

FRIENDS OF MUSIC MEETING MINUTES
12 January 2015

In attendance: Paula Castner, Bob Nuzzo, Kelly Williams, Joe McCarthy, Susan Mianulli, Nancy Weber, Janet Kresl Moffat

A motion was made to close the December 2014 meeting. The motion passed.

December Minutes

Corrections: Fix one typo.

A motion to approve the minutes as corrected passed.

Treasurer's Report

November

Kelly went over the reconciliation report for November since she had only just received the bank statement the day of the December FOM meeting. The ending balance was \$26,647.52

December

Kelly presented the December reconciliation report. The ending balance was \$30,103.72

A motion to approve the Treasurer's report for both months passed.

OLD BUSINESS

Programs

Paula asked about adjusting the number of programs to have printed for upcoming concerts. We ran out of programs (120 were printed) at the December concerts. The recommendation was to increase the number to 250 for Choral Pops but keep the count the same for the band concert.

NYC Trip Update

The final count for the NYC trip was decreased by 2, as decided at the December meeting. The 2nd payment is due. Two of the three Cultural Council Grant proposals made to the NRSD towns to help defray some of the trip costs got turned down (still waiting to hear from Stow). The Big Yellow School bus grant still is not in our account.

Central District Concert

The Central District Concert is this week. The rehearsals are on Wednesday and Friday (14th and 16th), with the concert on Saturday (17th). The NRHS vans can be used for transporting the participating students to these events.

Fundraising Update: Discount cards and Skyzone

We are \$148 short of breaking even on the discount card sales. These are a good deal: those who've purchased them have reported they've already made back the purchase price in the discounts they've received. We need to find additional selling opportunities. Selling at basketball games was brought up as a potentially good opportunity. We may have to select specific games, such as the girls' senior night (Thursday 2/12, when chorus will be performing) and boys' senior night (Friday, 2/13, when pep band will also be playing). We'll likely need student volunteers to make this work. Another place to try selling the cards is at the FOM table during the rising-freshmen open house (6PM on Thursday, 2/12). Bob (and anyone else?) will be manning the FOM table.

The Skyzone fundraiser is a go. An email was sent out to media outlets to advertise it, but some got rejected. The fundraiser is scheduled for 3-8 PM on 21 January.

Boston Pops Spring Concert: Decision and Ticket Purchase

Paula will try to get Cirque de la Symphony tickets this week. The John Williams Movie Night won't work this year because it was moved to Memorial Day weekend. Besides being a holiday weekend, neither Joe nor Susan will be available then.

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****Extended business update on Pops tickets****

When Paula got through (on the 14th) to order the "Cirque" tickets she discovered that the show date is 12 June, which is the last day of school (assuming no snow days). On consulting with Joe and Susan it was decided that it would not be a good idea to get tickets for a show that would potentially fall on the last day of school. Paula was able instead to get tickets for the "By Popular Demand Concert." Details and update at the February meeting.

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NEW BUSINESS

All State Auditions

The auditions for All State Band and Chorus are next Saturday in Shrewsbury at 9AM. The Festival (including rehearsals and concert) takes place 19-21 March.

Upcoming Festivals: Berklee, MAJE, MICCA

The jazz band will not be participating in the Berklee High School Jazz Festival this year. The jazz bands will be competing at the MAJE festival, however, on 4 March. The MICCA festival dates are 28 March at 8:30 AM (band) and 29 March (chorus). NRHS is paying for MAJE and MICCA fees.

Funding Requests/Updates

The February agenda will entertain funding requests for buses for MAJE and MICCA, if necessary.

Stow Conservation Trust

Janet Moffat talked about partnering with the Stow Conservation Trust on the "Run for the Woods" in a profit sharing arrangement. The Trust would organize and promote the race, we would help recruit runners. It was pointed out that the date of the run conflicts with the Junior Prom and relay for life (16 May). It was also pointed out that the choral concert is the night before that (the 15th). Though the proposal was generally favorably received, the consensus was that it probably would not work out well for this spring under these circumstances.

Fund Raising Ideas

Joe talked to "magazine man" about the set up for the magazine subscription fundraiser program. The money earned from the subscriptions students sell will go into "student accounts" toward trips etc.

Susan suggested that one way to enhance fundraising for new band uniforms would be to dedicate concert proceeds from the May Pops concerts to the "uniforms fund." It would be important to promote the concert that way on the posters, in newsletters, etc., and announce it at the concert to raise awareness of this specific fundraising effort. Doing so may help in reaching goal for the new uniforms quicker.

Community Outreach

A discussion about improving outreach to the NRSD communities came up with the following suggestions:

- Hold some daytime concerts for Senior Citizens in cooperation with the COA. The May concert might be a good one to try this.
- Caroling.
- Connect with Principals to play at events at elementary/middle school events, like the Lancaster spaghetti dinner fundraiser for 5th grade.

Business Outreach

Reaching out to local businesses was identified as something we should attempt for helping raise funds for the band uniforms and a trailer for transporting instruments (total fundraising goal of about \$30K). Emails to companies will need to be drafted to inform them of this special fund raising effort and solicit their help.

Items From the Floor

A \$72 check was received from NRSD administration. It was determined that this was reimbursement for the SPED chaperone on the Holiday Pops trip.

NEXT MEETING

The January meeting was continued to next meeting date, 9 February 2015.

EXTENDED BUSINESS

NRSD announced Sunday evening, 8 February, that District schools would be closed on Monday, 9 February, due to the forecast weather emergency. FOM members were asked if they would approve conducting the meeting via email. Those responding approved meeting this way.

Respectfully submitted,

Bob Nuzzo, Secretary