

Warrior Band Boosters General Meeting Minutes

Date: September 27, 2012

Location: JHS Chorus Room

Meeting called to order: 7:08 pm

Booster President Stephanie Schulz called the meeting to order and welcomed everyone. We are off to a great start! There are over 40 in attendance at this meeting.

Approval of Minutes

The minutes from the August 15, 2012, Band Booster meeting were made available previous to this meeting via email and on the band's web site. Pam Crider made a motion, seconded by Susan Taylor, to approve the minutes. The minutes were approved.

Finance Report – Rose Lynch, Treasurer

The budget was distributed at the meeting, and Rose noted that a budget for revenue was added. Revenue from Fair Share is expected from approximately 90 Spirit of Jupiter members paying a minimum of \$750 each and approximately 66 non-marching students paying a minimum of \$200 each. \$11,000 was collected during the last school year that is attributed to this year's budget. We are starting out this year with a \$2,500 deficit, though last year we did fairly well balancing the budget.

Fundraising

- We are not planning to sell South Florida Fair tickets this year.
- We have only three football games left. Please encourage anyone attending the football games to support the band by purchasing food at the concessions stand.

Expenses

We are doing OK so far with expenses.

- We may need to order more cummerbunds and bowties for concert uniforms.
- Spirit of Jupiter music is coming in higher than budgeted because we need to pay permission to use one of the songs in the show.
- Spirit of Jupiter props are coming in higher than budgeted.
- We do have a little cushion in the Miscellaneous category.
- Spirit of Jupiter buses are higher than budgeted, but the trucks are under budget.
- Spirit of Jupiter changed classes this year (from 2A to 3A), which affects the plans for the FMBC trip in November. The location for semi-finals is different for 3A bands, so we had to find a different practice field and hotel than we've used in the past few years. Both the new practice field and new hotel are slightly more expensive than budgeted.

Senior Parents: Please continue to fundraise, as the band can use the money!

We would like to put together a glossy concert program with advertising to be distributed at the band's three concerts this year. This is potentially a good money maker for the band.

Communication – Debbie Wiley

- The Spirit of Jupiter Directory should be ready for distribution to students next week.
- It is VERY IMPORTANT that parents complete the band forms as appropriate for their students. In particular, we must have health forms for all Spirit students in case of a medical event.

Volunteer Coordinator – Stephanie Schulz

We do still have several volunteer positions available.

- **Concert Program Coordinator:** As mentioned briefly by Rose earlier, we would like sell advertising for our 3-4 concert programs. There are many schools that do this that we could look to for ideas. The first concert is in December, so if we're going to do this, we need to start it soon.
- **Concert Coordinator:** This person coordinates all aspects of our concerts, from the programs to ticket sales to the bake sale to advertising and promotion. This person just makes sure that all of the pieces are ready to go for the concerts.
Thank you to Lana Wiefels who volunteered to fill this position after the meeting.
- **Marketing Team:** We are looking for a group of people to create and put up lawn signs near the high school to advertise concerts, deliver flyers to area assisted living facilities to promote the concerts, as well as any other activity that would promote the band and band events.

If you are interested in any of these positions, please contact Stephanie Schulz at sschulz@bellsouth.net.

Spirit Volunteers

- A Spirit chaperone schedule has been posted on the bulletin board in the band room. Please sign up for a shift if you can volunteer.
- We are in need of one chaperone this Saturday 9/29 from 1:00-4:00. Thank you to Bill Mallette for volunteering!
- **Volunteering for competitions:** If you would like to chaperone a competition and be on the "official" competition list, you must commit to chaperoning all five competitions. In addition, you must be willing to do a job, such as moving pit equipment or props. Only those on the competition list can receive wrist bands to gain admittance to the competitions. We do not have it in our band budget to purchase admission wrist bands for everyone. Preference is given to parents of juniors and seniors with a history of volunteering, then parents of underclassmen who volunteer at rehearsals and camps.

Fundraising – Michelle Kellogg

- **Mixed Bags** is finished - the order is going in tomorrow. We sold about \$3,000, which does not include online sales. The product should come in 2-3 weeks after the order is placed. We will need volunteers to help sort the delivery.
- **Cheesecake** sales are extended to Tuesday, October 2nd. We will need volunteers to help sort and distribute the product when it arrives.
- **Jupiter Jubilee** on Saturday, February 2nd at Jupiter Community Center - last year we sold soda. We are talking about bringing the hot dog car this year. We will need volunteers for this event.
- **Spring Play-A-Thon** is in the works.
- **Fa La La** products have arrived and were distributed. There are a few products left in the band room to be picked up! Payment is due Tuesday, October 2nd. If there are products turned down by the customer, they can be returned and we won't be charged.

