

Attendees: Sue Burton, David Kennedy, Kevin Berlon, Tina Wuorinen, Janet Cain, Den Tenhundfeld, Cindy Rebman, Brad Delaney, Stefanie Schneider, Laura Carroll, Angela Murphy, Heidi Reeb, Bill Fessler, Jennifer Schmidt, Glenda Esslinger, Dan Deitsch

**Welcome and Introductions** – Kevin Berlon. Kevin introduced Janet Cain, parent of a 5<sup>th</sup> grade student. Janet is exploring the possibility of forming a Finneytown theater support organization.

**Secretary's Report** – Sue Burton

A motion to approve the December 2014 minutes was made by Angela and seconded by Kevin. There was no discussion. The motion passed.

Correspondence – a thank you note was received from Lisa Tenbarge for the \$75 toward admission for 4<sup>th</sup> graders to attend the SCPA performance of the Nutcracker. A holiday greeting card was received from WesBanco. A sympathy card was sent to Mike and Karen Kennedy on the passing of Karen's dad, Donald Rehm, and a donation of \$30 collected from members was sent to the American Diabetes Association in his memory.

**Treasurer's Report** - Heidi Reeb

Angela moved, seconded by Tina, to accept the January 12, 2015 treasurer's report. Motion passed.

**President's Report** – Kevin Berlon

- Condolences to the family of Mike & Karen Kennedy upon the recent sudden death of Karen's father.
- Presentations were made at all winter concerts with an appeal to join FMPA and support our fundraiser.
- Meeting held on 12/15/14 with AfterProm & Boosters to discuss joint fundraiser on 2/14/15
- Meeting held on 12/16/14 with Superintendent Olverson about various music department issues, fundraising, and other.
- Meeting held on 12/22/14 with Principal David Kennedy to discuss Rock & Roll class, changes in the musical, and other upcoming music curriculum issues. Invited him to be featured speaker at January FMPA meeting.
- Ongoing discussions with Officer Khayo about outstanding bad check presented as part of Cookie Dough fundraiser.
- Fielded inquiry from Theater parents interested in either forming their own support group or becoming subset of FMPA.
- Special thanks to Dawn and Tony Gast for diligently coordinating music department inventory.

Fundraising/communication update: FMPA information will be included in the Monday electronic updates from the band program, and also the Friday electronic updates from the choir and orchestra programs. Lisa Tenbarge does a monthly Whitaker printed update. We still need to figure out how to reach community members who need printed information – perhaps print a few copies of the enews. This is hampered by us not having a person dedicated to communication/publicity.

**Membership** - Angela Murphy

**Following are the membership totals to date:**

**Family: 54 Patron: 24 Alumni: 9 Memorial: 9 Harp: 1**

I've written 26 thank-you notes for patron; alumni; memorial; harp donations, and will be writing 4 more for recent patron and memorial donations

Angela

**Uniforms** - Brenda Dennis & Glenda Esslinger – no report.

**FMPA Newsletter/Communications** – OPEN POSITION

**Website** - Bill Fessler – nothing to report

**Principal's Report** –

- David Kennedy passed out information on the “Learning Re-engineered” grant awarded by ODE to HSESC and Deer Park, Finneytown, Norwood, and Reading school districts. This grant is to re-engage struggling learners with three programs – “Smart Horizons”, an online vocational school; Rock-N-Roll Academy, designed to teach social and emotional life skills through music; and Usher’s Music Industry Leadership 101, a blended learning course exploring over 30 careers in both the music and entertainment industry. Mr. Kennedy stressed that these courses are NOT replacing any of the fine arts music offerings, but are elective credits being offered to help students who are not strongly engaged in learning at school.
- Info will come home w/report cards regarding changing state graduation and testing requirements. FT is choosing to test with multiple days of 2 hr. delays for high school students only. A parent meeting will be held on 2/2 re: these changes and how the district hopes to meet them.

**NEW BUSINESS -**

**Savory Sweets** – Jennifer Schmidt

We still have a few items left for sale if any of you are interested (or know anyone still looking):

- 2 - Peanut Butter
- 2 - Oatmeal Chocolate Scotchie
- 1 - Oatmeal Raisin
- 2 - Pretzel Delight

The large chocolate chip cookies were given to the music teachers right before the holiday break. These were an incentive for students who sold 10 or more items.

We have one outstanding check that hopefully will be resolved by meeting time. Once the check issue is finalized and we sell these last few remaining items, the books can be closed on this sale. Other than that, I'd say it was a complete success!

**Light Up Finneytown** - Sue Burton

Our total net income was around \$950, just under the \$1,000 that was budgeted. Heidi has final numbers. (Later note: \$999.14 total – ed.)

About 1/3 of the total kit sales were sold online, so it is definitely worth keeping that avenue. (32 kits of around 100).

