

Liberty Music Boosters (LMBA)

Meeting minutes- March 16, 2010

President – John Scherer

Vice President - Seth Joseph

Treasurer – Gary Bell

Secretary - Betsey Farquhar-Bradish

Member at Large - Cathy Epervary

Present: Gary Bell, Earl Burke, Sheri Burke, Lisa DeLeon, Cathy Epervary, Betsey Farquhar-Bradish, Seth Joseph, Cristal Lee, Donna Roach, Laura Sams, John Scherer, Judy Vires, Martha von Hillebrandt, Erin Wahl

Directors: Doug O’Neal, Travid Hicks, Jill Bixler

The meeting was called to order at 7:06 by John.

Directors’ Report

Jill reported that the orchestra received a superior rating at State contest and the Blue ensemble received an excellent. All ~15 entrants in solo and ensemble competition also received a superior rating. The Cleveland trip went really well despite a last minute emergency cancellation of the instructor who rescheduled her engagement here at LHS. The students really enjoyed the Wagner’s Greatest Hits performance by the Cleveland Symphony. All trip payments have been received but one and if there is any remaining balance it will be returned by Century Resources to LAB this fall and then to the students’ individual trip accounts. Plans are for a trip to NYC in the 2012-13 school year after the students were given a choice of there or Chicago or Florida. At trip that includes time to visit Carnegie Hall is very expensive (~\$1100 per student for 3 days) for a performance that is only for the few family members that are able to attend; therefore, we’re looking into a clinic at Julliard. Martha suggested that a church performance may also be included. Cathy said the difference between the 6th and 8th grade strings performance at Hyatts MS last month was impressive.

Travis reported that the Drumline/Guard OIPA (Ohio Indoor Performance Association) show was a success and received positive comments from judges and OIPA staff. We hosted 35 groups including the Independent World Guard group, Onyx, that later won at regional competition in Dayton. OHS hosted OIPA the next day on Sunday as the Central Ohio “power show” with groups from Dayton as well. Well known WGI Percussion advisor, Ralph Hardiman, was also very complementary of our student volunteers. Judges’ and OIPA staff hospitality room accommodations were somewhat challenging but we have to work with the areas we have without access to the academic wings. Betsey said we can expand the menu next year. Judy said we had complements from attendees. John asked when we would know about the OIPA date for next year. Travis said, sometime this summer. John said that a cost of ~\$10/student may be needed to adequately cover costs. The concert bands received instruction from Dr. Michalson of OSU last month and found it very helpful. They received an excellent rating at large group contest last month. We are happy with the performance but not the rating. Students have been listening to tapes, with 60% rating themselves on a scale of 1 to 10 with 10 being outstanding. This evaluation has helped them self assess their need for increased practice time. One challenge is fitting it in with AP courses, etc. and so ways to find practice space and time when students are available during the day is being investigated also. Band Camp will be July 18th to 23rd this summer and although this conflicts with the boy scouts’ 100th year anniversary Jamboree, no students have indicated that will be a problem. Band notes will go out tomorrow with additional dates regarding precamps, etc with the exception of percussions because staffing still needs finalized. There will be mini-camps for rising 10th, 11th, and 12th graders in addition to freshman orientation mini-camp. Recruitment and tallying of intended attendees has begun. Martha asked if there were a lot of incoming Freshmen. Travis said yes and that numbers will not be fully known until the ~22 of them have been advised of their audition results for jazz ensemble and subsequent class scheduling plans. The final numbers should be available the week

after spring break. There is emphasis on tuba (we should have 4 but would like 5) and guard recruitment due to the loss of so many graduating seniors. Ideas being explored include taking DVDs of past guard performances to the middle school to play during 8th grade lunch.

Doug reported that Sol Bells performed on Saturday and Sunday. Thanks to the boosters for decorations. We saved money in the LMBA budget because Doug had to perform as our accompanist since ours was previously engaged with the Orange HS choir. Plans for next year are for one choir review show, a repeat of the joint orchestra - choir review, and then a jazz band - choir review. Community venues are being sought for the jazz concert where we can sell tickets and perhaps include a catered dinner. At contest, week before last, all four of the choirs received all superior ratings in all areas including sight reading for the first time at LHS. State contest will be the last weekend of April. Selection for Varsity and select choirs will conclude tomorrow morning and has been extended to accommodate student schedules. This year there will be 72 positions available, a reduced number due to less incoming students but there is an increase in the number of incoming freshmen, especially in men's chorus. All budgets across the district will be reduced by 20% across the board.

Reports

Active Members

Betsey circulated the report of active and attending members (see separate report) as well as reminding everyone to sign-in. Thank you Martha for updating the active list during the meeting ☺

Minutes/Secretary Report

Minutes from the January 2010 meeting were reviewed by all in attendance and per review of all active members via email. There was no meeting in February due to snow and resulting school closings. Judy motioned and Gary seconded approval of the report as submitted. The motion carried by unanimous voice approval of the voting members present.

