

Friends of Berlin Performing Arts

Meeting Minutes

October 7, 2019

Call to Order by Melissa Hagerman, FBPA president

Attendees:

Board members: Melissa Hagerman (president), Denise Cambier (VP), Patricia Walker (treasurer), Jessica Spelman (secretary)

Directors: Erin Gibbons (theater), Jillian Henning (orchestra), Michael Reeves (band), Thai Sribanditmongkol (choir)

Approx 18 attendees in total

President's Report:

- Meetings are 2nd Weds of every month at 7 pm in orchestra room
- Liasons from each group are being assigned to stand in for directors at meetings when they can't be there
- Berkshire MS will now be 100% sponsored by FBPA
 - o Berkshire directors will try to attend booster meetings (conferences tonight, so they couldn't)
 - o Will do some fundraisers at Berkshire concerts (raffles, etc)
 - o Berkshire parents will be invited to volunteer at concessions (Hasn't actually happened so far as we expected)
 - o Next time solo-ensemble competition is at Berkshire, we will do concessions there
- Assorted fundraising going fairly well. Selling signs, bears, etc. Apparel sale went well; FBPA gets 15% of profits
- Need an assistant treasurer!! We do not have anyone yet. Need someone soon!
- Website is being updated regularly. Concessions link is there. (FBPA.art)
- FBPA is buying metal pictures of the 2018-19 class to hang in each music room. Directors, please choose your pic.
- All Berlin music concerts now cost \$3 at the door; profits go to the specific activity (band, choir, orchestra)
- Families can purchase "Patron Forms" that will allow free entrance into all concerts. Price TBA. Total of 4 to 5 concerts per year for each group (B/C/O). Free admission does not apply to theater productions.

Treasurer Report:

- At the end of September FBPA had \$40,072.22.
- No major expenses in September, just operating costs and some small expenses
- Sponsoring Berkshire will be more expensive than we anticipated. About \$6000 per year.
- There was a request from choir for FBPA to sponsor a nurse to go on a trip to NYC that they are taking. This request was denied.

- Reasons given for request denial were as follows:
 - Sponsoring medical personnel has not been regular FBPA practice (eg. The nurse at band camp is paid for by the student camp fees, not FBPA)
 - The trip in question is not required, not open to all students and the group won't be performing. They are going for fun and to see some shows, etc.

Concession Report:

- \$40,000 gross in concessions so far this year.
- < 40% of performing arts parents have participated
- Approx 558 slots – 85% are filled (which is OK), but only < 40% of the 250 performing arts families are participating.
- Would like to see more participation
- Will look at ordering soda every week instead of every 2 weeks for more accurate ordering
- We bought a second cheese machine.
- We bought a second pretzel machine, but it didn't work well, so we returned it.
- We need a second pretzel machine (costs around \$1300)
- There are 2 more home FB games and a few assorted soccer, etc
- [Note from FBPA president: Please note that student hours worked in concession DO count toward NHS, but working concessions does not guarantee admission to NHS]

Transportation Report:

- Owning a truck has saved FBPA \$1800 so far this year (U-Haul rental fees and gas)
- Driver spends about 6 to 8 hours per game, depending on how far away it is
- There are 2 more away games
- Shelves in truck were built with donated supplies.

VP Report – Pride Day

- October 19 (Saturday) – arrive 9:30 am for instructions, packet pickup. Leave by 10. Back by 1:45
- Packets include envelopes, bags to hang on doors, coupons for free Chick Fil-A sandwiches, etc
- There are 79 routes. So far we have only 27 drivers signed up and not all cars are full. Need 4 kids per car.
- Last year, we had 50 drivers, 165 kids and raised almost \$7000.
- This year, we are budgeted to make \$12,500
- We need more kids to sign up!
- Directors will post a list in their hallway with slots for cars 25 thru 70 so kids can sign up without having to use SignUp Genius
- For kids who can't make it, there will be an option for them to request out-of-town friends and relatives to donate online. This will be via PayPal on the FBPA website.

Choir Director Report (Thai S.)

- Sept 29 – Choir performed at Buddy Walk for Down Syndrome in front of 11,000 people. Went very well. Invited to come back next year.

- Oct 1 – Choir and 5th grade singers from Johnny Cake Elementary did concert to raise money for JCE playground equipment. Raised \$2500
- Oct 6 – Spirit sprint raised \$500 for choir and theater
- Nov 4 – Choir will go to see OSU Men’s Glee Club
- Nov 11 – group of male singers will join other Olentangy school male singers at a “Brother Sing.” They will rehearse during the day. There will be a concert at 7 pm which will also feature the OSU Men’s Glee Club. Students will pack their lunch, but FBPA is requested to provide pizza for dinner. Will be 46 guys. FBPA agreed to pay for pizza. Will plan to use Pizza Hut as we have an account with them since they supply our concessions.

Orchestra Director Report (Jillian Henning)

- First concert will be Monday 10/14 at 7 pm. A guest pianist who plays with the Columbus Symphony and teaches at Oberlin will be doing a performance with the Berlin Chamber Orchestra
- Orchestra is arranging a tour performance at Hyatts MS with choir and jazz band.
- 4th and 5th grade strings will be doing a concert with the chamber orchestra on Dec 5th at Berlin HS
- Dresses and tuxedos for freshman came in

Band Director Report (Michael Reeves)

- Homecoming is this week vs Hilliard Bradley
- This will be the debut of the 3rd show – one-hit wonders (*We’re Not Gonna Take It* by Twisted Sister, *What is Love* by Haddaway, *Take on Me* by Aha)
- Performed at bonfire last night – went fine
- MS Band night went well – 120 middle schoolers plus 66 high school band members
- Baby Charlotte is healthy
- District Honors Band – audition excepts due Monday. Performance will be Nov 9 at Mount Vernon Nazarene University
- Under the Lights will be November 15-16
- Band members will be getting “tour shirts” paid for by student fees

Theater Director Report (Erin Gibbons)

- First play will be November 2,3 *That’s the Spirit* by Tim Kelly. Is a murder mystery comedy. Audience will be on the stage. Only space for 100-120 audience members. Tickets available 10/18. Presale accessibility for family members.
- There will not be a show Nov 1. Theater kids will get free hotdog and drink at concessions and go to Senior Night FB game to support the band. (And the football team)
- Musical will be *Cinderella* by Rogers and Hammerstein, the 2013 Broadway adaptation. Will be Feb 21,22,23
- Spring show will be 1-act plays. Students will have opportunities to direct and act.
- Berlin was accepted to the CAPA Marquis awards competition (only 19 schools made it). Representatives will come to watch the musical. Various awards. Winners get opportunities to do workshops with Broadway actors. Awards ceremony in April. Winners go to the Jimmy Awards in NYC. (Liberty and Orange HS are also in the competition)

Other Fundraising Opportunities:

- We are budgeted to earn approx. \$24,000 via “other fundraising”
- Perhaps a golf outing. Could earn up to \$10,000. The gentleman who suggested this will discuss with Laura Zimmerman. Maybe for the spring?