

GRMPA
Monday, November 11, 2013 7pm
Meeting Minutes Chorus Room

Minutes Approval

A motion to approve the meeting minutes of October 14, 2013 was made by Pat DeCelle and seconded by Joan Giurdanella. All approved.

Staff and Committee Reports

Band Director Report – Kevin Lagos

Mr. Lagos is very, very pleased with how the Marching Band season ended. The final competition in Bloomfield was incredible. Two bands beat us in points, however, they were bigger bands. First place went to Randolph, which won with 93.5 points. Second place (Bergenfield) had a score of 93.0, and we had a score was 90.0. The second place winner in our group had a score of 87.0. The fact that we were just three points behind the bigger bands, and three points ahead of our competition in our size group is just great!

Major improvements happened at the end of the season in terms of the music. The presentation of the show had changed dramatically from the Friday 5pm show of Band Camp week to the Bloomfield show. The music they played this year was very challenging. People were impressed with the intricacy of the music that made up this show.

The quality of the judging at the independent shows this season was just as good as prior seasons doing US Bands shows.

For next year's marching band season, we will do the same independent shows as we did this year.

Jazz Band will start the first week of December. Mr. Lagos is contemplating having the Jazz Band practice on Wednesday afternoons from 3:15 to 4:45pm instead of Monday evenings.

The choral substitute for when Mrs. Jessica Cino is out on maternity leave will be Mr. Jim Bogart. He is a percussionist, and also plays piano.

The biennial music trip this year to Boston will be April 4-6, 2014 to Boston. It will have all the same plans as was to happen this past April before it was cancelled. Cost will be \$570 per child.

Marching Band will be playing at the train station on Thurs. Nov. 14th from 5-7pm to help greet commuters on their way home and to open the fruit sale season!

Treasurer's Report – Diane Chirco

Diane handed out a report sheet showing the current year's anticipated transactions as well as the history for the past four years. Currently, GRMPA has a balance of \$26,905.41. The concession stand brought in \$3,342. Spirit Wear had a great year selling more than in previous years – sold \$1,209. Magazines transactions not complete yet. We paid out less for Marching Band show fees by going independent.

Overall, we are in great shape financially.

Concession Chair – Pat DeCelle

The concession stand season went well. There are a few items still to be done – inventory of the remaining items (food & beverages), winterizing the shack (drain water out of pipes), deciding on new prices for shack items for next year, and figuring out a maintenance plan for the spring (new roof and paint). Pat will follow-up with Lorraine of GRAA as well on Shack repair as they offered to help with these costs.

Old Business

Trumpets – Linda Winther

A big request was made by Linda to find another person(s) to help run this event with Karen Barbone, who has had a son involved in the Jazz Band. This event needs a one or two people to run the front of the house part (ticket sales, seating, etc.), someone to run the back of the house (coordinating/organizing the show, getting the performers organized), and someone to MC the event. Pat DeCelle offered to MC the event. A few names of people not present at the meeting were offered as potential people to contact for the remaining positions. The event is currently on our calendar for Wed. Feb. 12th and needs to be confirmed with Trumpets.

Music Academy – Paul Byrne

There are three candidates, of which one has been interviewed (Luanne Dragone) and the other two will most likely be interviewed in the next week or two. Paul has spoken with Jim Cowen of the Glen Ridge Recreation Dept. and it was appealing to Jim Cowen the idea of folding into their Summer Recreation program an offering of morning music lessons from 9am-1pm. The Rec. Dept. would be an ideal partner for whoever heads up the Music Academy because they would handle all the logistics (bookkeeping, insurance, renting of rooms for lessons, etc.).

Paul said that he'd like to have a one-page proposal put together and have a decision made by the end of November as to the one candidate that will take on the Music Academy. An official decision will be made at the January meeting.

Fruit Sales – Kelley Forsyth

As of Monday evening, five more drivers were needed for a complete roster. Two routes are quite large and to deal with the size of them, she'll be sending each of those routes a car with four kids instead of redesigning the routes. The organization for Saturday morning's breakfast is underway and going well. The event planned for Thurs. Nov. 14th at the train station is going great – Jim Cowen has helped out a lot. Kelley contacted Jessica Cino to see if chorus would be able to participate at the train station pep rally, however, most of them are involved in the current musical that is in production. Color guards will be there holding posters. Four adults will be there to man the tables with information about the fruit sale for the commuters. Saturday will start early at 8:15am with breakfast, at 8:45am information talk to students and adult drivers, and a 9:00am "Charge" to the cars.

Marching Band Dinner – Nancy Felix and Beth Low

Linda Winther presented for Nancy and Beth. A big thank-you to Ali Umana for putting the PayPal option on the GRMPA website so that people can register and pay for the dinner via this online method versus writing a check, finding the form and envelope, etc. Hopefully, this will encourage more families to RSVP sooner rather than later. This is a kid produced show with special videos and speeches given by each of the 16 graduating seniors.

New Business

Website Upgrade – Linda Winther

Linda knows of someone who is willing to design for GRMPA a website template that would give a more interactive website for \$1500. Along with the template would be a manual as well for those that come along after Linda and Ali leave GRMPA. The starting group will be Linda Winther, Ali Umana, Pat DeCelie and Ann Leccese to get content onto the pages. There are plans to have a students' page, and teachers' pages. All approved.

Drop box Storage for GRMPA Website Documents – Ali Umana

Over the course of the past two months, the GRMPA officers and publicity team have been using Drop box for items going onto the website (documents and photos, etc.). We are running out of space quickly and we would like to have this be the virtual archive for the future. In order to do this, we would have to pay approximately \$200 per year for unlimited storage space. All approved.

Upcoming String Students – Paul Byrne

There are approximately forty students currently in the lower grades of the Glen Ridge school system that will be in the middle school soon. Paul Byrne, Brett Deubner, and Cheryl have a meeting with Dr. Mucciolo to discuss this situation and how to best support these students. Brett and Cheryl are professional instrumentalists who are also string instructors to some of these up and coming students.

Important Dates

Nov. 15 – Fruit Sale, Cafeteria

Nov. 22 – Marching Band Awards Dinner, Cafeteria, 6:30pm

Dec. 6 – Fruit Packing

Dec. 7 – Fruit Sale Delivery – all hands on deck!

Jan. 6 – GRMPA meeting

Jan. 16 – Concert Band and Choral Concert, RAS

Respectfully submitted,
Ann Leccese
GRMPA Secretary