

GRMPA
Wednesday, October 7, 2015
Meeting Minutes – Chorus Room

Approval of Minutes

Minutes for the June, August and September meetings and the ad hoc Executive Committee meeting were submitted for approval. The motion was made to approve each of these minutes and seconded, so the motions passed. The approved June, August and September meeting minutes will be posted to the GRMPA website and the Executive Committee minutes will be kept with the official records.

Financial Report – Kris Ramanathan and Yvonne Provost

Activity Fees

Kris stated that we have received activity fees from all but three of the students. Kris will follow up with those students.

Expenses

Yvonne Provost mentioned that she hasn't yet received invoices for all of the expenses that have been incurred. She reiterated that the procedure is that invoices should be submitted for the various parties and will be reimbursed up to the amounts allocated by GRMPA.

Spirit Wear

Kris stated that apparently we have barely sold any Spirit Wear. It was proposed that we circulate a flyer through the school that includes photos of the items - not just to the GRHS parents, but also to the elementary schools. We could also send it throughout the town via Michael Rohal. Kris will contact Beth Low regarding getting photos of the new spirit wear.

Concession Stand

Trisha Turiano mentioned that we have the bare minimum of members for the Snack Shack so it would be great to get more volunteers. Kris will send another email request.

GRMPA Website

The website has been updated to reflect corrected information for the Nationals competition. It was suggested that we try to get additional information from Dr. Gage as early as possible to better inform the parents who are hosting events as to when their events should take place. One wish is to make the website more mobile-friendly. It was suggested that maybe one of the GRHS Web Design class students may be willing to take this on as a project. Unfortunately, though, the software for the current website is very difficult to update because it was not written in Wordpress. We will look into whether we might be able to get student volunteers to do the work in exchange for service hours. Kris Ramanathan and Gary Provost stressed that whatever updating we perform will need to be easily managed by future webmasters.

Marching Band Performances

Kris Ramanathan mentioned that Dr. Gage has asked if the parents could participate during the competitions by yelling "Mambo" at two key points in the show. We will try to practice during the Homecoming Game half-time show. Anne Leccese volunteered to make a couple of signs to cue the parents as to when to yell.

For the competition on 10/17, which takes place after a football game, it was suggested that the parents provide food for the marching band between the football game and the competition. When Dr. Gage arrived, he indicated that it would be ideal to have this food available during the third quarter, since they may actually end up leaving before the game ends. The decision was made to skip the "breakfast" in the morning and instead serve the band food (such as six-foot hoagies, for example) at the side of the Snack Shack using GRMPA funds. Trisha Turiano will contact Laura Zuiderveld, who is scheduled to host the "breakfast", to coordinate.

Gary Provost reported that the props are currently sufficient. They are still thinking about whether to make a backup fence and whether to paint the frames black.

Publicity

We've gotten some great coverage in the local papers. We will try to keep this going. Kris Ramanathan mentioned that he had looked into setting up a GRMB Facebook page, but that he understands that that would require a lot of regular maintenance. Nonetheless Ali Umana will try to set this up and will invite members using some old rosters. We will try to get some old photos from band alums that we can post on the Facebook page and website.

Kris Ramanathan mentioned that there are a number of band alumni and current and alumni band parents who are interested in joining in during a football game. Kris will check with Dr. Gage as to how to send some stands music (and we will have spirit wear available for them to purchase). Kris will look into how we could send an email blast to get the word out.

Fundraising

Joan Giurdanella stated that she is still waiting to hear back from Chipotle, but should hear soon. Since Panera has very limited fundraising slots and only returns 20% of the proceeds, Joan recommends that we wait to hear back from Chipotle before trying to schedule Panera instead.

Citrus Sale

Joan Giurdanella, Anne Leccese and Trisha Turiano reported that they got together last week and worked on redoing the fruit sale/delivery routes to make them more equivalent in size and also more efficient and safer. The band will be playing at the Train Station on the afternoon/evening of [Friday 11/13](#) and will begin to sell fruit, and then the sale will take place [on Saturday morning](#) 11/14. Kelley Forsyth will send out an email blast for the drivers. Joan, Anne and Trish will send out a blast for donations for the breakfast (including alum parents).

Band Director's Report – Dr. Darren Gage

Dr. Gage arrived and mentioned that there may be a football game [on 11/14](#). He will check on whether this will be a home game or an away game. If it is an away game, the band wouldn't plan to go -- but even if it is a home game, the view was expressed that since the fruit sale is our biggest fundraiser, we would probably need to prioritize that.

Dr. Gage mentioned that a lot of band alumni will be at the Homecoming Game this weekend. He has mentioned to individuals that he will be bringing extra music and would welcome band alumni to come and play along. We will get the word out (including ideally through an email from Michael Rohal) that any interested people should meet at the stands at Hurrell [at 12:45](#). Dr. Gage also suggested that band members past and present go to Fitzgeralds after the game.

Nationals Competition

Yvonne Provost emailed Mr. Liddy today to find out if the school provides a bus with a bathroom for longer trips. She will update us when she hears back. We talked about having food for the band after the awards ceremony, but Dr. Gage pointed out that the band will need to leave ASAP after the awards because the next day will be the first day of quarterly exams. We will look instead into the possibility of providing a meal between the time our band performs and the awards ceremony.

Fundraising

Trumpets-like event: We are looking into alternative venues, including The Olde Canal Inn. Dr. Gage suggested that Tierney's might be an alternative.

There being no other new business, the meeting was adjourned.

Respectfully submitted,
Anke Kramer Dombrowski
GRMPA Secretary