

Attendees: Sue Burton, Heidi Reeb, Stefanie Schneider, Laura Carroll, Mike Kennedy, Brad Delaney, Heidi Johnson, Bill Fessler, Cindy Brown, Jennifer Schmidt, Kevin Berlon, Dan Deitsch,

Welcome and Introductions – Kevin Berlon

Secretary's Report – Sue Burton

A motion to approve the November 2014 minutes was made by Bill and seconded by Cindy B. There was no discussion. The motion passed. There was no correspondence this month.

Treasurer's Report - Heidi Reeb

Heidi plans to move much of the money from our checking account into savings to get some interest. Jennifer moved, seconded by Sue, to accept the December 9 treasurer's report. Motion passed.

- Heidi went to the OH Attorney General's website and to the section on non-profit training. She found useful documents, references, and our own records there. We incorporated in 1977, renewed that, then in 1995 our status changed to unincorporated with no clear indication on the AG's website as to why. Thus FMPA is officially UNINCORPORATED at this time. Since we are not incorporated, we do not need to file anything with the AG's office. When incorporated, there are some fees to the State along with some protections. Discussion ensued. Kevin will contact the FLSD attorney and Stefanie will consider whether this matters when asking for grants, etc. Our bylaws say we are a corporation, which we now are not. Heidi R. will check w/our insurance to see if they care. Kevin will also talk to past president Penny Sauer to see about any historical documents surrounding the change in 1995.

President's Report – Kevin Berlon

- Wesbanco will not refund any charges for check cashing, but they can change our type of account to one for non-profits. This will allow for up to 400 transactions/mo. Heidi R will follow up w/Wesbanco to understand the changes.
- The first Thursday of each month FMPA will have news in the Music department e-newsletter which will also be published on the music website. This will replace our past quarterly printed newsletters. Some question remains as to how best reach non-current-music-student families who previously received the newsletters.
- Kevin and MaryJo served hot drinks and cookies at the PEM Memorial Concert. It was a great concert, well attended, and \$26,000 was raised. Some of those funds will go toward a bricked plaza area in addition to student scholarships. The orchestra students did really well during their part of the program combining with the band.

NEW BUSINESS -

Savory Sweets – Jennifer Schmidt

The sale is almost over!!

We have 8 tubs of cookie dough left and 2 pretzel delight.

Sue Burton will be selling any remaining items at the concert Thursday night since I will be unavailable.

The cookie dough fundraiser brought in about \$2,000 in 2013 and around \$1,500 this year. Our number of units sold were considerably lower, but our price increase helped

even out the profit. Our contract with Savory Sweets is now up so it will need to be renegotiated for next year. Great job everyone! I believe it was a successful event.

Kelley Hickey Memorial – Motion by Bill to rename the Kelley Hickey memorial fund to the “Kelley Hickey Memorial Orchestra fund”. The fund will be used for the purpose of offsetting operational costs of the summer orchestra camp. Funds currently held in the account will be earmarked for same. Second by Cindy B. Discussion ensued. Motion passed.

Light Up Finneytown - Sue Burton

68 kits sold so far as of 12/9. Tom at AAA Signs donated the sign we now have hung on the Winton Road fence. Next year it needs to be a bigger sign.

Music Department update – Mike Kennedy, chair

- We received a \$750 grant from D’Addario for instrument access. Applied through the school. Working on Fender and Amazon Smile grant funding.
- Moving ahead with curriculum revisions that have not been done for some time.
- We will re-visit chaperoning for future concerts – FMPA vs. paid by school

Joint fundraiser with Afterprom, PTA, Boosters, FMPA: On 2/14/15 there will be a Comedy Club event with Michael Flannery as emcee. We will be involved in staffing some parts of it – details to come.

