

# Gulf Breeze High Band Boosters Meeting

March 14, 2017

1. Called to order at 6:35pm

Attended: Dan Hecht, Keith Whelan, Scott Stonebraker, Theresa Moore, Brandalee Johnson, Michele Kennedy, Karen Snow, Lisa Buchanan, Patrick Barnett, Patrick Bantugan (Mark), Tonya Duke, Wendy Hoeflich, Heather Cady-Bragg, Lee Buxton, Zach Dykes, Don Toole, Grace Hofius (arrived late)

2. Minutes: There were no hard copies of the minutes so Scott Stonebraker made a motion to move the approval of February's minutes to the April meeting. Keith Whelan seconded. Motion passed unanimously.

3. Presidents report: Don Toole reported the following:

- A. Trailer-The paperwork for the large yellow trailer needs to be transferred to the county. This is the trailer that hauls the gator. We will still have it, but the county owns it.
- B. Grant-We received a \$500 grant from Walmart, but Don is not sure if it from the Walmart Market in proper or the Walmart from Tiger Point.
- C. Year End Push-Don stated that the boosters need to continue with the push for new uniforms as well as keeping up the momentum we have had at the beginning of the year.
- D. Nominations-We are currently accepting nominations for next year's board and committee chairs. The nomination committee consists of Lisa Buchanan, Heather Cady-Bragg, and Theresa Moore. Please see one of them if you wish to be considered or to make a nomination.  
According to the bylaws, an officer cannot be on the board more than 2 years in a row without approval from the boosters. Barb Scott may be interested in serving another year if she gets approved. Wendy Hoeflich moved to allow Barb Scott to continue to be on the board. Tonya Duke Seconded. Motion passed.
- E. 2017-18 budget-Don reported that the executive board would meet after Spring Break to work on the budget for next year.
- F. Seniors-Don would like to recognize the seniors for grades, scholarships and other good news. It can be done at the banquet or anywhere else. Don hopes that if we reward the students they will be willing to give back to the band next year, financially or otherwise. Keith Whelan asked about the banners that were ordered for them. Don stated that they did arrive, but had the wrong date on them and were sent back. He will check to find out what happened to them.
- G. Drums are here! Don stated that they have arrived and we should do something big to show our appreciation for the grant that made it possible. Several suggestions were made: Lisa Buchanan suggested a group picture with the drums to go with a card from the students that will go to the committee. Other suggestions were to do an article with a picture or go to a meeting and play something for the committee using the new drums. The next Will Do meeting is April 9<sup>th</sup> at 2pm. Don suggested that we keep the old drums for practice and show with the new drums instead of giving them all to the middle school or maybe making a trade.
- H. Don gave a very big thank you to Heather Cady-Bragg and crew for the hard work at the arts festival this past weekend.

#### 4. Band Director's report:

- A. Mr. Zach Dykes also echoed the large thank you to the volunteers at the art festival. It was very much appreciated. The band and boosters did a great job being visible. The jazz band played at the festival and 'rocked the house!'
- B. Spring Concert is May 18, 2017, the day before the banquet, at 6:30pm at the Gulf Breeze United Methodist Church in Gulf Breeze. Mr. Dykes said the hospitality can do something on a smaller scale since the banquet is the next day.
- C. MPA-Both Symphonic and Concert bands did very well. They both had overall Excellent scores, but he feels they are getting better all the time.
- D. IP and WG-Mr. Dykes introduced Mark Bantugan as the new battery instructor. Indoor Percussion received a 2<sup>nd</sup> place finish last weekend. Both Winter Guard groups received 1<sup>st</sup> place for the first time ever last weekend. He is proud of all of them.
  - a. Patrick Barnett reported that IP will be headed to Hattiesburg, Mississippi for the regionals on March 17<sup>th</sup>. He said this gives them a spot in the National competition. He hopes to do better than Navarre and Pace soon. There will be one more local show after that. Patrick would like to do a send-off show for all to see what they are doing before nationals. Patrick also asked for some ideas regarding transportation. Transportation is by bus, but if he can get one of the coaches to drive instead of a county driver, they would not have to pay extra fees of \$25/hour for the entire time to the county driver. The problem is there aren't many coaches with the type of driver's license needed. He is looking for ideas to try and save the \$2000+ that it would cost to have a driver from the county. There was some discussion but no definite solutions were presented. As far as the financial side of payments from members, the group should be on track.

