2003

President Betty Wakerly called the meeting to order at 7:30 p.m. Members in attendance included: Renata Allelujka, Barbara Baxter, Julie Benes, Kim Bokowski, Ginger Brese, Lynne Carr, Monika Cunningham, Joanne Djuric, Mimi Fruehe, Mimi Johnson, John Knepper, Ed Kopytko, Margaret Legel, Michael Legel, Sandy Liedtke, Deb Massa, Karen Mink, Peggy O'Dell, Nancy Poch, Craig Roselieb, Mark Samel, Renee Vollrath, Betty Wakerly, and Tom Warmoth.

Absent executive board members included: Kelly Mueller.

President Betty Wakerly welcomed Kim Bokowski as the new Jazz chair and Mark Samel to the meeting.

MINUTES

Minutes were approved as written.

TREASURER'S REPORT

Lynne Carr reported that the budget report was current through today's date showing the income and expenses as usual. She said that all is going well and as planned. Expenses are being kept under control. Looking back at invoices that we paid, Lynne reported that we have paid \$88.68 in taxes as people are turning in receipts and not using the tax exempt number so we are paying unnecessary tax. The only exemption is Sam's Club who won't take an exemption form without a corporate check. The bottom line is that we will no longer reimburse tax money paid with the exception of Sam's Club where we will continue to pay tax. Any invoices with today's date and from now on, we will not pay the tax so be sure to use the tax exemption form.

Lynne has also been investigating the possibility of accepting credit cards for large payments. Mid America Federal recommended two companies who can give better rates to a non-profit organization. One company M & I Merchant Services said there is an initial \$95 one time set up fee. Each transaction would be charged at 2.16%. If you process multiple credit cards in one day it would cost 76 cents total instead. There is a monthly fee of \$11.95 per month but you can turn it on and off so you can turn it off for months where there is no expected income. This is a dial pay rather than

having to rent a credit card machine. By law you can't charge more to people who pay by credit cards but Lynne suggested charging an additional \$20 fee but if you don't use the credit card, we could credit the student \$20 in their account to offset the fee and get around the inability to charge this extra fee. Lynne suggested using it only for large expenses.

Craig Roselieb felt that the Boosters shouldn't be spending more money in this area than we have to. A motion was made by Nancy Poch that we do NOT need to offer a credit card option. A majority passed the motion.

Three families have sent money to us for the Michael Samel Spirit fund. They are the Horner family, Marszalek family and Benes family. Check in amount of \$1600 was presented to Mark for this fund.

FINANCIAL SECRETARY REPORT

Mimi Fruehe reported that the balance in student accounts is \$11,372.58. Revenue for the month included income from ValuCards, shoe exchange, candy sales and band fee for a total of \$5599.50 in revenue.

BAND DIRECTOR'S REPORT

Craig Roselieb reported that the New York trip has been canceled. The reasons for the cancellation are that there are too many families that can't support the idea of just the Wind Ensemble going so it would cost us \$20,000 to help pay for what students are unable to pay. Craig said they did look at the possibility of inviting members of Wind Symphony or having people audition for a spot. Craig believes that to add another trip in the middle of our trip schedule was beyond what we wanted to do. We will look for the possibility of taking such a trip next year.

Craig said he will make an announcement about next year's trip before the January Open House.

Craig distributed a worksheet to help review the budget. On the back is the original marching band budget. Doug Bratt does not exist. Mark Botti resigned. Adam Hill will be both fall Marching Band instructor as well as winter drumline instructor for the winter and it will be paid for through the school. Gina is dance instructor.

To date we have collected \$47,000 in \$400 per student fees. Craig questioned whether we would have anything left after expenses. The fund raising would give us \$11,000 for 110 students. Music Bowl was meant to supplement any short fall we would have between the staff budget and the fee budget. That is what Craig is trying to clarify tonight...to see what kind of money we have left.

Additional staff expenses over and above the budget include: \$2000 for Bart Bates who was percussion instructor and music writer and a \$500 bonus for Andy Waldukat and \$500 bonus for Gina Gilhooley. We are only going to offer Gina \$500 for the winter season. Gina asked for more. It will be up to her whether she decides to stay with us or not. She wanted \$3000 for the fall.

The directors understand that the Bowl profits will pay for the ramp and any expenses from the budget that are not covered by the fees and fundraising. These profits would cover these deficits including additional staff expenses. Any remaining profit would be saved to help develop the marching staff/expense budget for 2004. Any shortfalls should be supplemented with the booster savings account.

Barb Baxter reported that profits to date from the Bowl are \$15,021.95. The cost of the driveway/ramp is anticipated at \$5000 but the bills haven't come in yet. \$1400 for fencing. \$3086 for ramp. Barb anticipates that there is probably about \$10,000 that is available and can be allocated. Numbers are not exact as bills have not all come in yet. Next month we can firm some of this up when marching season is over.

Craig wanted to create this flow chart so we are all on the same page. Lynne believes that, after paying the stipends there would still be \$7500 for next year's Music Bowl start up.