It was asked why the band has so many fundraisers. They are provided so students and parents do not have to pay their Fair Share responsibility out of pocket. Band members can participate in all fundraisers, no fundraisers, or pick and choose which appeal to them. We do several fundraisers in the fall since the Spirit Fair Share payments are due by the end of marching season. Fundraising dates area all available on the calendar on the band's web site.

Christmas Trees - Pam Crider

Christmas tree sales are our biggest and best fundraiser of the year. Last year, we grossed \$40,000, and half of that went to the band. This fundraiser thrives on repeat customers! We have photos of many of our trees on the JHS Band Christmas Trees Facebook page. These items arrive fresh from Nova Scotia, often with snow still on them!

Prices for items are the same as last year. We did increase the delivery charge to match with the tree company is charging. Items do offer different profit percentages. For example, a plain wreath costs the band \$9.85, but we charge \$25. Similarly, a 7'-8' tree costs us \$28, but we charge \$65. 90% of that profit goes directly into your child's Fair Share account.

Flyers and posters are available tonight. Pam also has a sign up sheet for parents who would like the names and contact information of customers of graduated seniors. Pam has also provided sample emails and letters to potential customers.

Items must be picked up by customers on Saturday, December 1st between 9am and 1pm. Some students do choose to deliver trees to their customers as part of their service. A robo-call will be sent to all customers reminding them of the pick up date. Please be sure to get contact information from your customers so they can receive this call.

Concessions - Tim Kellogg

Stop by the concessions stand at the football games and buy food! All food is made to order and freshly prepared!

Our gross sales to date total \$5,000, and we have three games left. Rita's Italian Ice is also sharing their profits with us, and we've received a check for \$230.

Our concessions team continues to evaluate ways to make more money. They would like to find a steam table because it would allow for menu expansion. We are not allowed to have crock pots store food to be sold because they can't maintain the heat.

The team does have a fryer to sell French fries at the next game.

If you know of a restaurant that is closing, please contact Tim Kellogg (kellogg4@bellsouth.net) or Tommy Schulz (tommy@fishingheadquarters.net). They would love to see if there is any equipment available that we can use.

Uniforms - Linda Cassulo

There has been a delay in getting garment bags this year. The vendor we've used in the past increased their price, so we had to find a different vendor. The gloves should arrive soon. Show shirts have not been ordered yet; we are waiting for approval of the logo.

One show shirt is included in the Fair Share for marching band. This is the shirt students should wear as a part of their uniform.

Homecoming Float/Carnival – Bonnie Welsh

We are in the process of building the Medusa-themed Homecoming float. We will meet on Saturday at 1:00 pm at school to work on the float.

We need 4-6 non-marching band students to be on the float as human statues and throw out candy. The float usually is immediately after the band in the parade. Students will meet at the bowling alley after school on October 11th to line up for the parade.

We need parents to help set up, work and clean up our "Pong for Pie" booth at the Homecoming Carnival after the parade. Students get in free with their student ID. Parents will receive volunteer hours towards their Fair Share credit!

Please contact Bonnie Welsh at bfwelsh@hotmail.com or 561-301-5047 if you can help with either of these projects.

Fundraising: Auditorium Chair Plaques

Bonnie also mentioned the "Please Be Seated" Auditorium Plaque fundraiser. Brass plaques for the back of JHS Auditorium seats can be purchased in memory or in honor of someone. Order forms are available online at the band web site. This is a good fundraiser; prices start at \$100.

Fundraising: GL Scrip Gift Cards

The next deadline for GL Scrip Gift Card orders is Tuesday, November 13th. If you or anyone you know gives gift cards for the holidays, now is the time to purchase them!

Gift cards can be purchased at face value in bulk through the band from Great Lakes Scrip Center. A percentage of the face value is profit, and is split 90/10 between the student's Fair Share and the general band fund. The percentage differs based on the store associated with the gift card. There are also special deals available throughout the year for different retailers, such as additional money put on the card or bonus percentage points towards the profit.

Order forms are available on the band web site. The stores for which you can purchase gift cards and their percentage profit are listed on the GL Scrip Center web site, and there is a link to that site on the band's Fundraising page.

Monthly Constructive Criticism

August Band Camp/Skit Night

A question was asked if the band ever did an "away" band camp. Linda Cassulo recalled that the last away camp was in 2003 at St. Leo University in Tampa. It was determined to be too expensive, and there weren't enough chaperones.

It should be noted that we can no longer use the cafeteria kitchen to store our pizza dinner on skit night. We will have to request that the warmers be moved out towards the cafeteria tables. We did not know we weren't allowed to use that area of the cafeteria this year; we just used the areas we've used in years past.

