

**GRMPA**  
**Monday, January 6, 2014 7pm**  
**Meeting Minutes – Chorus Room**

**November Meeting Minutes**

The meeting minutes were reviewed, approved, and seconded. They will be posted on the website.

**Staff and Committee Reports**

**Band Director Report – Kevin Lagos**

Mr. Lagos was not present at the meeting, however Linda Hall Winther reported on his behalf that the big item now on the agenda is the trip to Boston; getting students signed up and the deposits collected. It was also noted that the Concert band and Chorus concert is on Thursday, January 16<sup>th</sup> at Ridgewood Ave School Auditorium.

**Treasurer's Report – Diane Chirco**

Currently GRMPA has a balance of \$46,000 and approximately \$7,000 of that will be going out for payment when the second fruit delivery arrives. This leaves us with a balance of approximately \$37,000, and in essence, a year ahead in terms of fundraising.

**Old Business**

**Performing Arts Academy – Paul Byrne**

Paul Byrne, along with others, meet with different candidates in the effort to select someone to take on the Music Academy since over the last few years student participation has lagged and has been costing GRMPA some money to run.

The recommendation is to have Luanne Dragone head the academy. She came to her interview meeting with ideas for programming, a brochure, and a budget—very impressive.

The success of this academy depends on the relation that is built between Luanne, the schools, the music teachers and administrators and the students at Ridgewood Ave School hearing about it and promoting it.

It is intended that the Academy will fall under the auspices of GR Recreation and they will be doing the payroll/insurance/classroom space end of it. GRMPA will be helping to promote it through the website, the newspapers, and email through the schools, at least in its first year. For this summer, the Academy will be a two-week morning program starting at 9am and go until 1pm with lunch time included in that. At 1pm, they can then join the GR Rec program at the pool or wherever GR Rec is that afternoon, or be picked up.

The work of Paul Byrne and Anne Leccese was applauded. Good work by this team, done on time so that marketing can go forward very soon.

**Website Upgrade – Linda Hall**

On behalf of GRMPA, Linda has engaged Wm Kelly Design to do a basic upgrade of our website for a very reasonable price. In terms of the process, the mechanics of the upgrade need to be done first, and the site content will follow. Linda asked if there were any items that we should look to add to the site. It was suggested that we add the ability to have prior years of marching band performances as well as other music programs such as 7<sup>th</sup> and 8<sup>th</sup> grade concerts, and other music programs. A progress report will be made next time.

### **Trumpets – Linda Hall and Karen Borbone**

The date for the Cabaret Night is set for Wednesday, February 12<sup>th</sup>. We are in need of a few more volunteers for that night, specifically someone to handle the backstage management (speaking with the performers and placing the acts in order), and some front of the house help. Pat DeCelie will MC the event. Rick, of Trumpets, will do the sound check with the performers before the evening starts. Karen volunteered her husband and son to help as well with sound check. Diane Chirco and Ann Leccese will help with the front of the house (collecting tickets at the door and seating guests).

### **Fruit Sale – Kelley Forsyth**

#### **Pancake Breakfast – Lauren Kinder**

Kelley was not present at the meeting, however information was presented about the delivery. The delivery has been delayed by the growers given the size of our order (small for them) and where we are in relation to them geographically (far!).

There was discussion about whether to 1) keep the fruit delivery/ticket sale linked together or 2) separate them (ticket sales on Feb. 1<sup>st</sup> and delivery on March 1<sup>st</sup>).

The majority concluded that we should keep the two together for the fruit delivery and ticket sale for March 1<sup>st</sup>. The delayed delivery date actually allows for more fruit orders to come in (end date is now Feb. 12<sup>th</sup>) and a theory to be tested about ticket sales and the # of people who actually do show up for the pancake breakfast. (We think lots of people buy tickets but don't actually come.) Thought was given to the potential need for incentives (Starbucks gift cards/ "get out jail free" card with Mr. Lagos?) to get student participation for the last fruit delivery/breakfast ticket sale.

### **New Business**

#### **Band Instrument Repair**

There was a discussion regarding how the repairs are estimated for school instruments, who is responsible for paying for the repair, what instruments are owned by the school, etc. and the need to engage the GR Board of Education in this discussion as well. We could not have a proper discussion on this topic without Kevin there. Linda will take the issue directly to Kevin and we will report back at the next meeting.

#### **Boston Trip**

The trip to Boston is set for April 4-6<sup>th</sup>. The point system stays the same as last year in terms of volunteering for events. If a student works three events (i.e. two fruit sale events and pancake breakfast) that translates to a \$230 credit for them. The trip cost is \$560 per student. A deposit of \$100 is needed soon. The next date for money due is \$230 on February 12<sup>th</sup> (Trumpets Cabaret Night).

### **Important Upcoming Dates**

January 16 – Concert Band and Choral Concert, RAS

February 10 – GRMPA meeting, chorus room, 7pm

February 12 – Trumpets "Cabaret Night" fundraiser – get your tickets soon – limited seating

Submitted by Ann Leccese, GRMPA Secretary