Craig asked if anyone received a bill from Band Shoppe for color guard uniforms. Craig only received a packing slip. It was cleared up.

We broke our record with IMEA. We have 10 District band students, 7 District Concert students, 34 in District Choir and 11 in District Jazz Festival for a total of 62 students from Downers South in IMEA this year.

PRESIDENT'S REPORT

Betty Wakerly reported that she has 18 more fundraising expectations to collect and she would like to get them in before the Indianapolis trip.

She also reported that she has made a revision to the bylaws. She added \$200 for participation in the Marching Mustangs and \$150 for private lessons. Since 10 days notice is needed, we will vote at the next meeting.

Betty Wakerly reported that she received a postcard for a group photo. If you prepay by November 14 it is a \$21 instead of \$31 charge on delivery. You can send it to the address and say to cancel order. Kids fill in order form and we get bill. This is from ISU. If you ignore card, the pictures and an invoice will arrive. Betty wanted to draw our attention to it.

If you know you want to serve in the same position or in a different position on the Executive or General Board next year, write yes or no next to your name and/or sign up for another position if you wish on the list that is being circulated. It would be helpful information if you decide soon. In December and January, Betty will put together a nominating committee and the board will approve it and fill all the positions by the February meeting. Nominations will also be taken from the floor in February. We vote on officers but not chairpersons.

We received 136 membership fee payments but we have a population of over 300 students. She had previously sent out letters reminding our families about outstanding membership fees as well as the required paperwork. She will appeal again in January and that usually brings more in. Deby suggested that invoices be sent out as a reminder.

We like sending our kids out to middle schools to catch their winter concerts before marching season starts up. Betty said if you have kids in middle school, let her know when dates of their concerts are. At O'Neill the drumline was invited to come in before the concert to do a little demonstration in January. Is it too much to ask the drumline to go to five schools? Craig believes the presence we have at the Open House is the best way to do this. Craig believes it is important not only to have a performance video but also statements from kids that can be given to band directors.

VICE PRESIDENT'S REPORT

Renata Allelujka reported that the newsletter is almost to "bed" and will be in Sandy Liedtke's hand tomorrow. The next newsletter isn't scheduled until January but it comes quickly after the holiday. If you are thinking of anything, make a mental note of it.

Website

Sandy Liedtke reported that John Knepper is working on something to solve the email issues. Everything is going along well. Trip notification to John also seems to be working well.

2ND VICE PRESIDENT'S REPORT

Joanne Djuric reported that we would be reconfiguring the school share fund-raiser. Margaret Legel will be handling sending reminders to people to let them know it exists. If you shop online at certain places, we get a rebate that can go into our account. There is a 3-5% rebate and the merchant credits the money back.

Cheesecakes

Monika Cunningham is making a poster that can hang in the band room and asked that Craig store the extra 10 cheesecakes. Craig asked that she remind him when he has to pick them up in an email. Monica needed to know length of concert so she can have volunteers for serving. Craig said it would end about 9 p.m.

Candy Bars.

Joanne Djuric reported for Nancy Warmoth that the profits to students were \$5292, profit to merchandising was \$190 and \$189 went to Music Bowl.

Equipment Coordinator

Tom Warmoth reported that the sway control for the trailer would cost \$159 but we would have to have new torsion bars at \$130 each. Because the trailer has electric brakes, we can use friction control, which would be less expensive. He recommends they be professionally put together and Tom recommended that they actually see the trailer before we buy the parts. Craig said that maybe he could get the mechanic to drive it over there. If it can't be done this week, there is no rush to do it before the spring. Renata asked if it was still safe to take to Indy this weekend and Craig felt that he had driven it for the past 14 years and hasn't felt any danger. The trailer budget is low because we had to rent a truck to pick up the new drums. Tom

Warmoth reported that he has put in a battery and other things and is not requesting reimbursement. There was also discussion about upgrading the inside of the trailer after the band season is over and Tom wants to know if there are any details and what the intent or goal is. Craig said it would be really nice if shelf equipment was suspended so things can be rolled underneath it without any posts or anything in the way.

HISTORY/TRADITION SECRETARY

Kelly Mueller was not present and there was no report.

Band Merchandise

Margaret Legel reported that we had a \$800 goal profit and the current profit is at \$1232.75. They sold \$150 in music treasure's merchandise including \$137 in whistle pops at the DGN v DGS game. We also got into pop and water sales and made \$154. The playoff game was a bust and we only made \$12 but we can use leftover merchandise like bumper stickers, etc. and sell them as stocking stuffers. We also sold pens that look like roses at the football game and can sell them at the concert.

Videography

Mike Legel reported that the Music Bowl video is almost finished. The performance video is also almost completed.

MUSIC BOWL

Barb Baxter thanked everyone who worked at the Bowl and is very pleased with the profit that was achieved.

SOCIAL ACTIVITIES

Nancy Poch reported that she would be putting something in the newsletter to get people to help serve at concerts. She will also send an email to get more bakers closer to the concert dates.

