

# Graham Band Parent Organization

## March 7, 2016

### High School Band Room

28 members plus Mr. Cooper were present.

President Randy Oder opened the meeting.

Secretary minutes were made available to those present. Members were given a few minutes to read through the minutes. Alan Westcott made a motion to accept the February 2016 minutes. Angela Wahl seconded the motion. Motion carried.

Darlene Alltop shared that the books were with the auditor and she was unable to do the treasurer's report for February. It will be available at the next meeting in April. The checking account balance is \$19,613.49. Darlene did present the letter from the audit and submitted the bill of \$165 for it. Angela Wahl made a motion to accept the treasurer's report. Chantell Westcott seconded the motion. Motion carried.

#### **Director's Report**

The following are important Band Dates:

- Large Group Contest: Bellefontaine HS, March 12. Report time is 7:15, performance is at 10:00 am
- The Arts are Alive (GMS) – April 7, 6 - 8 pm with performances by 6 and 7/8 bands and solo and ensembles
- MS Solo and Ensemble (Bellefontaine HS/MS) – April 16
- Ice Cream Social has been moved to May 14<sup>th</sup> due to prom on the 7<sup>th</sup>.
- Band Camp – August 14 – 18 (tentative) waiting on final schedules from GLS and OHP

Mr. Cooper is planning to start open band. This will be a new after school program for marching band similar to an open gym for sports. All 8-12 students are invited. At this time he is planning to start March 29, but the schedule and times are yet to be determined. Heather Carter asked about how middle school students would get to the high school. Mr. Cooper thought that with the new schedule this year, middle school students should be able to ride the bus to the high school.

Help is needed for the district contest on March 12. A chaperone is needed for the homeroom and drivers willing to help haul percussion equipment. All are invited to come support the band.

Mr. Hurst allocated funds for the purchase of a new Jupiter FiberBrass sousaphone to match the one we have. It is in and was used at the Pancake Day performance. Mr. Cooper said that he would still like to have two more.

Mr. Cooper said that new concert percussion equipment is desperately needed. We also have a lack of saxophones, flutes and clarinets. Many that we have he does not feel could be fixed. He suggested that repairs on brass and fixable woodwinds could be a goal. Chantell Westcott asked if used instruments from flea markets could be an option for obtaining more instruments. Mr. Cooper is open to this idea if the instruments are in good working condition.

Misty Crockett asked why the fee paid by students who are renting instruments is not being used to fix the instruments. Mr. Cooper said that fewer students are renting and he would like to have that money available to fix instruments that are currently being used.

Lorraine Bowman asked if we had to use Kinkaid's for repairs. She suggested we check other places such as the Band-Aid Shop in Bellefontaine or Don Long in Urbana.

The band parents were very interested in having someone come in and look at instruments to see what is fixable and to inventory what we have. Mr. Cooper said that it would need to be a summer project so that all the instruments were returned and student instruments were not in the band room. Randy Oder asked about creating a committee for the instrument repair. Shane Fagan volunteered to be chairman. Other committee members are Doug Csikos, Cindi Buell and Angela Wahl.

Mr. Cooper once again expressed his desire to reduce the costs for band members. His goal would be to pay all but band camp fee for new members.

### **Old Business:**

#### **Ways & Means Committee:**

Lorraine Bowman shared that we have 37 confirmed vendors for the craft and vendor show on April 8. There are 10 – 12 names on the waiting list and she is still getting calls. We have raised \$790 in ticket sales for the basket raffle. The Concord Community Center is willing to rent the hall to us for \$150, half off of the regular price. We have also received a donation for \$100 to help cover the cost of the building rental. Lorraine also asked for volunteers to work the bling table and ticket table the day of the event.

Lorraine asked who was in charge of the swag this year. Lorinda Meyers is wanting to purchase items from the bling table prior to the event to make crafts for us to sell at the craft show. Brandy Underwood said that she did the swag this year and would get in touch with Lorinda.

Misty Crockett shared that she currently has about 60 recipes for the cookbook and reminder member to turn their's in as soon as possible. She also looked into the e-book option. For no additional charge, Morris Press will include a code and instructions on how to download a free e-book with each purchase of a hard copy.

The ways and means committee met again to discuss the spring fundraiser. They felt that the best option was to try the Bags for Bucks. The anticipated sale dates would be March 21 – April 1. The bags will come in approximately two weeks after sending payment and order. Chantell Westcott made a motion to sell the trashbags. Angela Wahl seconded. The motion carried.

Discussion was held on giving the students a percentage of the profit for their student accounts when participating in the sale. By allowing middle school students to participate, they could accumulate funds to reduce their cost when they reach high school. Lorraine Bowman made a motion to that 25% of the profit for both spring and fall fundraisers to go into student account for all middle and high school students. If a student chooses not to participate in marching band, this money will still be held in their name until they graduate. The money will then be transferred to a younger sibling or into the GBPO account. Brandy Underwood seconded the motion. The motion carried.

The question was asked about what had been found out about returning the old unused shoes. Shane Fagan said that he has not heard from Ashli McAlexander about it and will check on it.

### **New Business**

200 Club winners for February were: Vanessa Bruce, Neal & Karen Stevens, Misty Crockett, Nancy Moore and Andy Lingrell

Misty Crockett questioned the amount of the prizes that will be given away at the ice cream social. The form said that if 200 members were not reached, then ½ of the money left after the weekly prizes were paid would be paid out. Doug Csikos said that he would have a breakdown of prize amounts at the next meeting.

Kristy Fagan made a motion to continue the 200 Club for another year. Angela Wahl seconded the motion. The motion passed. Doug Csikos said that he would be willing to head it up again.

The new date for the ice cream social is May 14. Jen Noble was not here to update us on what she needs done.

Darlene Alltop shared that she is looking into the use of the municipal building in St. Paris on Black Friday to wrap presents for donations. She thought this would make a great fundraiser for the band.

Ballots were passed out for the voting of new officers. Darlene Alltop requested to have her name removed from running for president. Ballots were then collected and tallied by Mr. Cooper and Vanessa Bruce.

Lorraine Bowman made a motion to place an ad in the Urbana paper for the craft and vendor show. The ad would run 2 separate days at a total cost of \$100. Walter Stevenson seconded the motion. It was asked why we would want to pay for advertising, when it could be placed on the community section of the Booster for free. Lorraine shared that we planned on putting it there too and hanging fliers around town, but thought that the Urbana paper would reach more people. The motion carried. Tonni Sherwood suggested a small paper at the event asking people how they heard about it to determine if future investments in paid advertising were worth it.

Discussion was held on ways to communicate with band parents. Walter Stevenson suggested a webpage where information could be shared, but negative comments could not be posted. It was also stated that Facebook group pages have a setting that posts must be approved by the administrators. Parents seemed receptive to the idea of either a closed group that was actively administered. Alan Westcott is to present the cost of a website at the next meeting.

Mr. Cooper and Vanessa Bruce returned to the meeting. The results of the elections are as follows:

Treasurer – Misty Crockett

Secretary – Lorraine Bowman

Vice President – Cindi Buell

President – Randy Oder

Brandy Underwood made a motion to adjourn the meeting. Cindi Buell seconded the motion. Motion passed.