

SPRING GROVE MUSIC BOOSTER MEETING MINUTES
MEETING HELD IN PERSON (SGAHS) AND VIA ZOOM
April 11, 2022

IN ATTENDANCE: Jerry Mascaro, Theresa Kramer, Autumn Tyson, Tracey Glace, Dan Brenner, Tim Bupp, Kyle Showalter, Rhonda Wastler, Suzi Livelsberger, Amy Buhrman, Danielle Fioriello, Barb Brenneman, Sue Gross

WELCOME / CALL TO ORDER / INTRODUCTIONS (Jerry Mascaro):

The meeting was called to order at 7:06pm, and meeting participant introductions were completed. The group agreed that all new business will be addressed within the relevant agenda topics instead of waiting for the “new business” section of the meeting.

SECRETARY’S REPORT (Amy Buhrman):

Minutes from the March 14, 2022 meeting were reviewed with several changes noted. A motion to approve the amended minutes was made by Suzi Livelsberger and seconded by Autumn Tyson. Motion carried.

TREASURER’S REPORT (Autumn Tyson):

SGMB Balance sheet was presented with the following balances:

	As of 3/28/2022
Uniform Fund	\$24,295.74
Scholarship Fund	\$57,961.64
Checking Account	\$87,584.02
Student Account Fund	\$15,133.43
Total	\$184,974.83

A motion to approve the treasurer’s report was offered by Rhonda Wastler and seconded by Theresa Kramer. Motion carried.

DIRECTOR’S REPORTS:

Dan Brenner: A lot has happened in the past few weeks. The first ever PMEA Modern Band Festival took place last weekend, with 18 students participating from 7 different schools and 150 concert attendees. The Guest conductor was amazing. The band performed a 12-song set, including 3 original numbers.

Mr. Brenner presented at PMEA to numerous educators around the state on behalf of Spring Grove and Lebanon Valley College. He was approached by Brian Wish after his presentation. Mr. Wish noted that he has been watching what Spring Grove has been doing with the Modern Band program. He will be sending some equipment to try out with students and also would like to partner with the program.

The Modern Band concert is scheduled for 4/29. Jazz festivals are also coming up. “Jump into Jazz” takes place on May 6th and will feature 6 middle school bands. “Swing into Spring” is scheduled for May 7th and will include 6 high school bands. Mr. Brenner anticipates that the number of participating bands will increase in the coming years as we move past Covid. Mr. Brenner is looking for people to MC both Friday and Saturday night. Jared Wastler may

be able to help MC on 5/6; Rhonda will follow up with him. Jerry may also be available to MC and will serve as backup. Help is also needed with refreshments and ticket sale.

Spirit Lane is releasing their first recorded original single on 5/18. This was delayed due to an issue with artwork. This release will coincide with the evening of Rockets and Revs. Spirit Lane will be leading the 7th inning stretch ("Take Me out to the Ball Game"). The single will debut at the game over the speakers. The song will be available on all mainstream music outlets. *(Mr. Brenner will be hibernating for three months following that performance. ☺)*

Sue Gross: The elementary school instrumental concert is scheduled to take place on 5/10 (Band and Strings). Mr. Bupp and Mrs. Gross are working on plans to offer some summer lessons. The SGI concert was a great success, with a lot of positive feedback received. The middle school concert is scheduled to take place on 5/18, and the Middle School trip to Knoebel's is planned for 5/20.

Tim Bupp: An event is being planned to take the place of the previous event with Mark Wood; more information will be shared in the coming weeks.

SGMB members are asked to contact parents/families of students in K-6 grades and encourage them to reach out to school administrators, thanking them for their continued support keeping music programs accessible to all students. There are some proposed schedule and building changes on the table for the next school year that may impact the music program (details are not yet available to the public).

Kyle Showalter: The high school instrumental concert is on 4/28, and the choral concert is on 5/5. The Marine Band visit to the school was well-received. Next year's High School marching band show is now "Flight." Band sign-ups are currently in the low- to mid-forties.

UPCOMING EVENTS/PERFORMANCES:

The current concert schedule can be found on the SGMB website.