FMBC Trip Update

FMBC is the Florida Marching Band Coalition. State semi-finals and finals are held the weekend before Thanksgiving every November in the Tampa area.

JHS has changed classes, moving up from 2A to 3A, this year. This required us to find a new practice field and hotel, since the semi-final location is different for the two classes.

We have secured a new practice field at Jefferson High School, but it may cost us a little more than we budgeted. The hotel (Marriott Westshore) is also higher than budgeted (\$90/night vs. \$79/night), but a block of rooms has been reserved. We have approximately 22 rooms available for parents, and we will provide details on how to secure a room soon. The hotel is also within walking distance of the practice field. The class 3A semi-finals will be held at Gaither High School.

Students will miss school the Friday of the competition, and it is an excused absence. A detailed itinerary will be emailed prior to the trip, but this generally what happens during the weekend:

Friday

Leave JHS in the morning to travel to Tampa

Eat lunch brought from home

Students rehears at the practice field while parents place luggage in the hotel rooms

After dinner, students go to their rooms to get cleaned up and go to sleep

Saturday

Breakfast at the hotel

Dress in uniform and travel to the semi-finals location

Perform and wait for results

Travel to Tropicana Dome for the finals

Boys and girls are separated by floor, and each room has its own chaperone.

In years past, we would leave directly from the finals at the Tropicana Dome late Saturday night and drive through the night to return home very early Sunday morning. This year, we will be staying two nights and spending Sunday at Busch Gardens, returning Sunday evening. Many bands at FMBC do this, and it will be a fun way to end the season for our students.

Theme park tickets will be approximately \$45 and will be a separate charge for students. If student does not wish to go to Busch Gardens, a parent will need to take custody of the student on Saturday evening.

We are working to raise the funds needed to stay the extra night at the hotel. For example, the monies raised by Duffy's Dine for Cash promotion and Rita's Italian Ice profit sharing at football games are going towards the second night at FMBC.

House of the Haunted Lodge - Bonnie Welsh

The band has applied to participate in the "House of the Haunted Lodge" at Jupiter Elks in Jupiter Farms. This is a competition for students to design, create and stage a "fright space" within the Elks Lodge. The lodge will be open to the public on October 26th and October 27th, and spectators will vote for their favorite space. The three top vote-getters will be awarded cash prizes.

The ideas submitted for the band are "Titanic Zombie" and "Spiders & Snakes." Bonnie will find out tomorrow if the band was accepted as a participant.

We need at least five students and parents for this event. Please contact Bonnie Welsh at bfwelsh@hotmail.com or 561-301-5047 if you can help.

Upcoming Activities

- Homecoming Parade: October 11 - We will need volunteers to walk with the marching band during the parade and transport students to the bowling alley. Volunteers are also needed to drive and walk alongside band's the Homecoming float.
- Homecoming Football Game: October 12
- Middle School Night: October 19 - We will need volunteers to help set up, direct and monitor the middle school students invited to play and sit with the high school band during the football game. More details will be sent out when we are closer to this event, but middle school students rehearse with the high school band, they all have pizza, then move to the football stadium for the game. Lisa Summers is in charge of this activity, and Dina Soria will be shadowing her to take this over next year. This is a big recruiting event for us. Bonnie McCarthy asked if children from private school can attend. If they are coming from middle schools, they can attend, but we cannot recruit from other high schools.
- Spirit Competition at John I Leonard HS: October 13
- Spirit Competition at Park Vista HS: October 20
- House of the Haunted Lodge: October 26-27
- Marching MPAs at Palm Beach Central HS: October 27

Spirit Competition itineraries will be emailed closer to the dates of the events.

Duffy's Dine for Cash

Please eat in or take out at Duffy's West on Friday nights through November!

It was suggested that we have the Duffy's Dine for Cash flyers available at the concession stands.

Spirit Yearbook Pictures

The call time for October 12th (Homecoming) game will be a little earlier as we will be taking photos in uniform in the stands for the yearbook.

Homecoming Dance Conflict

The Homecoming Dance is the same night as the Spirit competition at John I Leonard HS (October 13th). Students will be permitted to leave following the 7:00 pm performance provided they have notified Mr. Larkin ahead of time and in writing. Students may only be dismissed to parents.

Band Photos on Flickr

Thank you to Bonnie McCarthy who has been updating our Flickr page with photos from various band events. These photos can be downloaded for your own personal use!

David Summers also has CDs of photos from the 2011-2012 school year if any parents or students would like to borrow them to make their own copies.

Band Web Site

This is a reminder to add the band's web site, jupiterbands.com, to your Favorites. There is a wealth of information available, and it is a great tool for parents.

The meeting was adjourned at 8:25 PM on motion by Kathleen Hmiel and seconded by Susan Taylor.