

**RHS Band Association
General Meeting Minutes
November 4, 2014**

The meeting was called to order at 7:50PM.

Attendees: John Luckenbill, Jeffery Haas, Greg Gardner, June Tesoriero, Melissa Pizza, Tracy Meara, Rie Nagami, Shoko Nagami and Jim Moran.

Old business regarding the signage at the train station trestle –presented by Jim Moran.

- Jim called the village office and reserved the Franklin Avenue overpass from February 9-15 and March 23-April 5.
- Specification on frame was provided and that needs to be made.
- Perhaps Ridgewood Press would be contacted to make the sign. The parents could make the frame and paint it. The requirements for the trestle could be made in blocks so that it can be used again.
- Suggestion if band council could find students to paint or create the sign.
- Deadline should be the 1st or second week of February, therefore could this be done by the end of January 2015.
- Per Jeff, Haas there are some color guard individuals that may have an art background and could do this. The canvas size is 4x8 which means can't get a lot of people to work on it at the same time.
- Another suggestion from Jeff Haas, could put a digital picture onto the canvass for Ridgewood Press to print it.
- Thickness spec is very specific so they are 1x2 frame with plywood gussets that fits into the rack. Must slide in.
- Shoko to follow up about art work interest from students.
- As for printer information, Melissa uses Avenue Printing for Poinsettias.

Band council report by Shoko Nagami

- October 8th Band buddies operation - attendees were Shoko, Malory, Connor and Stephanie. Went to GW middle school during the RHS delayed opening day (sleep in day) to play with middle school band for half an hour. A few weeks later had 8th grade band day and saw familiar faces.
- Nov 19 is next middle school band buddies day. It is a four day and intend to see both BF and GW students. Jeff Haas has met a lot of these parents and saw good enthusiasm.
- on October 24th the band went to the mystery event and during the Medieval times our team night did not win, however our team won against Northern Highlands (we named the opposition).
- During MB, we got wrist bands this is our fifth competition, therefore members have their five stars as decorated on the wrist band.
- The band council vice president Connor Gardner is updating the band council website.
- Catherine Negron started the Jazz band music numbering.
- The band council bank balance is \$8,196.99 from treasurer, John Newell. This balance will go down after state championship costs, Medieval Times invoice is

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paid, the Yamaha cup costs and county band. June Tesoriero will need the copies of the band council bank statements to complete the figures.

Treasurers report by Greg Gardner and June Tesoriero - \$66,148.58 in TD bank and Boiling Springs is \$42,501.32. The balances do not include the bill for poinsettias yet. This balance is similar to last year.

Treasury report asked about final numbers on Poinsettias as reported by Melissa Pizza:

- Blitz day sales came in at \$39,205 on November 2 where last year was about \$42k. Seems donations increased and the margin was better plants seemed to have sold well, therefore the profit was only down by \$780.
- Saved in printing costs by not pre-printing the ID numbers onto the order forms. Wasted a lot of time pre-printing student ID labels. Had problems aligning the labels to the printer.
- Door knockers were a problem because the forms seems to be run out and has ID numbers are on them. It seems lot of people were not home and kids ran out of door knockers to give out. Is the current method wasteful?
- Suggestion to make a driver bag of door knocker blanks and have the driver put on the student numbers on them as more are needed. Door knockers generate larger sales per order. Receipts are gummed and may have too much in it per one booklet. No student sells more than 20 anyway. For citrus, how should it be printed?
- About 8 students had overages and most likely this is due to missing orders. Only way to resolve them is to wait for the phone calls complaining that an order was not delivered, look up the area and assume which child forgot to put the order into the order form.