Assistance is needed with admission for the upcoming Jazz festivals. Please let Jerry know if you are available to assist with this. Jerry will also be requesting the names of some Jazz Band parents in order to seek assistance from them as well; Dan Brenner and Tim Bupp will send an email (drafted by Jerry) to students and parents regarding volunteer needs. SGMB will also need to appoint a "front of house" person. Admission for the festival is \$5 for adults and \$3 for students. (Jerry will review and confirm this.) There will be a drum head out to receive donations for the "Evening of Jazz." Dan recommends that Jerry make a statement to promote donations between SGI's band and the MS band. Jerry will provide Autumn with additional information on start-up funds needed for the festivals.

SGI DC Band Trip: The upcoming DC trip initially cost \$57 per student. Last Tuesday, we received a letter from Bailey's that there is a \$108 surcharge per bus to cover fuel costs. This afternoon, however, we received a statement that said the fuel surcharge was included in the original price, with no cost change reflected. Tim is working with a tour guide who connected him with "Ben's Chili Bowl," who can provide a boxed lunch option. If we can get chips and water donated, current monies available will cover the remainder of the lunch (all of which are under \$10). The total overage for the fuel surcharge, given the \$324 surplus, would require an additional \$108. Theresa Kramer made a motion to cover up to \$108 surcharge for the

Spring Grove Intermediate DC Trip above the current budget, to be paid from the General checking account. Motion seconded by Suzi Livelsberger. Motion carried.

The middle school trip has also been charged a fuel surcharge for the Knoebel's trip. This cost totals \$122 per bus (two busses). There are a few parents who are interested in going but who didn't want to take up seats that could be filled by students. All seats on the bus will likely be filled. There are funds available to cover the surcharge as well as any seats that aren't filled on the bus. Funds may also be used for water and snacks during the bus ride home. This will be handled via reimbursement.

Marching Spectacular: There are no current updates.

50th Anniversary of the String Program at Spring Grove (5/20/2023): We have received a draft contract from Brian Balmages (an internationally-known composer). His fee is \$6000 for a three-level string composition (covering 10 grade levels). This compares appropriately to the going rate for such work. An initial payment of \$3000 is required ahead of composition; Mrs. Gross is seeking financial support from SGMB related to this cost. Mrs. Gross and Mr. Bupp will also be working together to apply for a grant that may help lower this commission. There are two options for funding: SGMB could include this in the 2022-2023 budget OR can fund this as an off-budget item. Suggestion was made that we could seek community sponsorships and potentially alumni donations. It was noted that 50 years of anything is something worth celebrating! As well, anyone who would utilize this piece in the future would be using something with the district's name attached to it. Suggestion was made to include a single year fundraiser line items specific to sponsorships for this event and an associated expenditure line. The event could include a commemorative program with ad space that is sold in support of the concert. SGMB can provide Sue Gross with a draft sponsorship letter for this purpose. The event is tentatively free to the public, with donations accepted. As well, Mrs. Gross is looking to invite some guest artists and previous directors and would like to present some gifts to those people. T-shirts would be provided to student participants. Mr. Bupp noted that the J. William Warehime Foundation supports the arts in this area and may be willing to provide some funds. He will work with Mrs. Gross to follow up on this. The current precedent for payment of a commissioned artist has been set by SGMB and involves direct payment to the artist; as such, SGMB will provide direct payment to Mr. Balmages. Mrs. Gross would like to have the music before Christmas 2022 so that students have time to learn it in addition to other concert music. She will reach out to Mr. Balmages to inquire as to his timeline to start on the piece in order for this to happen. It is also noted that the draft contract from Mr. Balmages has some additional information needed; any motion on funds would be pending the completion of an appropriate contract. The contract should be with SGMB, as opposed to the school district. As well, set dates to expected completion/delivery should be included ahead of signatures. When communicating with Mr. Balmages, Mrs. Gross will let him know the SGMB has agreed to the initial down payment, pending a fully-executed contract. Mr. Bupp will provide the SGMB contact information to Mrs. Gross (for the contract) and will support contract review. Rhonda Wastler motioned that SGMB will pay an initial payment of \$3000 from the General fund for the Brian Balmages commission of the orchestral piece for the 50th anniversary concert, pending a fully-executed contract. Theresa Kramer seconded the motion. Motion carried. Additional costs will be incorporated into the 2022-2023 budget.

WAYS & MEANS (Tracey Glace):

Gertrude Hawk: We received 58 orders for candy bars (1665 bars sold). We still have a small supply of candy bars for sale.

Country Meats: We received 63 orders for meat sticks. Sales were down about \$1000 from the fall sales. We have about 25-40 of each flavor still available. There were two high school orders without contact information. Directors will assist in getting orders to those students.