New pricing did help some folks buy multiples of 3 instead of just 2 I believe.

Most of the remaining sales were from music concerts, though we did get a few from church publications. We published in St. Vivian's, St. Bart's, Faith Lutheran, and Northminster publications.

Corporate financial donations came from Warren Gase, DDS and Buddy Roger's Music. Corporate material donations were paper bags from Kroger.

If we ever want this fundraiser to grow, I will need to recruit some publicity help next year. I just don't make it happen even though there are great ideas out there.

Feedback for next year: a bit more sand in the bags will make them more stable; and we should instruct folks to pre-burn the tips of the wicks slightly, then blow out and place in bags and relight. It apparently makes the new candles catch much more quickly.

THANK YOU's go out to:

Den and Sandy Tenhundfeld for connecting us with Tom from AAA Signs in Reading (a FT parent I believe) who donated the banner for the Winton Rd. fence.

Tom from AAA Signs for the sign donation, probably a \$100-\$150 product.

Angela Murphy and Kay Sanders and her two girls for kit assembly help.

Angela for concert sales, and Cindy Rebman for sales help at the basketball game (even though we had no sales).

Dawn Bouman for delivery help.

Respectfully submitted,

Sue Burton

### **Music Department update – Mike Kennedy, chair**

Smartboards are in band and choir rooms, but older, so use as projector for ipads

Wildcat vision new episode up, with interviews of administrators

Dept. received a PTA mini-grant to buy music stand racks.

Musical – going well, coming together. All department staff on secondary level are involved.

### **Band – Mike Kennedy and Brad Delaney with VP's Tina Wuorinen and Deb Amend**

#### **HIGH SCHOOL BAND**

The Holiday concert on Thursday, December 4th, was very well done. All the groups performed well and were pretty well behaved while sitting in the audience after they played. However, we had a hard time finding enough people to help chaperone. Part of the problem was that you don't always get to see the whole concert when you chaperone, and some people have students in more than one group. We didn't know the order of performance until we asked.

There were also people selling the luminaries and cookie dough, so that took away from our pool of volunteers. We also could have used more help setting up the PAC for the concert. All the stands and large instruments needed to be moved from the band room to the PAC. It was very short notice for the set up, but we had much more help to take down after the concert.

The spring instrumental concert will be held on Thursday, March 12th, at 7 PM.

The Marching Band parent meeting scheduled for Thursday, January 8th, had to be cancelled because there was no school that day. It is in the process of being rescheduled.

**7<sup>th</sup> grade** band will not do contest, they are working on concert music. Approx. 15 will march up for next year's marching band.

**8<sup>th</sup> grade** band will go to OMEA contest in May.

## High School Band

- Jan. 22 mtg. for parents of 2015 marching band members/potential members.
- High school band will go to contest, March 13/14.
- 6 X-period rehearsals will be missed due to testing. Dept. working w/Principal Kennedy to check on alternate rehearsal dates.

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

- MS Honor Orchestra is this weekend. Solo & Ensemble is the end of January, then State Orchestra contest is Feb. 20/21.
- High school orchestra concert is Feb. 18<sup>th</sup>.
- Middle school orchestra will go to OMEA contest in May.
- 1<sup>st</sup> rehearsal for Pit orchestra for Pippin is tomorrow (1/13).

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

Chorale and Women’s choir will go to contest on March 13/14. Chorale will compete in class A, and women in class B. They are focusing on sight-singing leading up to this.

Sue added that we have two students attending the OMEA All-State Ensembles this year, Feb. 6 in Cleveland. Janelle Bouman will be in all-state band playing flute, and Ben Burton will be in all-state choir singing baritone/bass.

**Elementary music – VP Sandy Tenhundfeld**

**Whitaker General Music – Heidi Johnson**

**Brent General Music – Steve Jones**

**Voices of Whitaker Chorus – Jeff Holmes**

**Joint fundraiser with Afterprom, PTA, Boosters, FMPA:** On 2/14/15 there will be a Comedy Club event with Michael Flannery as emcee. Please push tickets so we can fill the house. We will be involved in staffing some parts of it.

## **Dinner Before the Show/Theater Production –**

Angela will be in charge of the kitchen. Glenda will do dessert table again.

Dan D really needs so help with soliciting bid-n-buy items. This fundraiser is coming on the heels of two others he’s involved in and he cannot do it by himself. Please send items his way and let him know what you can do.

Need someone to help with decorating the cafeteria. Someone suggested perhaps Sandy Haskin could help.

Our time was too short to fully discuss the event. Angela motioned, and Den seconded, that we adjourn the meeting. Motion passed. Meeting adjourned at 8:30 pm.

Next meeting is Monday February 9, 2015 at 7 pm in the Whitaker Elementary media center.