Fall Awards Banquet

Constance Markham was not present to report. Barb Baxter said they had made the decision to do the All You Can Eat Pasta Bar with three stations set up in the room. There will also be an ice cream sundae bar and coffee, milk and tea. This is not a fund-raiser. Price will pay for some staff, tax, tip, etc. It is very bare bones. The deadline is November 12 and the total count must be in on the 14th. The flyer is on the website and also in the band room.

Everything is at the Information Center. The dress is Casual Elegance. There will be dinner and a presentation by the band directors.

Football Water

Ginger Brese reported that if there are no other playoff games, we spent \$220 and there are a couple of cases of water left over.

UNIFORM COORDINATOR

Mimi Fruehe and Renee Vollrath reported that the uniforms went out for a cleaning before ISU and may not go out again until June.

Color Guard Uniforms

Joanne Djuric reported that as long as the pieces don't fly off and the students don't fly out of them, the color guard uniforms are in good condition and will last for their last performance.

VOLUNTEER COORDINATOR

Julie Benes reported that she needs to forward the list of Indy volunteers to the directors. She is trying to fine tune the chaperone guidelines and Sandy Liedtke will be the head chaperone for the Indy trip and will coordinate the trip from there.

MISCELLANEOUS

Mark Samel reported that he only had rough numbers from the Bike and Hike for Mike and has already deposited 200 checks. He said there were 220 participants with 48 of them from the band. That income from the band students was \$3764 and an additional \$1400 presented tonight brings that total to \$5164. Overall, it appears it will go over \$10,000 and will pay entirely for the drums. The Boosters extended a thank you to Mark Samel.

Mark also reported that the invoice for the drums would come directly to him and he will write a check so the bill will not come to the band but Lynne Carr has to write a letter saying that Mark is donating the drums. He also reported that anyone who donated over \$25 would get a letter for a tax donation. John Anderson is working on a logo for the drums to acknowledge the Mike Samel Spirit of Music fund.

Bands of America

Barb Baxter reported that everything is going well. Dinner will be on the buses and it has been arranged. Subway will provide a sack lunch for the kids to eat on the bus. Chaperones will be all lined up. There is some confusion about tickets and field passes and she will iron them out. Betty received correspondence that says you have to have field passes AND extra tickets to get into the stadium and Barb will check that because it is different than what happened at Pontiac. Barb needs a check for the hotel, Subway and the tickets. Constance is going to take care of getting money from kids by Friday. Turkey, ham or veggies will be the choices for Subway. They must turn in money by Thursday.

Jazz Cafe

Kim Bokowski reported that she will take a suggestion from Betty and keep it simple and get donations for snacks and put them out on the table. They will sell water, pop and coffee. Kim asked who updates the jazz site online because it still has last year's stuff. Barb asked what jazz would be doing this year but it hasn't been decided yet. They may try a weekend at Eastern Illinois University.

UNFINISHED BUSINESS

Deby Massa wanted to say that she watched Barb Baxter put the Music Bowl together from nothing and wanted to thank Barb for all her hard work with the Bowl that is going to make a world of difference for our band.

ISU dinner went fine and concession stand was a zoo.

Regarding the PE Exemption, Craig had a conversation with Jim Geocaris about policy and he reminded Craig about the history. In 1985 there was legislation that you could get an athletic and marching band exemption. Administration from North and South would have to get together with School board to present and request this policy. A district dialog between schools is scheduled for November so they will talk about how they could see something like this fly because North and South bands are so different. Geocaris is against athletic exemption. Also looking at this from the academic availability and this would open up student's schedules a little bit to give them two extra semesters to do other things. It is a state policy. This is the rationale they are going to build when they meet with North teachers. It has been a long time since they reviewed this policy. Fillies and

Cheer don't get this and there is no state policy to back it up for them. We could possibly get it into December or January board meeting, which would still get it into place for the fall. Craig said it would be great if someone can find out what other schools offer this exemption. Barb said Hinsdale does. Geneseo does also. It might be a good idea to conduct some kind of survey and come up with at least 10 schools in the area that have it already and their reasoning for having it.

Indoor percussion. Where does it stand? Where are we going? Craig said he needed to sit down with Adam and plan calendar and performance schedule. Craig said they won't go out of state four times, etc. The only expense will be equipment and things like that. He doesn't anticipate a huge fee.

NEW BUSINESS

Sandy Liedtke mentioned that we should somehow get sweatsuits, like the cheerleaders, swim team and other groups have for the kids so they could use them after competitions, on Fridays before a Marching event, and/or b at football games instead of uniforms and give them a fun look before and after events, as well as save wear and tear on the uniforms. Craig believes that playing to the community in our uniforms should be first and foremost.

What is the life expectancy of a uniform? Craig said they should last 9-11 years and the last ones went 12. School district paid \$70,000 for 200 uniforms.

ANNOUNCEMENTS

The next meeting will be held on Monday, December 1, at 7:30 p.m. in Room D180.

The meeting was adjourned at 9:11 p.m.

Respectfully submitted by Karen Mink