Mums: A decision regarding a sale of mums in the fall is needed by 5/1. After some discussion, suggestion was made that we begin with the sale of 200 mums with four colors selected (all but yellow). Delivery will take place in September, with an exact date to be provided closer to the time when the mums are ready. No money is due until delivery. Once we have a more exact date for sale, approval for sale on school property will be requested. (Suggestion was made that to consider selling at Paradise Elementary, to attract traffic from Route 30.) All profits will benefit the General Fund. Tracey will let Brandon know that we want to proceed with a sale, with a target to sell by 9/10 or 9/17 if possible.

R&K Sandwich sale orders were due today. This is our last fundraiser of the year and will be ready for pickup on 4/26. The remaining meat sticks and candy bars will be available for purchase during pickup.

Tracey contacted a number of parents who reached out regarding order pick-up and notes that as a result, there were a number of new people who volunteered to assist with meat stick and candy bar pick-up.

PUBLICITY/COMMUNICATIONS/CORRESPONDENCE (Jerry Mascaro):

There is no new communication at this time.

STUDENT ACCOUNTS (Theresa Kramer):

Last month we had a total of \$2,442 added into Student Accounts from the Meat Stick and Gertrude Hawk fundraisers. This included 14 first-time participants. All senior letters have been distributed and we now have 30 accounts remaining with balances totaling \$1,665.85. We've had 6 senior accounts brought down to a 0 balance - two by reimbursement, one by sibling transfer and three by students no longer in district. Administration confirmed the two York Tech students do not have younger siblings in the district. This month we should receive the requests to use Student Account funds for both the Intermediate and Middle School trips.

SCHOLARSHIP COMMITTEE (Amy Buhrman / Jerry Mascaro):

High School Scholarship: There were thirteen total applicants for the 2022 high school scholarship. Scholarship applications have been reviewed, and all scores were finalized. Names and award amounts have been provided to the Spring Grove Area Scholarship Fund and will be announced at this year's scholarship award banquet. Thank you to Autumn, Suzi, Kyle, and Jerry for assistance with this year's scholarship scoring. The banquet is scheduled for 5/17, and we have sponsored two tables. We have four seats per table, and Amy will follow up regarding attendees for that event.

Middle School Scholarship: There are no updates. Middle School scholarships will be reviewed and scored in the near future.

PROCEDURES/BY-LAWS (Jerry Mascaro / Suzi Livelsberger / Dan Brenner):

If we decide to change our monthly meeting dates, we will need to amend by-laws to reflect this change.

WEBSITE (Dan Brenner):

The program that sets up the way items are added to the website has changed, and this makes it more complicated to add information to the site. Dan will be following up with Steph Kennedy regarding a potential workaround.

After this year, Dan will be stepping down as webmaster. It is noted that, given the changes happening with district associated websites, this may be a good time to bring in someone new. He would be happy to support that person to learn the site and how this work is done.

UNFINISHED BUSINESS (Jerry Mascaro):

Quick Books: We need to purchase an updated QuickBooks program. Autumn noted that cost would be \$350; there is a \$500 budget item line for miscellaneous items. This purchase is approved.

NEW BUSINESS (Jerry Mascaro)

Monthly Meeting days: A suggestion was made that we consider changing our standing meeting day/time due to current conflicts with standing school board meetings. Beginning next year, we will meet on the first Monday of the month. This information will be publicized, and by-laws will be updated to reflect this change.

There is candy available (In the uniform closet) from Marching Spectacular that could be sold or given away (with donations appreciated) during the Tri-M showcase.

Utility Vehicle and Trailer: This will not move forward until we receive additional information regarding whether the district will pay for new band uniforms, thus allowing the uniform fund to be repurposed.

Autumn will send out an email to directors as a reminder to provide information regarding what is needed in the budget next year. The 2022-2023 budget will also not include specific line items (sub-categories).

By-Laws need to be reviewed and updated to be voted upon in June. As well, we will need to receive nominations for 2022-2023 officers.

ADJOURNMENT (Jerry Mascaro):

The next membership meeting is scheduled for May 9, 2022 at 7:00pm. This meeting will take place in person at SGAHS (choral room) or via Zoom (if an in-person meeting is not permitted or there is a weather impact). A motion to close the meeting was made by Tracey Glace and seconded by Dan Brenner at 9:18pm. Motion carried.