#### 5. Band President's report-No report.

6. Treasurer's report-Wendy Hoeflich reported that there is about \$45,000 available (\$45,111.62 per the statement). She received a check from Amazon for \$140. The biggest expenses this past month were for FBA, instructors, insurance, and some general expenses, like Schmidt's for \$1,000. A question was asked about the insurance, and Wendy said it was only paid once. Wendy stated that she was still working on delinquent accounts. Don Toole asked if we could get a letter sent. Mr. Dykes said yes, but it cannot look like a bill because we could get into trouble. Wendy reported that 67 students still had outstanding balances, totaling \$23,094.67. Of those, 59 owe \$100 or more and 14 of the 59 owe \$550 or more. Wendy stated that the March-a-thon helped a lot this year and the latest concession deposits are not yet accounted for on the statement. Patrick Barnett remarked that many other organizations are looking at and watching us, noticing that our program looks very reputable and this speaks highly of the boosters and the band. Don Toole asked Wendy if she would prepare a tentative budget that the board can go over and work on and Wendy said she would prepare something. Wendy asked Mr. Dykes if he had a rough estimate of member numbers for next year. Mr. Dykes thinks there will be 175-180 students for next year. There was some discussion about ways to encourage and invite the 8<sup>th</sup> graders to join the band, including enlisting Mrs. Smithey's help, inviting upcoming 8<sup>th</sup> graders to some fun activities with the band. Mr. Dykes was asked if there would be another get-together with the band and upcoming 9<sup>th</sup> graders. Mr. Dykes said he was planning to have a try-on day but would consider having another get-together since it seemed to be successful.

## Committee reports:

- A. Hospitality-End of the Year Banquet-The banquet is May 19, 2017. It will be held at the CLC. The cost is \$20 per person. Because the band is so large, it will be limited to the band student and up to 2 parents/guardians. Seniors will be allowed one extra person after the deadline if extra seats are available. Franco's is catering; there will be 3 kinds of pasta to choose from. Brendalee will need people to help set up. The program will be written by Mr. Dykes and Don Toole. Don Toole stated that he plans to have some "BS-band spirit" awards that he is creating this year. Leslie Allison is in charge of the senior slide show and will have a get-together for them to help her organize the show. Brendalee is taking over the committee from Amy Armstrong and she would like to mentor someone to take over for her the next year because her child will be a senior. A suggestion was made to have a sign-up sheet for open committee positions for next year at the banquet. Mr. Dykes stated that he would let the students know the price after spring break. He also stated that the dinner would have to be finished at a specific time so those who choose not to eat can still come to the awards portion of the banquet; no one is turned away from the awards portion. A question was asked about changing venues because it might be small, but it was decided not this year because the banquet was so close, but it will be looked into for next year. St. Sylvester was a suggestion for a different place, even though it is farther down the highway; it is larger.
- B. Transportation-(agenda was rearranged.) Keith Whelan reported that he is working on getting new tires for the big trailer. They would be good for Hattiesburg, but they would need to be changed before the Dayton trip. They will cost \$250 for tires and rims. Don Toole said that it should be done now for safety reasons. The yellow trailer also needs them by next season, but he has been waiting to see what the county will pay for. It was remarked that the county will not pay for the tires. Keith also reminded the group that the trailer needs to be loaded correctly or it will fall off the towing vehicle.
- C. Grants-We received a grant from Walmart for \$500, as previously stated in the President's report.
- D. Sponsorships-No report.
- E. Communications-No report
- F. Uniforms-Tonya Duke and Mr. Dykes unveiled the new uniform design that we would get if we obtain new uniforms. Tonya reported the jackets are dark navy with gray and white on the front with gold accents. There are gauntlets and black gloves and a gray shako to complete the ensemble. They are lighter and machine washable, which could cost only about \$500 per year. The band would own the jacket and feather of the shako; the student would purchase the rest. Tonya stated that the shako actually comes in 2 parts-the frame and wrap, not just the wrap. The shako would cost \$87 instead of \$35 as originally thought because the frame was \$52. Mr. Dykes reported that the gauntlets are separate, attached by Velcro, and cost \$50 each, so we would not get them this year. The jackets cost \$185 each and the plumes for the shako cost \$15 each; the band would own them. The bibbers, shakos, gloves, and shoes would be purchased by the students. Tonya reported that the current new bibbers would be the same for the new uniform. They are adjustable for height, but if a student needs a new one, they would sell it to the band for a \$50 credit towards the new ones and only owe \$15. Don Toole suggested that we order the jackets right after spring break to get them here on time. Keith Whelan asked Tonya to explain the hat because we were under the impression that the shako was just the wrap. Tonya explained that the shakos were actually 2 pieces-frame and wrap, that goes around the frame; the frame is a standard, in-stock piece but the wrap is customized to each band and is

