

Waxahachie Band Boosters

Meeting Minutes

Tuesday, October 4, 2022

6:00 PM - WHS Band Hall

Family meeting called to order at 7:18 pm by Breanna Williams

Approved Minutes in ET Meeting: Robin Jeter motioned, Breanna Williams seconded

Reports

- Approve Minutes - Robin Jeter motioned to approve minutes. Breanna Williams seconded.
- Financial Report:
 - Presented by Chrissy Holmberg. Just shy of \$50K net profit, but we're about to go into spending season with contest expenses.
- Concessions:
 - Kristin discussed why we need more volunteers and why we want every window open in concessions. We lose about \$2000-3000 for every window not opened at a varsity game.
 - JV/JH games are outperforming, and we need volunteers to help make it possible to continue exceeding our amounts.
 - There is no age limit set by the health inspector. If you think your kid can handle the work, bring them.
 - All volunteers over 18 must have a PIE form on file with the district. Any family member, friend, or neighbor can work concessions in a student's name for concession credits.
 - Links are posted on social media and the Spirit of Waxahachie website.

Old Business

- Water Drive
 - We had about 1000 bottles donated and around \$150 monetary donations
 - We will do another water drive on Monday 10/10 at Lumpkins
- Senior Pillows
 - Members were asked for volunteers to help sew the pillows for banquet from the state shirts.

New Business

- Trunk or Treat
 - Chrissy gave an informational spiel to parents about the event. Mr. Armstrong will give us a date that will work best for after practice.
- Senior Night necklaces

- Parent volunteers will need to make necklaces for the seniors. We have 43 seniors to adorn. We need to have a candy drive. Options would be to have band members bring candy or have candy delivered via Amazon.
- Decorating for "French Bistro" in Band Hall
 - Presented by Abby Baeza. Student leaders have created a budget to help them fund decorations for the corner of the band hall to make it look like a French Bistro. Donations of bistro tables and chairs and furniture will gladly be received. Abby requested \$125 for table clothes, table décor, French flag, lights, etc. Booster parents suggested making an Amazon list that we can push out to the Family for donations, contacting the school Art club to see if they would like to create items, and asking local businesses if they have props or items to make a plaque.
 - Chrissy motioned to give the kids \$125 to decorate the bistro. Autumn seconded. Verbal vote of agreement. No objections made.
- Bylaw proposal and presentation
 - Presented by Meaghan Baeza. Explained where to get copies of the current and proposed bylaws on the website if someone has not gotten a chance to read them. There is also a list of changes. Explained some of the changes and how we plan to vote on the proposed bylaws - three separate portions: the entire proposed changes excluding the Conflict of Interest clause and the Removal policy. The reason is that those are the two major sections that were changed.

Director Reports

- Howard Junior High
 - Macy Lee – Symphonic Band is getting ready to perform at Veterans Assembly and working on All-Region music. Concert Band is learning Pep Rally music for Oct. 21st. Getting ready to start Christmas music. Beginners Band is holding their instruments and making sounds. Needing help on Monday, October 10th
- Coleman Junior High
 - They've already had their Pep Rally and are preparing to audition for All District contest season. Veterans Day performance on November 11th. We were named 9th in the State for Mark of Excellence. Two pieces were sent off for national accolades. We are a National Award Winner. Top 25% in the Nation.
- Finley Junior High
 - Master class teachers are coming in to get ready for auditions. Pep Rally is coming soon. Halloween Party is planned for Oct. 28th for the FJH Band Family. Band-Aides (8th Graders) get to help out with high school band.
- High School
 - Armstrong thanks everyone who has helped in any way.
 - 9th in state in honor band – been happening since 2007 in the high school and now JH is doing it. Goal next year is to have all 3 JHs make it to state. More people entered this year than any other year.
 - Water drive will happen next Monday.

