

**MCHS Band Booster Annual Board of Directors Meeting
January 9, 2014**

APPROVED MINUTES

Meeting was called to order by the president at 6:07pm

Approval of the minutes from the October 3, 2013 booster meeting
MOTION was made by Lori Norman to accept the minutes as presented with corrections. The motion was seconded and passed.

Minutes from the November 7, 2013 booster meeting were taken by Karen Helms, but were not reviewed at this meeting. Similarly, Karen Helms took minutes from the December 5, 2013 meeting. They were read at this meeting, and she will present written copies of all minutes to Kristina Rylands for official recording.

Approval of the minutes from the December 5, 2013 booster meeting
MOTION was made by Tina Dearing to accept the minutes as presented with corrections. The motion was seconded and passed.

Treasurer Report

Karen is working with Dick to streamline processes and create treasurers procedures.

Deposits for scholarships \$1210
Regular donations \$830
Kids First Grant check deposited \$3200
Winter concert made approximately \$1600
Estimated balance \$8000-9000

Need to make signs to acknowledge that the new board and related equipment are owned by band.

Calendars. Deposited approx. \$100 more. All calendars have been dispersed to those who have ordered them. Need to keep on selling them. Have about 15 left. Look into discounting as month goes on.

MOTION was made by Elizabeth Genung to accept the minutes as presented with corrections. The motion was seconded and passed.

OLD BUSINESS

Communications Update

- Income tax letters have all gone out. \$2200 came in at holidays.

- Letter in the paper/Gold Rush Cam thanking all of the businesses that donated to Dr. Smith memorial.
- Any money received check-wise has to go through Dick and Donna in order to make sure that people are recognized.
- Charlotte Kelsey was contacted and passed along our questions regarding insurance to the school's insurance carrier. She said as soon as she hears back, she will forward responses. We will need to create a letter of agreement with MSO in order to articulate liability if they use and damage our instruments. Charlotte now has a list of instruments owned by the school.
- Donna checked in regarding the May 31, Saturday @ 2pm performance of "Wicked" in Sacramento. Cost is \$43 rear, \$53 front per ticket. Must pay within 30 days of ordering.
- The group discussed the idea of writing a THANK YOU letter to families for the students who rent instruments from us.
- 175-200 appeal letters went out to businesses and individuals. Pizza Factory is interested in helping us with a fundraiser. Some donations have been \$150-500. It is making a difference. Need to keep music programs in front of the public. Community truly loves and supports music in Mariposa.

Scholarship. As 501c3 we can designate scholarships. Need to establish criteria for award. Must follow proper accounting standards. Has the donor specified if the money is to be held in perpetuity, or directly distributed? So far, none of the donors has indicated this level of restriction.

1. Board can authorize funds for scholarship
2. Donors can authorize funds for scholarship
3. Organizations must exercise "prudence" in handling of funds

Accounting of the actual falls into the following categories: Permanently restricted net assets; temporarily restricted net assets

Funds can remain in our own bank account; no special account is needed. Must establish our interpretation of IRS and state laws.

We are looking at an initial capital allocation, with commitment to continue into the future.

Should create a committee to create the guidelines for the scholarship. This committee will also outline the over all decision process made up of

MOTION was made by Rod Fiester to create a committee to establish guidelines for the scholarship. The motion was seconded and passed.

Committee will consist of Karen Helms, Linda Niles-Sheetz, Marla Shenk, Rod Fiester, Ian Smith, Lisa Mirassou.

NEW BUSINESS

Music program support. A retired band director from Tulare Unified School District and proprietor of the Door Mouse Boutique has indicated a desire to help and will be talking to Rod in the future to discuss how she may be able to help.

Festival. May 2, Friday. San Francisco bay area. Return on Saturday night. Arrange for a bus (\$3/mile)

IMPORTANT UPCOMING DATES

March 7-9 Storytelling Festival

March 20-23 MCHS Play

April 11 Arts Night

May 5 Butterfly Festival

May 10 Prom

May 17-18 Relay for Life: MCHS Band Booster team consists of Lori Norman, Dick Hutchinson, Carrie McNally, Tina Dearing, Kristina Rylands

May 21-22 Disneyland

May 28 Achievement Night

Music marathon. Scheduled for Saturday, April 5

Other fundraisers. Perhaps arrange a dinner at fairgrounds, Paul Hanna has offered to do a magic show.

- Pizza Factory has offered to sponsor a fundraiser. Carrie can check on possible dates.
- Gold Coin. Dick will check on dates. (Normally only on Thursdays)
- Castillos. Dick will check on dates.

June 6. End-of-term concert will be set aside as a memorial concert.

MOTION was made by Rod Fiester to refund \$40 of \$50 to individual whose child dropped out of band. The motion was seconded and passed

MOTION was made by Linda Niles-Sheetz to clarify instrument rental letter that fee is nonrefundable. The motion was seconded and passed.

Director's Report—Rod Fiester

The timing is right to go in front of the MCUSD school board. In 2008, 4 people were teaching music; now there is only 1. As of 2008, middle school students were getting music instruction 5x per week; they are now getting music once per week. Student

musicians are not prepared and don't feel confident coming into the high school music program. Another music teacher is desperately needed. In order to adequately prepare musicians for music at the high school level, Woodland and MES students must have 5 days/week of instruction. The District has to make music happen for students by making it a priority. They need to understand that there is a wave of students coming up from elementary schools who will not be adequately prepared to enter the high school music program. We are putting students in a precarious situation.

There are currently 22 students in high school instrumental music program. Band should not be an obstacle to academic success. A meeting is needed with the principal to discuss how district can support students. Currently, one of the obstacles to band is the ROP requirement which forces musicians to choose between a graduation requirement and music. With the work that students do in PR, fundraising, and community service, the MCHS band program is as much a business learning opportunity (which is the focus of ROP) as anything else. Another obstacle to students participating in band at MCHS is the PE requirement, which is only a Mariposa (vs. statewide) requirement. Because of this requirement, students must often choose between PE and continuing with band. Parents and students are advocating to seek approval to allow the fall semester of marching band to apply as PE credit. This is something that is done across California where schools have competitive marching programs. Another obstacle is that freshman cannot do band and take a language. Band students have also been lost to ASB. Band is one of the few fine arts requirements allowed by UC/CSU admissions that remains at MCHS, yet the barriers for students wanting to be involved in music across the 4 years of their high school carrier make this extremely challenging, if not nearly impossible.

Rod is requesting that a group of boosters and parents, meet with Celeste Acevedo to share these concerns and seek solutions to these barriers. Rod would like Alex Keeton to be part of the discussion, as he is an MCHS teacher and parent to two incoming freshman musicians.

MOTION was made by Ray Genung to adjourn meeting at 8:05pm. The motion was seconded and passed.

Respectfully submitted by
Kristina Rylands
Secretary, MCHS Band Boosters