Dinner Before the Show/Theater Production –

Dan plans to have LaRosa’s deliver the spaghetti ready to serve as last year. He will check w/Joan Gordon re: salad and hopes Angela will be in charge of the kitchen again. Both he and Angela will need apprentices for their roles for 2016. Tony Gast will work on getting Reds tickets, etc., Renee Keith has agreed to coordinate front ticket sales. MK/Brad will run sound w/a much better sound system, and someone suggested finding out if Rick Kennedy might be willing to return as MC. Some PEM items that did not sell will come over to our bidnbuy.

Band – Mike Kennedy and Brad Delaney with VP’s Tina Wuorinen and Deb Amend

From Tina: The only thing I have to report for the High School band is that we had a successful concert on Thursday. Thank you to all of the people that helped chaperone the groups and helped clear the stage after the concert.

- **5/6th Grade Band**
- **7/8th Grade Band** In talking with middle school band, there was nothing to report. – Deb Amend
- **High School Band**

Orchestra – Stefanie Schneider with VP’s Cindy Brown and Jennifer Schmidt & OPEN MS VP position

Choirs – Laura Carroll with VP Glenda Esslinger & OPEN MS VP position

The choirs are going strong and had a great performance Monday night. Choral will be performing at the local nursing home this Thursday for their traditional Christmas Cheer performance. I want to also give a shout out to our music staff. I see such a team spirit in you all and really appreciate it. You all put up with so much from a lot of these kids and never seem to lose your cool. (unlike myself!)

Glenda Esslinger

Elementary music – VP Sandy Tenhundfeld

Heidi provided the update for Whitaker Voices and general music.

The kids are performing at 1:15 in the Rotunda at Union Terminal.

The band and orchestra kids are getting ready to put on a wonderful Christmas concert next Tuesday night.

Whitaker General Music – Heidi Johnson

The 4th grade classes at Whitaker completed their “audience etiquette” unit with a field trip to see “The Nutcracker” ballet at the School for Creative and Performing Arts last Thursday (Dec. 4). Most of the students loved it (2 fell asleep.....), and all behaved beautifully during the show. So they all get an “A” for the unit! Thanks to FMPA for the scholarships—we had 15 students who needed help with the \$5.00 ticket cost.

The Voices of Whitaker concert is on Thursday, Dec. 11 at the PAC, starting at 7pm. Jeff Holmes (the director) asked the students to wear red or green tops, black (or dark) bottoms; arrive at the PAC by 5:55pm that evening so they can do a quick run-through of how to get on and off the stage, where to stand on the risers, and to get used to performing in that space. Jeff has also arranged a sing-a-long of Christmas carols for all to enjoy! On Friday, they will be going to Union Terminal to perform in the Rotunda. (I can’t remember what time they are performing, I will get that information by tonight for the meeting.)

Brent General Music – Steve Jones

Voices of Whitaker Chorus – Jeff Holmes see Heidi’s Whitaker report

Membership - Angela Murphy

At Thursday's concert, I got 2 family memberships. Our totals to date:

Family: 48 Patron: 21 Alumni: 9 Memorial: 8 Harp: 1

Uniforms - Brenda Dennis & Glenda Esslinger –

Band and high school choral groups were all outfitted for their respective concerts, and looked as good as they sounded. Thank you doesn’t cover how much I appreciate Glenda for her help in fitting everyone (it’s HARD to go to x period!), Courtney Dennis, Angela Murphy, and Rhonda Closson for hemming, Glenda and Tina Wuorinen for collecting and organizing the choral wear following their concert, and Glenda for laundering our “loaner” clothes.

A few students have need of concert clothing. We loan what we have available (marching shoes cover for black shoes, tux shirts donated back after students graduate, and concert black as we can). I purchased a few black shirts/polos for use by the younger grades as needed. If anyone comes across nice black shirts at tag sales or wherever, feel free to add to the closet.

FMPA Newsletter/Communications – OPEN POSITION

Website - Bill Fessler –

Kevin motioned, and Dan seconded, that we adjourn the meeting. Motion passed. Meeting adjourned at 8:30 pm.

Next meeting is on Monday January 12, 2015 at 7 pm in MP conference room.