Band director's report by Jeffrey Haas

- Almost a month out from the concert date. The kids were good about paying attention to sign up and participating in poinsettia sales. Met last week for kids interested in small ensembles. Good amount of interest for all groups. Took pictures for each group.
- Winterguard, percussion ensemble and jazz band pictures to go. These have not been assembled yet for ad journal purposes.
- Hired a new instructor for clarinet ensemble and Jessica will come every Wednesday to work with ensemble.
- Guest soloist for the Spring concert – Jeff Scott of Montclair could not get his schedule to work so Kyle Hoyt will be coming instead from Montclair. He is excited to work with the kids. Met and talked about what to play.
- Working on changing audition procedures for middle school so that the process is seating friendly and focused on getting the kids slotted to the right band. The BF schedule is difficult to work out.
- Jazz at the Women's club – This event will have a financial backer to put up a complete sponsorship for the event. Guests will be charged for the dinner and Goya will cover the rest. Theme is a Latin Jazz night at the Women's club. Bigger job than Chakra because everything has to be provided. June Tesoriero will help with the rental for this via Taylor Rental. Will commit to donate some rental

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furniture but linen will need to be paid for. Some signage or tattoos will be needed for the students to advertise the financial backer and Goya. Rumba Cubano will cater the food and will close its own restaurant just to have the entire staff work on the event. Jeff , Rob and Irene Garcia will go to the restaurant to do some tasting and deciding.

- NY Voices – not so lucky with sponsorship
- Jazz ensemble auditions - Nov 17th coming up. This year middle school to come and get kick start for jazz year on Nov 22 and RHS has invited the William Paterson jazz band members to come here to play and work with middle school and do rehearsals with each band. After everyone worked on the three hour session, then the students can play for each other along with the WP band. WP asked for a donation because this is not just playing but also involves hours of teaching. Donation to their scholarship fund may be needed. Jeffery Haas asked for \$1,500 motion to allocate to WP director to work with middle school and the RHS students for 4 hours. There were 5 motions to accept paying \$1,500 to bring in WP.
- Other out-reach activities: to start small ensemble competitions to invite middle schools to submit You-tube videos to be part of chamber ensemble for RHS. Coffee house could be an invitation to play for BF and GW as well.
- Donation requests - Lisa Karoon has gone to a large benefit and brought along a written proposal prepared by RHS bands to give to some people interested in contributing to the school. Jeff made a nice sheet for request for donations. Ms. Duggan suggested to write a cover letter and get in touch with Mr. Bolger; an individual who built the community center and helped the RHS community in various ways.
- Students are working on ads for ad journal and concert band is making something for the journal as well.
- Pictures or video will be made on Jazz day, Nov 22nd
- Alison Krossly flute ensemble person was recently engaged.
- End of the year donation letter should be done now. Per Greg Gardner, there is so much going on that this could be started after the ad journal and before year end.
- Jeff Haas requested that maybe mid-year budget meeting is needed to see where we are in order to decide on what activities are possible going forward. Would like to have this for the next meeting.
- Old matters - still no DVD from the West Side concert. Paid \$500 to create the DVD and parents have not responded that they did not get the DVD so cannot estimate how many did not get them. Need to have better responses.
- Post Blitz sales- as people are selling, there are a few people that are pre-selling plants before blitz day, and therefore some kids assigned to an area could not sell. Customers have contacted Melissa post blitz for a sale and Melissa will look up and see which kids were assigned to those areas and give them the sale. Some houses called to say that they were no kids that came to the door. Perhaps if it is an election year, then people would not answer the door because they are assuming it is another campaign / marketing group. A lot of kids took forms for additional post blitz sales over the last 2 days.

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- Maroon and white recitals at the school have been held for the last 51 years that give concerts for our best soloists. Now with the Learning Commons open, the solos will be held upstairs at the learning commons. A fund drive will be done to purchase a grand piano to put into the leaning commons. All of the music departments are being asked for this fundraising. Currently planning to move the grand piano from the campus center stage to upstairs and rent a piano for downstairs during December.
- Old Alumni gathering on Dec 6 to get together.
- Social events - In light of the MB parents' social that did well, could we have a band social. After auditions, would like to have a jazz band parent meeting to get together and do a social. Maybe Jazz and small ensembles could get together. Bring in a guest group to the small gathering to meet or perform. Want to get regular curriculum parents and kids to have a social, not just marching band.
- Opening the small ensembles to middle school students if they want to audition and perform. If the principal of the middle school would allow it. Finding that at band day and Bergen county band, things were a success because the kids are excited to come and play. We have 39 kids join Bergen county band. If anyone wants to come to the all-state band concert the time is 7pm and the location is NJPAC on Nov 14, Friday. Jeff Haas will conduct the Region band in Feb.

