

Liberty Music Boosters (LMBA)

Meeting minutes- December 15, 2009

President – John Scherer

Vice President - Seth Joseph

Treasurer – Gary Bell

Secretary - Betsey Farquhar-Bradish

Member at Large - Cathy Epervary

Present: Ray Baker, Gary Bell, Earl Burke, Karen Carter, Betsey Farquhar-Bradish, Cathy Epervary, Michelle C. Fought, Brad Ingles, Jo Ingles, Sarah Ingles, Seth Joseph, Dave Moeslein, Barbara O'Neal, Laura Sams, Becky Shatto, Martha von Hillebrandt.

Directors: Jill Bixler

Guest: Kelley Bell-Wenzlaff

The meeting was called to order at 7:05 by Seth.

Directors' Report

Jill reported that the Solo and Ensemble contests will be January 23rd.

Reports

Active Members

Betsey circulated the report of active and attending members (see separate report) as well as reminding everyone to sign-in.

Minutes/Secretary Report

Minutes from the November 2009 meeting were reviewed by all in attendance and per review of all active members via email. Cathy motioned and Ray seconded approval of the report as submitted. The motion carried by unanimous voice approval of the voting members present.

Treasurer's Report

The October 2009 report was reviewed by all in attendance. Gary reported that he is investigating our procedures for individual versus family fundraising accounts. Concessions yielded 11% over budget this fall. After the fruit sale concludes we will have updated information for individual fundraising accounts but to achieve due diligence ~2-3 week turnaround is needed. Although only a few students participated, the Avon fundraiser earnings were ~\$600 and the participating students were able to make significant contributions to their individual accounts. Plans are to investigate doing another Avon fundraiser this year. The band camp invoice has not been received. The Pepsi bill has been paid in full. Cathy motioned and Becky seconded approval of the report as submitted. The motion carried by unanimous voice approval of the voting members present.

Winterguard and Drumline

The 24 hour drumathon begins this Friday at 6pm.

Scrip and Kroger

No report.

Fundraising Plan Update

Michelle said that the City BBQ fundraiser yielded \$102.27 which was significant since the only promotion was posting the flyer on our website. Plans are to do another Wendy's fundraiser to benefit the drumline this season. Laura reported that the fruit has all been delivered today and only two extra bags of Clementine's are left that were ordered to achieve the minimum total to reduce our shipping fees. Gary purchased these. Laura said 300 flyers were provided to students but only 20 students participated. Laura and Michelle suggest larger and less frequent fundraisers to achieve greater impact, with the exception of the less labor intensive restaurant fundraisers.

Seth shared with all present a draft of the flyer to launch the LHS Performing Arts Legacy Paver campaign. The flyer will be posted on the website. The only information remaining to be completed on the flyer is the order deadline. Seth said he anticipates at least several hundred stone sales that will be installed in the late spring to early summer. Laura suggested that a Fall campaign may be very beneficial.

Seth reported that the OSU Chair Raffle winner was Jeff Watson. Although we only collected \$470 in ticket sales we learned a lot for future raffles.

Discussion continued about fundraising. Jo suggested that we find cake vendors to promote during the graduation season with a % earned by LMBA. Seth said with just 9 students participating in the Avon campaign they still made ~\$900 in sales and our Avon Representative, Stephanie, did all the work of bookkeeping and deliveries to our students; so he supports a spring campaign. There was discussion about the timing of fruit, Avon, etc campaigns

overlapping.

Scholarship Committee

No report.

Bylaw Committee

No report.

Important Dates (per meeting Agenda)

- Next LMBA meeting: January 19th at 7PM

Old Business per meeting agenda - meeting discussion

- Raffle with athletics (meeting with Mr. Gerhardt in January) - Seth said athletics is planning on repeating their raffle during Basketball season but sales were way down this fall.
- School board's "Adjusting Elementary Strings Program" - There was lengthy discussion. Betsey reported that she read the following statement on behalf of the LMBA subcommittee at the November 23rd BOE meeting:

We are a families in the Olentangy Schools District that support he arts and are members of our school music booster association (I and many of us do not have children in the strings program ourselves) but we are concerned about the cuts in the elementary strings instruction from within the school day to a once weekly after school program which we believe will negatively impact learning and participation. We are especially disappointed that these changes were made without any opportunity for input from parents. A cursory assessment of similar school districts revealed that Dublin has ADDED elementary strings instruction in the morning and will provide attendees transportation to their schools. We implore the Olentangy BOE to look for expense savings that will have a less devastating impact on the education of our children. Thank you.

Martha von Hillebrandt also made a statement to the BOE on behalf of the Strings program. Since the meeting, Jim Hofstetter has launched an Olentangy Save Our Strings website <http://saveolentangystrings.org/> which also contains an online petition.

Discussion included many comments of concern for our districts Arts programs as a whole. Concensus was for LMBA to emphasize the following actions items:

1. Encourage attendance at BOE meetings (the next one is January 13th) identifying ourselves with shirts, buttons, etc.
2. Send a representative to the Elementary PTO Presidents' meeting to inform and elicit support.
3. Be sure to post the Save Our Strings website link on our website.
4. Draft a Press Release (with a Photo Op) that we are searching for a BOE member that will be our advocate for the Arts. Kelley suggested that events such as *Jeff's Jam* in Delaware are good places to solicit support.

New Business

None

Online Sign-up Information

- Scrip Sign-ups online at www.shopwithscrip.com
- Volunteer for concessions at www.libertyconcessions.com

Seth motioned and Betsey seconded for adjournment of the meeting at 8:53pm. The motion was carried by unanimous voice approval with no objection.

Next Meeting

Will be Tuesday, January 19th at 7:00pm in the LHS choir room.

Respectfully submitted by Betsey Farquhar-Bradish, LMBA Secretary