ordered. Don Toole cautioned that he doesn't want us to overspend and put us in a bind. Scott Stonebraker made a motion to move forward with the jacket and plume and shipping, at a cost of \$40,450.00 with the understanding that we push the rest of the cost of the uniform to the students, and pay half now and half at delivery. There was no second. More discussion occurred about the motion and clarification of what was paid by parents. Discussion occurred about how to adjust the costs or change things. Tonya clarified that we would purchase everything-shakos and bibbers-at Fred Miller. Some students would need to purchase bibbers because they have the old ones. Discussion occurred about fees being mandatory to make sure we can collect and not get in a bind. Mr. Dykes explained that band fees are not approved by the county because of the variety of amounts. That's why the rules are different from sports fees and being able to require payment to join band. Discussion occurred about when My Fair Share begins and how much it will be. It begins in May again but the amount will be decided when the board meets to set the budget. In Charms this year, the entire charge will be put on the account, so that the amount due will go down when payments are made. Keith Whelan made a new motion that the band authorizes the purchase of 200 jackets and plumes for a total of \$40,500.00, paid in two installments. Karen Snow seconded. Motion passed unanimously.

- G. Fundraising-Dan Hecht presented the band boosters with a uniform drive plan with suggestions and ways to increase funding to ensure that we have the funds needed to pay the second installment. The sheet included the main sources of funding we currently have. He stated that we will need people to help run some of these activities. Spirit nights needs a leader to set these up.
- H. Volunteer- Dan Hecht asked the committee chairs to let Dan know how help is needed and get a description to him to help find the people.
- I. Spirit Sales-We will have a sale at the banquet to try to get rid of inventory.
- J. Concessions-Heather Cady-Bragg reported first on the Arts Festival: Overall it went well. Sunday's sales were lower than Saturday, but we didn't do as well as we hoped. Heather gave many kudos to Michelle and Dalton for all the help! It was a good turnout for volunteers. She sent fliers to the vendors with a menu and phone number, that for a small fee, they could order and food would be delivered; we got several orders that way. The Cajun Angels were the biggest seller! She deposited \$3220.06 and had \$500 in credit card sales, and \$36.26 in Paypal. Heather had about \$210 in returns. The profit was \$1215.49. Coke will take back what and refund us for what we didn't sell. Heather still does have 2 cases of Mahi and 1 case of shrimp left. We used a chip/dip and square on a phone and iPad with the menu and an iPad that functioned like a cash register. With that we had a rough estimate of what was sold. Heather would like to incorporate that for games so we can have better accountability. On Sunday, Paypal would not work. Discussion occurred about if it was worth it doing the festival. We would need to do better if we continue.

The raffle for 2 nights at a resort anywhere between here are Panama City took in \$140. It was not advertised well because it was last minute, but we will have it available at the banquet and will draw for the winner there too. The raffle is limited to 100 tickets at \$20 each. Scott Stonebraker said he would try to get more information out about it. There was discussion about having more raffles. Don Toole stated that he had connections to Hilton and will try to get something donated for later.

8. New items-None presented

9. Meeting Adjourned at 8:35pm