Marching Band report by John Luckenbill

- MB worked really really hard. Next week is Nationals. Went there 6 years ago.
- Parent social went well with about 60 people at the Literati house.
- Another month left to go and we are at the end of season
- Legends classics Nov 24 and 25.
- Dinner Banquet coming
- Downtown for the holidays coming
- Field captain and color guard captains to be decided.
- Football team is away and Nov 15 is the playoffs. If football season ends for the playoffs, then MB can play. Otherwise, should be done performing this week.
- No Thanksgiving game so no show after competition. No breakfast with the band.
- Marching band night was in beginning of October.
- Uniforms - good news! Officially gone out for bid. All specs were done. Waiting for the bids to come in and order can take place. Will need to size the entire marching band for the order. Plumes and other items are getting replaced. Should be getting a sample in a few weeks. Shoko will either wear it to school or maybe the prom. Getting 150 and maybe rain coats. These are for competitions to stay in the cold.
- Old uniforms – should these be donated. Alternatives are selling to alumni or making pillows from jackets to sell. Winterguard starts next week. A new floor is being purchased and put in for Winterguard. The current one is about 10 years old. The school is buying it for them.
- Colorguard did very very well at the Yamaha Cup resulting in 398 out of 400 score.

Ad journal report by Greg Gardner and Rie Nagami

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- Total amounts expected to come in as of November 4th was \$10,530. Gave the checks for deposit to June Tesoriero today of \$8,180. The extension for November 10 was made and last year the extension was Nov. 18.
- Printers – quotes were obtained from Printology and Minuteman (previous printer) and were competitive. A final decision is needed to select a printer. An estimated date is needed for final submission and estimated to be before Thanksgiving.
- Taylor Rental will take a full page ad in lieu of a financial donation as they are funding the furniture for the Women's Club.
- Music and Arts is planning a full page ad as discussed with Mr. Haas. This should have follow-up with Bill McCandless.
- Spot Cleaners will do a full page complimentary ad just like last year – John will ask Carol Rapport as to what they may want.
- Bruce for peak performance tours to be contacted later.

Applebees report by Melissa Pizza

- The cost was \$150 more than what was expected. Applebees is becoming a lot of work for \$800 in profit. Last year was \$3 of the \$10 ticket price. This year was \$4 of the \$10.
- Needed more kid volunteers. Was this at capacity? Per Melissa, it was not full, maybe half. Per Shoko, \$91 in tips were made.
- Per Jeff Haas, there are about 200 kids in the band. Although the time and effort is made, it is a community effort. Kids are learning sales from these fundraisers as well. We should still continue.

NY voices report and credits by Greg Gardner

- There are 5 orders so far. We are going to allow points to be applied for these sales.
- Going through the list of credits, there were a few 2013 kids on the list to take out.
- A total liability of \$11,470 in points are owed to students to use. Some of these are for kids that have left the program.
- NY Voices concert push to sell tickets will be soon. The 10th is the deadline for us to internally buy tickets before it goes to the public. There are 28,000 people in Ridgewood that might be interested so there is an advantage to buy early.
- There is a link on the NY Voices to buy tickets. Jeff will speak to management and maybe whatever is needed to feed to sell tickets can be done.
- On Dec 7 William Paterson will be performing a Christmas concert. Hoping to publicize the Ridgewood concert at this Dec 7th concert.
- Jeff wants a committee together to feed the band and take care of things and there is a lot of pieces in this to ensure that the event goes well. Need ushers, ticket takers and do we need to think about security. What other things do we need to think about? Selling refreshments? Per Shoko, what about choir council and Orchestra council to do refreshments and ushers from Tri-M. On the day of the concert, Jeff and John wants to have a stage crew and have a list of things to do organized and covered.

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- Biggest thing is ticket sales and publicity. NY Voices have a press kit so need to use it.

The meeting was adjourned at 9:41PM

Submitted by Liz Glenning, Secretary
November 11, 2014