

Minutes of the Penncrest Band Parents Association Meeting, March 9, 2016

The meeting was brought to order by Vice-president, Alisa Theveny at 7:12 pm. Seventeen members were in attendance.

Ms. Theveny introduced the new bylaws by projecting them on a screen, highlighting what they include such as mission, roles of the officers, dissolution, etc. The bylaws have been posted on the band website for closer inspection by all members before voting on their adoption at the April meeting.

A new fundraising opportunity, a fall marching band competition to be held at Penncrest, was introduced. Discussion included concern about asking parents to commit to another large scale event as well as the great earning potential if we did host a show. A parent pointed out that members would be more likely to support the big fundraisers if they knew what the organization was working to purchase. Another suggested when we take on a particular purchasing goal, such as new uniforms, that a visual representation (perhaps a thermometer) be added to the website for everyone to track our progress. A suggestion was made that we try hosting a jazz show, like those at SLMS as a less demanding undertaking. While that idea was generally well-received, it was noted that we would not be able to do that until next year and the opportunity to get a marching show on the calendar exists right now. It was decided we would hold a planning and organizing meeting as soon as possible to see if we can get enough volunteers interested in hosting a marching show.

Minutes from the last meeting were passed out to all in attendance. These have also been posted to the band website.

Treasurer Maria Wanenchak reported that we earned \$8000 from the Indoor Show we hosted in February. She explained how the proceeds are distributed to the Indoor program as well as the general band fund. Money made from the Craft Fair and Indoor Show pay for things like the year-end banquet, which was discussed next. She presented proposed changes for this year's banquet. In past years the event has been held in the school cafeteria. The banquet committee researched additional venues and costs. For \$25-27/person (students do NOT pay) the banquet can be held at a private venue and we do not have to provide drinks, set up or clean up afterwards. With these changes, the cost to the band will be the same and the banquet will continue to be an approximately \$4500 expense. Those in attendance were overwhelming in favor of the proposed changes.

Several members spoke in favor of charging dues. Most sports charge participants to play. The treasurer pointed out that most of the kids are taking band for a class so it might be problematic to require them to pay. Association dues were considered too, although most thought few people would bother to pay.

Mary Lawrence updated us on the Flower Power fundraiser running until April 1st. So far, sales have resulted in about \$400 raised individually. She reminded us about the Applebees breakfast fundraiser scheduled for April 24th, 8:00-10:00am. Tickets will be \$8.00 and we will keep \$5.50 from each one sold.

This is a group fundraiser. In addition, she is working on setting up an additional fundraising night at Pinocchio's, perhaps in May.

Alisa Theveny reported on the Indoor Oasis Night. We made more than \$2000, a great success for our first time with this fundraiser!

Finally, the subject of our upcoming elections was discussed. Although the board has considered moving the elections from May to April, most of those present seem to feel this was too early. Several members expressed interest in inviting the 8th grade parents to the meeting as the election will affect them and they might want to run for a position. The thought was that involving people earlier may lead to more volunteers.

The meeting was adjourned at 8:05pm.