

## Sycamore Music Boosters

February 19, 2015

In attendance: Ken Olson, Madelyn Anderson, Deb Loitz, Peggy Diemer, Kristen Selig, Lisa Smith, Bob Atkins, Kristine Mertens, Scott Mertens, Garth Anderson, Drayton Eggleston, Les Hecht, Janet Olson

President Ken Olson welcomed everyone to the meeting. Thank you notes from Karl Montzka and the Atkins Family were passed around the table.

2. Approval of the Agenda –On motion by Madelyn, seconded by Bob. The agenda was approved.
3. Approval of the Minutes from the Jan 2015, on a motion by Bob, seconded by Lisa the minutes were approved.
4. Treasurers Report –January 15, 2015-February 19, 2015.  
Notes: Annual Report form to Secretary of State completed and payment mailed. The 1099 and 1096 forms for 2014 have also been completed and mailed
  - Deposits: \$1.81 in checking account interest and \$10,433.00 in ANTR income.
  - Expenses: \$850.00 for ILMEA student meals at state, P.O. Box rental \$56.00 for the year, Symphonic Band Meal at ILMEA state performance \$387.37, Secretary of State \$10.00 for annual report filing fee, Sycamore School District \$915.02 for 2014 supplies that were not billed until after January 1<sup>st</sup>, 2015, \$1,477.04 Hall of Fame and ANTR expenses of \$3043.79. Total Expenses \$6,739.22
  - Account Balances:
    - IL Credit Unions Savings: \$25.21
    - IL Credit Union CD: \$10,007.70
    - NB&T Checking: \$75,088.18

Outstanding deposits/expenses: Deposits from ANTR silent auction and Kohl's sponsorship ~(1300). Expenses outstanding that I am aware of will be from Whitman's for ANTR tables (~\$130), Hall of Fame reception and music department purchases from 2014 that have not yet been billed by school district as well as 2015 purchases.

Note: Peggy Diemer has a full breakdown of the ANTR income and expenses. Income ~\$13,083, Expenses ~\$1500 with a profit of ~\$11,600. Not all items are in yet.

On a motion by Bob, seconded by Madelyn the Treasurer's report was approved.

5. Music Department
  - A. Scott Mertens – Upcoming dates
    - Feb 28, Sat, Rolling Meadows Jazz Festival. SHS Jazz will be participating in the non-competitive group. The group will get feedback on their performance.
    - March 4, Wed the last of the international groups is coming to DeKalb, the Brazilian Group. Concert March 5, DeKalb HS, 7:00pm Tickets \$10 adults, \$5 students. There is small reception at Mr. Lundeen's home, please see Scott if you would like to attend.
    - March 7, Solo Ensemble, Harvard HS
    - March 10, NI Big 12 Choir Festival SHS
    - March 14, SMS solo/ensemble. It would be nice if parents could help with this activity. Maybe next year they could help with hospitality
    - March 16, Orchestra
    - March 17, NI Big 12 Kaneland HS, HS Choir Concert
    - March 19, HS Band Concert
  - B. Faculty Presentations – There were two presentations this meeting.
    - Drayton Eggleston SHS Choir.
    - There are 3 choirs available to students, concert, Treble, and Chamber, in addition students have the opportunity for Madrigal and Jazz Choir. The Treble choir (all female group) along

with groups from NIU and DeKalb sang at the DeKalb Community Garden/DeKalb food pantry fundraiser, raised \$57,000.