Treasurer's Report

The February (therefore March since there was no meeting in February) 2010 report was reviewed by all in attendance. Gary thanked Doug for all his help with clarifying invoices. He reported that \$600 have yet to be paid to the district for OIPA janitorial services. John said he was double checking this amount before final payment. Gary said Mike is helping with student accounts and will give disbursements upon Gary's request. We have ~\$8K cash available. Our biggest expense this last month was the financial aide for half of 3 students' drumline fees. Seth motioned and Judy seconded approval of the report as submitted. The motion carried by unanimous voice approval of the voting members present.

Winterguard and Drumline

Travis reported that the Drumline kids are doing well and getting gym space in various locations. There was a sound glitch during the last performance but then Rhythm X experience one too. This season is especially challenging for us since it is so short and we have had weather issues as well.

Scrip and Kroger

John reported there was a quarterly income from Kroger of \$40 that was distributed proportionately among the participants. Scrip now has Meijer gift cards at 3%. Lisa has accepted the chair of this committee ☺ Martha asked if there would be a promo at the beginning of the year? Lisa responded yes and we would be changing some website instructions regarding sign-ups.

Fundraising Plan Update

Raffle - with LAB not a "go" for this coming year so we need to find an alternative to PRIDE Day if we are to stop doing it. Following general brainstorming discussion, John asked that ideas be

submitted to him for compilation.

Pavers & Avon - Seth reported that the flyers for the paver fundraiser for the general fund are done and the kick-off will be April 1st to May 1st. It will be on all the performing arts' websites, in the Cannon and Olentangy News.

Stephanie, our Avon representative, is willing to do another individual student account fundraiser targeting perhaps Mother's Day and/or Father's Day and once again donate all her profits to the fundraiser.

Scholarship Committee

Notice of the LMBA scholarship availability has been sent out by the LHS directors to their lists and via the list serve. Applications are available in the Guidance Office. The deadline for applications is March 31st. At present Martha is the only parent volunteer for the review committee. Volunteers will be asked to commit to 2 meetings with the directors to complete the process and make selections. Erin, Donna, and Cristal volunteered.

Bylaw Committee (Liz/Michelle/Belinda)

John shared copies of the old, edits and proposed new Bylaws. Discussion and voting will be on the agenda for April.

Important Dates (per meeting Agenda)

- Next LMBA meeting: April 20th at 7PM

Old Business per meeting agenda - meeting discussion

- LMBA Arts in Our Schools/SOS Task Force - the district/community wide SOS group met recently although Betsey could not attend Martha and Laura were able to attend a portion of a follow-up meeting. They have hired a consultant to perform an analysis and subsequent advocacy plan. The consultant will be asking for all interested parties to attend a meeting on Saturday April 10th. Meeting time and location tbd. There was general discussion about related ideas.

The status of the action items agreed upon from January:

1. Betsey has been in contact with Jim as indicated above regarding meetings.
2. Task Force members who signed up via the SOS website have been sent updates from Joe Nelson regarding the afore mentioned plans.

There are no separate LMBA Task Force action items planned at this time.

New Business

- Café Express logo items - Erin has set up a store within the Cafepress.com website for Drumline logo items and taken group orders for buttons and bumper stickers. Discussion included consideration of using this as a fundraiser. Gary said the Chess Club made ~\$3500 through photo and related product sales during their tournament. Erin said that the turnaround time from order to delivery has only been 2 days and that many products are available such as clothing, CD labels, calendars, etc. Donna asked if there is a minimum number required for orders. Erin said no but that prices decrease per unit with larger orders. John said he would include a link on the LMBA website once we set prices.
- Spring concessions - Betsey said the volunteer sign-up calendar for spring is now available and thanked the directors for sending out a request to their lists. The first couple events have been canceled due to weather. Judy emphasized the need for a volunteer to begin working with her as her replacement after this season (Thanks Judy for your years of essential work on behalf of LMBA! ☺)
- Spring Pride Day - John said there are few dates available without conflicts. After discussion, Saturday, May 8th from 10am to noon was selected. Cathy will again organize.

- LMBA Officer Elections - John said nominations will be accepted at the April meeting for next years' officers to include: President, Vice-President, Treasurer, Secretary and Member-At-Large. He requested that notice be sent to him via email before the 20th. New officers will begin their term in July.

Online Sign-up Information

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

Judy motioned and Cathy seconded for adjournment of the meeting at 8:34pm. The motion was carried by unanimous voice approval with no objection.

Next Meeting Will be Tuesday, April 20th at 7:00pm in the LHS choir room.

-Respectfully submitted by Betsey Farquhar-Bradish, LMBA Secretary

DRAFT