

GRMPA
Wednesday, December 9, 2015
Meeting Minutes – Chorus Room

The meeting was called to order.

Special Topic: Spring Trip

Dr. Gage shared the materials he provided to the students today regarding the music trip to Washington D.C. on May 21-23 in hard copy to the attendees at the meeting. He then walked through the itinerary in detail. He stressed that if we can get our deposits in early, he is relatively confident that we will be able to book the Lincoln Memorial as a performance site for the students on Monday - but noted that the secondary sites are great alternatives. He provided the itinerary to the students today but because today was the Marching Band Assembly at RAS, he wasn't able to walk through it with them; he will do that tomorrow. He has been able to obtain an extension of the deadline for our deposit, but urges that we submit the deposit as soon as possible so that don't get shut out from the Lincoln Memorial site. Checks should be made out to GRHS, and the high school will be making timely payment to the tour company. Yvonne Provost stated that we will need details on which students have paid their deposit, etc., before we allocate GRMPA funds towards the trip. Kris Ramanathan pointed out that the arrangements for the instruments still need to be made and paid for. The final payments are not expected to be due until March; Ms. Cino and Dr. Gage will provide further details.

Joan Giurdanella expressed some concern regarding student participation in volunteering events so far. Ms. Cino agreed that we need to more strongly encourage the students to take ownership of the GRMPA fundraising events. She suggested that we have all of the parents and students of band, chorus and music programs sign up for REMIND so that we can ensure that everyone is aware of upcoming dates and encouraged to attend. Another suggestion is that we change the fruit sale signup sheet to eliminate the issue of pairing by car. Anke Dombrowski pointed out that it would be problematic to have the final payments due before the Pancake Breakfast on March 8, because we won't know who has participated in sufficient events to get the full GRMPA subsidy -- so Dr. Gage will try to arrange for the final payment to be due no sooner than March 10. GRMPA, Dr. Gage and Ms. Cino will work through the logistics of the various payment amounts and timelines and the likely GRMPA subsidy.

Dr. Gage noted that the students will need to bring a small amount of additional money to cover lunch on Saturday and Sunday and dinner on the way home on Monday (as well as any souvenirs they want to purchase).

Chris Smeets stated that for the trip to Nationals, the truck rental rate from Budget was very cheap (only \$100 for the day). Dr. Gage is still looking into access to instruments from one of

the local universities. It may be that we will need rented instruments only for the final day performance.

Dr. Gage stated that Superintendent Phillips indicated a willingness to defer to the tour company's determination of how many chaperones are appropriate for the trip. The tour company will pay for one chaperone per fifteen students (but he believes we would have to have 75 students to get 5 chaperones).

Treasurer's Report – Yvonne and Gary Provost

Yvonne stated that they are still working on the budget. We will set up an Executive Committee meeting before the end of the year to go over the budget.

Miscellaneous

Donation Received

Anthony Turiano presented a \$500 donation from the Maleska Foundation, given by them in honor of their neighbor, Oliver Turiano. We are very happy with this extremely generous donation and plan to send a thank you gift to the Maleskas (possibly some GRMB spirit wear).

Upcoming Winter Band Concerts

Kris Ramanathan suggested that we run a 50/50 during the winter concert. Yvonne Provost and Anthony Turiano noted that we would need to obtain a gaming license to run a 50/50. Ms. Cino indicated that we could run a Tricky Tray using donations from an Etsy community, if we are willing to organize that type of event -- and that does not require a gaming license. Yvonne will check into what requires a license and what we need to do to obtain one - but we are uncertain that we want to have the diversion that would be created by a 50/50 at the winter concert. We will definitely, though, look into running a Tricky Tray event at the pancake breakfast. We will alert Lisa Lauterbach and ask her to get in touch with Ms. Cino.

Kris also noted again that we really should try to increase visibility for the winter concert. Ann Leccese noted that we have corner signs for the Fruit Sale and the Pancake Breakfast, but not the Winter Concert. Ann Leccese volunteered to look into how to get a corner sign, and Kris R. will confirm that there is space available to post it. Ms. Cino stated that Margaret Marino could design the sign, if we need help with that. Kris R. asked Betsy Sagges to try to get something posted in one or more of the publications to promote the winter concert, and she agreed to try.

Yearbook Ad

Yvonne Provost questioned whether we could include all of the music seniors in an ad, instead of just the GRMB seniors. Everyone agreed that that would be great -- although it will be challenging to get photos of everyone. In any event, we would like to include all of the seniors' names. Kris R. pointed out that we don't need to submit the ad at this point; we only need to book the space and make the payment. It was agreed that Yvonne would take care of that with Mr. Timpanaro.

New fundraiser

Four of our local musicians will be performing a jazz concert and are willing to charge a small amount and donate the proceeds to GRMPA. We agreed that this would be great -- ideally at the train station on a Friday evening (rather than Saturday). We could sell refreshments (although probably not wine -- we will check).

Trumpets Fundraiser

There was a question as to whether we should run this event, and when, since it's a lot of work to organize and we historically haven't raised any money this way. Trisha Turiano pointed out that the kids enjoy it as a performance event. If we do want to go forward with this, we still need to look into alternative venues. The event is currently scheduled for Wednesday, Feb. 10 starting at 7pm (with soundcheck beginning around 5:00). Mrs. Wehr will check with Jakes and Olde Canal Inn.

Fruit Sale

Joan Giurdanella thinks we netted \$9000 from the Citrus Sale December deliveries (including \$1000 in donations). It is still possible to purchase fruit online for February delivery -- which we will continue to publicize. We also currently have approx. \$2000 in orders for February.

Closing Remarks

Kris R. wanted again to acknowledge the great job done by the organizers of the marching band dinner. Everyone seemed to have a great time.

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

Respectfully submitted,
Anke Kramer Dombrowski
GRMPA Secretary