- The Chamber Choir visited Ripon College (the only HS choir present) for a festival and workshop with Dr. John Hughes and his college choir. They had a very enjoyable time.
- The Jazz Choir sang at ANTR, next year have the group “miced” better because of the noise.
- NI Big 12 Choir Festivals at SHS, Tues. March 10<sup>th</sup>, 2015. There will be 216 students participating; the Fres/Soph group will work with Dr. Johns Hughes and the Jr/Sr group with Jeffrey Hunt, Director of Music at Baker Memorial Church and the St. Charles Singers. The entire Fine Arts wing will be shut down.
- The March 17 choir concert will feature all groups and the Jazz Choir.
- The choral risers are in and will be available for the NI Big 12 and the childrens choir festival. Mr. Eggleston thanked Music Boosters for making this happen.
- His vision for the future: the HS groups number 83 students and he would like to see ~100 students participating, have 4 different shows during the year and different types of ensembles such as a men’s choir (HS age) to help with the HS student’s maturing voices, and introduce madrigals into the classroom. The SMS groups are excellent feeders to the HS groups.
- Garth Anderson- Several assignments in the district, M-W an itinerant for 5<sup>th</sup> grade band and does pull out lessons for instrument fundamentals, R-F West School general music and elementary choir, SHS musical pit orchestra, and SMS general music.
- Beginning band provides a strong foundation for the students. This also involves recruitment with instrument tryouts, parent contacts, set up lesson schedules and having the SHS students go to each elementary school and demonstrate various instruments.
- Retention of students is needed as in this first year there is a large number of students who do not continue. An effort is made to make band as fun and as engaging as possible. A copy of The Fifth Grade Band Handbook was made available to the group. The students use Standard of Excellence for lessons, technique, and sound production. After first month a demo concert is performed and the second concert if the Collage Concert with the 8<sup>th</sup> grade and SHS Symphonic Band.
- The Collage Concert is when many students ask should I stay with the program? If a student stays through March there is a good chance they will continue on to SMS. Last Concert is a “real” band concert with fully arranged music for a full band, with music the students like. Practice is held after school so the students can get more practice time. This concert represents and increased challenge and expectations for the students.
- Practice incentives 20 hours documented practice a party at Culvers, and 40 hours a Pizza party at SMS. The after school band and the pizza party at SMS help orient the students to SMS.
- Summer music lessons for band and orchestra students. This is the fourth summer this program will be available. More and more students are taking advantage of this program. NIU has some very good music students to teach the 6 lessons that can be set up over the summer. The program has increased in numbers starting with 6-7 students the first summer and 20-25 last summer.

#### 6. ANTR

- Good job to Kris Selig for chairing the program.
- There will be a follow up meeting a Taxco Feb 25 at 6:30pm
- Next time we will utilize the sound equipment in a different way so the south end of Blumen Gardens can hear the performances.
- Thank you to Kevin Flaherty for work on the “Blue” piano bar with time and ~\$300 of materials.
- Next we need a co-chair for food and baskets. This will be a big help to Kris.

#### 7. Hall of Fame- The process for the program went very well. There was a great job done on the performance.

- The reception was great.

- OC Image's work on the tiles was very good.
  - A number of All State students showed up and hopefully next year all will come.
  - A co-chair is needed for next year to learn about the process as Madelyn's time as chair will be finished.
  - Next year lets get a nomination for every category and perhaps several nominations for each category.
8. Promotional Activities-
- The video premiered at the Collage Concert. There will be additional interviews added. There will be additional showings at the choir and orchestra concerts. The video also promotes SHS Tech.
  - Presentations at concerts are on hiatus until the end of the year.
- 9/10. Newsletter/PR/website/social media-
- The email blasts have been very good.
  - Publicity pieces were sent out for ANTR, All State, and a follow up to the Hall of Fame.
  - A letter thanking everyone for ANTR will be sent out too.
  - The scholarship press release will be submitted.
  - A press release for the choral risers will be sent out.
  - Music boosters will participate again this year in the DeKalb Motors Contest on social media.
11. Craft Fair-no report
12. Smaller Fundraisers-
- DeKalb Motors.
  - Applebees has a breakfast fundraiser. For \$7 a ticket your group receives a portion of the ticket program for every ticket turned into Applebees. The group keeps the money for tickets that are not used. More information to come.
  - Chipolte has program similar to Carmines.
13. Scholarship Program-
- Everything is available on the website for the scholarship applications.
  - Applications for scholarships are due April 2, 2015.
  - Orders for flowers for the seniors should be ready by March 1. We will get the flowers from HyVee again this year.
14. Nominating Committee to organize the upcoming elections for Treasurer and Scholarship Chair in May at the May 21, 2015 Music Booster meeting.
- Janet Olson will create the ballot.
15. As publicized on the Music Booster webpage and announcement for the meeting there was a small raffle for a few prizes not claimed from ANTR.
- Everyone that came had his/her name put in a "hat" and drawn.
  - Two silent auction items were available for bidding too.
16. Next general meeting, March 19, 2015. On a motion by Bob, seconded by Madelyn. The meeting was adjourned.