

Falls Church High School Band Aides
Meeting Minutes
October 28, 2009

Attendees: Jennifer & Kelly C., Chrysa C., Sue & Michael C., John D., Linda P., Suzanne S., Carolyn & Doug S., Christina C., Sharon G. and Holly W.

- I. The meeting was called to order at 7:35 pm by Suzanne S.
- II. No introductions were made.
- III. The Agenda for the meeting was approved with one change. Student Account fundraisers were added.
- IV. The minutes from the September 23, 2009 meeting were approved.
- V. Officer Reports
 - a. President – Suzanne S.
 - i. Fairfax County Budget Shortfall - Music programs are among the budget items that FCPS is considering cutting. People are needed to attend public forums and send letters to save the arts from being cut. Fairfax Arts Coalition for Education (FACE) e-mails will be sent out to board and forwarded to Band Aides group as needed to keep everyone informed about public hearings and other action that can be taken to save music in the schools, especially at the elementary level.
 - ii. Marching Band Hat and Shirt Sales – Over 100 hats to sell. Sold 8 at Homecoming Game. Will sell more at the bell game and craft show. Suzanne will keep whatever is left in her garage to sell later. Sold 15 marching band tee shirts at the game. 35 left to sell. John wants to continue to sell marching band shirts as a promotional item every year. It was suggested that next year names be removed from shirt for promotional version so only kids in the band will have the one with the roster on the back. We want to talk about adding magnets and bumper stickers next year. It was decided that we would frame pictures of the band and give to Vocelli's, Chick-fil-a, Chevy's, Uno's and Noodles and Co. as a thank you for their support and to make the community aware of the band. Suzanne will take care of framing the 10" x 18" photos.

- b. Treasurer – Michael C.
 - i. Checks continue to come in for Tag Day. We have received about \$3,000 since Tag Day.
 - ii. Concessions are doing very well.
 - iii. The last car wash at the Eden Center didn't do as well as expected so 100% was allocated to student accounts.
 - iv. About \$4,500 still due from band fees. Letters will be sent out after student accounts are tallied at the end of greens and citrus sales.
 - v. Tax return will be filed by November 15 and 1099's will be distributed.
- c. Ways and Means – Holly W.
 - i. Restaurant Nights – Sharon Godbout will start setting these up. Goal is one a month at a variety of restaurants. Baja Fresh, Uno's Chevy's and Noodles and Co. were suggested.
- d. Corresponding Secretary/Communications – Chrysa C.
 - i. Suzanne commented that weekly e-mails are very helpful.

VI. Volunteer Recruitment Issues

- a. Still having trouble recruiting volunteers for snack bar. Some suggestions were made such as having parents work the whole game, making phone calls to recruit when e-mails fail, and putting requirement in the band contract that every parent has to sign up for one night. Discussion was short since Amy and Natashi were not present.

VII. Upcoming Events

- a. VBODA – 8:30 call time. Kelly C. is driving U-Haul – equipment only. Snacks and water taken care of with donations.
- b. Senior Night (Bell Game) – 11/06/09 spaghetti dinner before game. Parents will be asked for food donations. Students will get cupcakes instead of pizza at the game.
- c. Craft Show – Sharon is looking for kids to volunteer to help serve lunch to crafters. This is required by school groups in exchange for free space at the fair. Can use this for community service hours.

Kelly was leaving the meeting early and was asked about the trailer. Original trailer is no longer available and the prices have gone up. He will try to find one that someone is willing to donate.

VIII. Student Accounts

- a. Greens and Citrus orders are due to be turned in this week.

IX. Band Director's Report – John Davenport

- a. Spring Trip Update – New York trip is coming together. 80 Wicked tickets purchased and we got a good price on buses. Forms went home with students a few weeks ago. This started a conversation regarding the fact that even though the forms went home with the students a while ago there are still some parents just finding out. It was suggested by parents that when John sends something important home with the kids, especially something that requires action, that he have Chrysa send an announcement so the parents will know to look for it.
- b. Stuart concert was good. Students well behaved at reception. There was plenty of food.
- c. Wednesday, after VBODA and the teacher workdays, there will be a wrap up of the marching band season from 2:45 until 5:00. Pizza will be served.
- d. The marching band had a clinician at tonight's rehearsal, a retired band director from Robinson. We were told the judges would be somewhat lenient about holes on Saturday due to so many kids being out with the flu.
- e. UVA Band Day – 10 students signed up. John will be getting rental van. Students will pick up costs for the day.
- f. No money available for transportation for recruiting trips to feeder schools. Band Aides will pick up cost of transportation to Luther Jackson. Too late for elementary schools this year, but next year Band Aides will pay for transportation.

X. Old Business

- a. The e-mail from Cathy Benner putting the band on "probation" was discussed. Parents would like to be more informed in the future about these kinds of incidents. There was a lot of misinformation going around. Mrs. Benner said that if any more band students got on the roof the entire band would be punished. Parents thought this was unfair. John said that if anyone has any issues with that we need to take it up with Mrs. Benner.
- b. The meeting was adjourned at 9:25.
- c. The next meeting will be held on Wednesday, November 18, 2009 at 7:00 pm.