

GRMPA Meeting Minutes
Wednesday, June 11, 2014
Meeting Minutes – Chorus Room at Glen Ridge High School

May Meeting Minutes

Minutes were reviewed. Motion made by Kris Ramanathan to approve. Diane Chirco seconded the motion, and all present approved.

Music Director's Report – Kevin Lagos

We are signed up to do an independent circuit of shows for the coming year. All went well with last year's show. Verona is redoing their field with turf so they may not be hosting a show this year, (usually October 4th or 5th). Instead, we may be at Montville.

Regarding the music arrangement, Darren Gage puts it all together. By the end of the school year, usually one or two pieces are ready for the students to have and start practicing. This year, we are shooting for mid-July to have the music ready.

There are 10 new families to add to the roster for Marching Band. Eight are upcoming freshmen and two are rookies from other grades.

Treasurer's Report – Diane Chirco

The current balance in the bank account is \$25,000. Prior years, the end of year balance is usually \$20,000.

Old Business

Concession Stand – Pat DeCelle

Pat was not present for the meeting, however Paul filled in that the painting of the stand will still happen. When exactly has not yet been determined as of yet.

Election of GRMPA officers – Paul Byrne

GRMPA officers were elected at the annual meeting in May. President is Paul Byrne, Vice President is Kris Ramanathan, Treasurer is Diane Chirco, and Secretary is Ann Leccese.

Scholarships – Paul Byrne

Scholarships were awarded to four graduating seniors at the Awards Ceremony, held on Friday, June 6th at the RAS auditorium. The recipients were Tyler Winther, Rebecca Potters, Ruby Mastrodimos and Isabel Sollohub. The number of recipients over the years has varied from one or two with this year being the greatest at four. Traditionally, it has been awarded to one or two students, with just a few applicants. This year there were five applicants and a larger amount of money in the bank account that could be distributed.

School Instrument Repair – Paul Byrne

GRMPA would like to help get the school instruments in good repair. To start, an inventory of all the school instruments is needed. The next step would be to have someone from an instrument repair company come in to give an estimate for each instrument in need of repair. Kevin gave a ballpark estimate of \$20,000 to \$25,000(?) to repair all the school instruments. To repair the percussion instruments at RAS, it would cost approximately \$2,000 to \$2,500. Jerry Weir, a GRMPA parent, has a vibraphone that he's willing to sell for \$3,500 and it's valued at \$16,000.

New Business

Filling all Volunteer Leads for 2014-2015 Year – Paul Byrne

The following are open positions in which a lead volunteer is needed: Webmaster, Trumpets, Publicity, Marching Band Dinner, Grant Writer, Prop Master, and Town Signs.

Some positions already have their lead volunteers, and they are: Concession Stand – Pat DeCelie, Pancake Breakfast – Lisa Lauterbach, Fruit Sale – Kelley Forsyth.

Lisa Lauterbach offered to help the Grant Writing. A suggestion was made that we write a grant this year for the repair/replacement of instruments at Ridgewood Avenue School. The instruments there have seen quite a bit of use, and could use either repair or replacement. They are used by the students at RAS as well as the middle and high school students for their winter and spring concerts. A small group, (Beth Low, Joan Giurdanella, and Victoria Turiano) will meet with Ms. Schwerin to discuss this possibility.

Regarding props, they may not be needed this year given the theme of “Great Endings” from several pieces, and a judgment call can be made possibly during the week of Band Camp. Props are usually used to make a band look bigger, to fill out the field and their usage is more so seen at US Band competitions, not necessarily at the independent shows.

Town Signs are for the Glen Ridge Corner, at the intersection of Ridgewood and Bloomfield Avenues. The signs are currently being housed in the shack. Paperwork needs get filled out and filed with Tara in the Municipal Office in town hall.

Paul will bring up the open volunteer leads at the parent meeting in August and get all the positions filled then.

Band Camp Activities

Each day of Band Camp, around 2-4pm, it has been tradition for the kids to get a break to have an ice pop/popsicle, and some days it’s well needed. Lisa Lauterbach offered to coordinate volunteers for the ice pops each day. They are not needed on Wednesday – there is a late start on that day.

Another tradition that happens during band camp is the Friday night pool party. The Dombrowski family was kind to have the party last year, and the year prior was the Weir family. They will both be approached as well as the Reda family.

T-shirts are usually given out during the week of band camp. Lisa Lauterbach is in charge of the order and would like to get a go on sizes before the end of the school year. An email will be sent out requesting the info.

Next Meeting: either Wednesday, August 27th or Friday, August 29th after the band show

Important Dates:

June 20th GR Concert Band and Chorus to perform at GRHS Graduation

August 25-29 Band Camp 9am-9pm, no morning session on Wed.

Submitted by:

Ann Leccese, GRMPA Secretary