

ABBI General Membership Meeting
January 14, 2021

Attendees: Dave Kamen, Veronica O'Hearn, Evan Rzodkiewicz, Darrell Keech, Beverly Embry, Andrea Hagen, Eileen Eckert, Christine Lent, Judy McGuire, Melissa Palestro, Carlos Velez

Meeting called to order at 7:13 p.m. by David Kamen

Motion to accept the December minutes was accepted by Veronica O'Hearn and a second by Melissa Palestro and passed by the board.

President's Report:

- Scott Beyer did not feel like the board was funding the uniform fund.
 - Twenty five dollars from each fully paid marching band student tour fees were to be placed into the uniform fund.
 - After working with Mr. Keech we discovered the uniform fund to be short in the tune of \$5,162.
 - A board voted to move \$5,162 from the general fund to the uniform fund to make up the deficit.
 - Moving forward the board will come up with a way to make sure funds are addressed. Price, time and date will be looked at for the best solution for this to happen during the Marching Band calendar year.
- Mr. Orcutt gave ABBI permission to run a Clothing Drive as long as we are not shutdown.

Directors Report: (Mr. Keech)

- Successful hybrid
- District is changing cohorts and reducing cohorts
- Directors are currently meeting with 8th grade band directors.
- Working on a Spring performance idea
- Winter Guard and Winter Percussion Updates:
 - Nathan will not be working with the kids this year. Due to his line of work with the United States Army. He will be working behind the scenes.
 - Both groups are using previous material to eliminate costs.
 - As of this meeting there are 24 Percussion members and 14 to 15 Guard members
- Marching Band :
 - Tentative Band Camp dates are on the calendar. August 16-21 and August 23-27
 - Season will be a late bloomer. Directors are waiting for information.
 - Leadership auditions will be done virtually.
- New Superintendent David Moyer

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- His district has a Marching Band.
- A lot of similarities to Arlington School district.
- Begins term on July 1, 2021

Mr. Rzodkiewicz:

- Happy to be able to play more.
- We are hosting a virtual NYSSMA. Mr. Rzodkiewicz will reach out to ABBI for help if needed.
- Jazz 2 and Jazz 3 rehearsals have begun.
- Thank you to Katrina Catron for making masks for all band groups.
- Thank you to Dave, Melissa and Judy for the ABBI donation of one hundred dollars to a student who lost everything in a house fire.
- Dave K. discussed a possible fundraiser opportunity for upcoming groups. Maybe have someone take photos and make buttons.
 - Mr. Keech will be the point person for Guard buttons.

Vice President Report: Veronica O'Hearn (no report)

Treasurer Report: Judy McGuire

- No activity to report
- Donation from family in report
- Pepsi donation/grant in report
- Thanked Carlos Velez for taking the time to discuss the 1099 report.
- Rhinebeck Bank has future uniform funds in it.
- Motion to accept the Treasure Report was approved by Christine Lent and second by Eileen Eckert and passed by the board.
- Christine Lent mentioned there should be a small check coming in from Denise for 6 bracelets sold from the holiday shop.
- Eileen Eckert reported we made \$400.00 from 43 bottles of the wine sold at the holiday shop. Millbrook Winery stated they are willing to work again with us next year with any event.

Guard Liaison Report: Eileen Eckert

- Clothing Drive
 - March 21, 2021 from 9 a.m. to 3 p.m. @Arlington High School
 - Using clothingdrivefundraisier.com We will receive 15 cents a pound instead of 20 cents a pound like last year.

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- Researched other companies and they had too many restrictions. Only wanted 5000 lbs at a time and on certain days.
- Waiting for a confirmation on the March date with the company.
- Question on the table from Dave: Do we involve students for the clothing drive?
 - Mr. Keech would check with the district. Students volunteer hours. Dave suggested parents in the truck and students outside.
 - Asked Eileen what she needed to get the job done. 20 or less kids and broken into shifts throughout the day.
 - Truck is there twice a day. Once in the morning and once in the afternoon. Need to focus on traffic flow for this year and cones for safety. Dave suggested using the police barricades from the 2019 season.
- Clothing Drive sign needs some sprucing up. It is located at Eileen's house. Was suggested to have Brian L from props to look at. It needs to be redesigned and fixed. We need to make it lighter and reusable. It needs a slot to be able to change the dates. Dave will research.
- Mid Guard (middle school) Mr. Keech will check back in with the district in three weeks.
- Eileen requested access to the ABBI Google Drive to scan the programs.
- Guard/Percussion show maybe be done virtually. Tie in a fundraiser if possible.

Communications:

- Looked at ABBI website and could not find contact information. She put up a contact us tab.

Good & Welfare: Melissa Palestro

- Sent out two condolences.

Adams Gift Cards:

- No gift card sales since December
- Next gift card will be February

Chaperone: Andrea Hagen

- Eileen is organizing Winter Guard chaperones for the season.

Jazz Cab: Christine Lent/Mr.R

- Will not be like we have done before.
- May perform somewhere
- No food service.
- Ideas for Jazz Cab- May be able to get Adams or a vendor to make food and we pick up and watch the show virtually.

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- If a show, there will be a limited audience like Marching Band. Worried about performance level because of the limited time together. At this time, it is about making it special for the students. Dave suggested using old jazz cab videos for the virtual event.

ASOA: no report

Invitational/Volunteers:

- Need a list of people whose children will be graduating this year.
- Need a list of jobs and commitments that need to be filled.
- Need to advertise positions to be filled.
- Do we have communications access to families? Directors have not heard anything yet from the district. Need to follow up with Rich. Made a request to use a new platform but the district needs more information.
- Dave suggested to mail a letter to the parents. Looking to use a picture of a student in band uniform and "We Need You" slogan to advertise for volunteers.
- Andrea suggested emailing the new families.
- Send letter to Mr. Keech and he can email out to the families. No attachments or hyperlinks in letter. They will get kicked back.

Other News:

- Andrea Thanked ABBI for the basket.
- Insurance update (lapsed in October) Dave, Carlos and Judy have an appointment Monday after the meeting with William A Smith and Son which they found on the Chamber of Commerce page.
- Lagrange Bicentennial- Judy mention receiving a flyer and asked the board if we should get information about participating in this event? Check to see if they are looking for a booth, donation etc. and see when this event will be held.
- Old minutes- Noreen is looking on her laptop and Dave will check the shed with Judy.

A motion on table to adjourn the meeting was accepted by Christine Lent and second by Eileen Eckert and passed by the board.

Meeting adjourned at 8:13 p.m.