

OPA Minutes September 8, 2015

In attendance:

Will Burck, Daryl Silberman, Claudia Schmidt, Kelly Breuer, Helen Damore, Jeanne Cordes, Tracy Nash,

Claudia and Nancy introduce themselves as presidents. Welcome to new and old faces.

Will starts with director's report. We got new carpet, new paint and a new TV screen all last year. Countertops are needed for extra work space and senior plaques to be mounted out in hallway – Eagle Scout project ? These are two big projects we're looking to do. Daryl wrote a grant for two electric violins. Bought cello from the funds. Daryl is writing a big grant to IPEF for sound system and a fifth electric instrument viola. We have an active parent board so if more funds are needed, we can do a fundraiser. Five electric instruments is the goal for Warrior Strings. Grant is \$4,200. There are 13 members in Warrior Strings Elite.

Shelving was discussed. Countertop is preferred and maybe shelving up above which will provide extra work space for music and instruments. Plaques for hallway would be a good Eagle Scout project. Date set for March 5 for 12 hour Play-a-thon. Funds donated will be determined as to where they will go. Open to HS and Middle School 8:00 a.m. to 8:00 p.m.

We do not have last meeting minutes so we have to postpone approval to the next meeting in October. This is for the May meeting notes.

Will showed us the cello cases. The cellos fall out because the Velcro doesn't Velcro any longer. Looking for a creative person to resew. We have 12 cases that need fixing.

New website was well received and done by Robin Church. It's also an app for mobile device. The orchestra calendar is also on the new website.

Question for Joy and Wendy. After concert concessions are good for students. Should concessions be for only certain concerts? Finding the help is difficult. The cookies have to be set aside until the students are ready to come out after the concert. We should choose certain concerts for concessions. Treats and drinks were always set up for people to socialize. It's a good chance for orchestra parents to mingle. Fall concerts are good for cookies because we have middle school parents. Consider manning a table when your child is not playing. Using volunteer spot may make things easier. The two concerts for concessions should be the two October concerts and March 8.

Kelly presented the treasurer's report. MEAC funds get split between band, choir and orchestra. We are expecting the number to be down a little because of the online registration process. The chimney donations come at Prism concert. Fundraising was pasta and puffin sales. The money goes to student accounts and some goes to the OPA. This year our fundraising goal is \$750. We need to cover expenses for next year. Fine Arts concessions will also bring in money. Plaques and patches are an expense - \$1,300. We will take a look at senior plaques and maybe cut down a bit on that expense. Expenses are also scholarship for every grade level and summer camp. Those are where the big dollars go. We have

\$15,000 cash sitting around. Most of that money is in student accounts. Private lessons fund and trip fund for students who can't afford private lessons and trip fund is for instrument rental for overseas trips. There is \$318 from student accounts of seniors. Should it go to the general fund? Motion to also use some of that money for private lesson fund. Fine Arts check is usually the last money that we get.

Transfer trip fund to general fund. Approved.

Transfer money from forfeited student accounts to private lesson fund. Approved.

Accept slightly adjusted proposed budget. Approved.

Claudia and Nancy spoke about the scholarship. Student received scholarship but never participated in any kind of fundraising. Nancy said scholarships are okay if student participates in fundraising? Scholarships are director driven as per Daryl. Financial situations play a part? Maybe we should get reports from private lesson teachers. Scholarship committees should discuss. Will is not in favor of the student not participating in fundraising. Grade level scholarships to consider as per Will. Summer scholarships and private lesson scholarships are good.

Fundraising – What kind of fundraising should we do? Pasta was discussed. It went really well because it was timed with the first concert. The pasta came back before Thanksgiving and in time for the holidays. Amy is our fundraising chair. Puffins were easy – already boxed. Play-a-thon in March.

Reviewing the committee chairs. Jeanne and Helen doing the apparel. Hospitality is Joy and Wendy. Dessert dinner is Michelle and Wendy.

Old business – no.

Next meeting is Tuesday, October 13.