- All Region Jazz auditions with about 20-40 people.
- All parts are done on contest show. Props didn't get done because of a vendor issue with their computers having a virus that messed things up.
- Schedule changes are so kids can practice in a stadium. Added a few to the schedule. Thursday rehearsals are changed to allow students to go to tutoring.
- Jazz group has already earned money by playing for different events. A family donated after the jazz band played for a private event. Performed at HEB and received a donation from that.
- About to go do elementary gigs and art shows. Playing around in the community.
- Told parents to be prepared to go into November for playoffs.
- Did the first mock audition for Region band.
- First contest is Saturday, October 8th.
- For new parents: BOA hotel is the same as the years past. Away from the River Walk for a reason. Around a lot of restaurants. Area B is more stacked. Plan is to go down Saturday, make finals, stay Monday and perform Tuesday for finals.
- There is a possibility of State being annual, rather than bi-annual. We will wait until the vote is made to see how that affects us next year.
- UIL Cheer competition in January. Another cheer/band/competition where the band plays while cheer performs. Cheer may be pushing to include the band in that event. That's when we push for all-state, musical, and contest.
- Believes this band is more competitive than last year's band.

Open Forum - Q&A from parents

- **Q:** Lisa Russell – Sophomore CG mom, wanting to know about the point of the financial and why we need to get bids. **A:** Part of the financials is we want to be responsible for the financial health of the organization. Every decision we make needs to be completely transparent. To be good stewards. Armstrong handles WISD money. --It was suggested to add a dollar amount to show what items need a bid and which do not.
- **General Statement:** Lisa Russell - We are here to support the team. Let's put our focus on them and love each other.
- **General Statement:** Rebecca Bullard thanked the Board for being good stewards of our money.
- **General Statement:** Robin Jeter stated we have done research of band fees against schools we compete against. We pay far less than others and have far less money to spend than them. We are trying to use these funds the best we can with how much we make.
- **General Statement:** Autumn Yarborough stated concessions are so important for these reasons.
- **Q:** Parent asked about pictures that were ordered. **A:** Advised to reach out to McCoy for any issues with pictures from registration.

- **Q:** Requested another fryer in Visitors concessions. **A:** Kristin stated we have to get equipment fixed at the end of the season. She has a list she of items already.
- **Discussion on Proposed Bylaws:** Chrissy Holmberg read a comment from a parent that is not present that is opposed to a vendor being on the board. Kathleen White addressed the room. Stated three years ago the board members asked them to make t-shirts to have a one-stop shop. They were then volun-told to join the board and do special projects 2 years ago. They are always feeding our kids, taking care of the kids, and clothing us. Last year, they were "illegally" voted off the first week of competition. Kathleen said she did run for president this year and lost, but she ran because this needs to stop. The cliques. She said it won't be easy to get state shirts from other vendors and lobbied her business because no one else can do a turnaround in 5 days. John White is being asked to step down from the board because of the conflict of interest with the current bylaws. Cindy Cantero addressed the room and expressed that this is her first year and that she didn't know anything about what had happened last year or anything about cliques. She stated a businessman was upset and wanted to know why his business wasn't asked for a bid because it was the "preferred vendor" of the band. She stated she didn't know his business was a preferred vendor and reach out to him for a bid through the business's Facebook page but did not receive an answer or bid. John stood to address, and Cindy asked him to not interrupt her because she was not done and did not interrupt Kathleen. Cindy stated the last executive meeting Armstrong wanted to know who did the mural at Finley, and that same businessman said his business was responsible but could not tell him who actually did the work when asked. Kathleen White stated he didn't have to tell them. Cindy said as a parent, it makes it look like all they are trying to do is get money from this band for their business and that is what makes it a conflict of interest. A parent asked who are the preferred vendors for the band. Chrissy stated we do not have a list of preferred vendors. There is no such list that we have to follow like the district. Meaghan Baeza explained the proposed bylaws would allow John to remain on the board. It is the current bylaws that state he cannot be a board member. Breanna Williams expressed that this board is new, no one was on the board that was part of having them removed last year, but this board is getting blamed for what last year's board did. The board has been trying to do everything to keep him on the board and volunteering, but he is currently in violation of the bylaws we have in place. John has been involved in everything for the proposed bylaws and parents are pushing back on changing to allow a vendor as a board member. He could not be on the board and still volunteer. He only wouldn't be able to vote on decisions. John stated he wants to be on the board to be able to make decisions. Autumn Yarborough asked where the people who opposed the bylaws are tonight because they weren't there. Breanna Williams stated Sean Cagle, the interim Director of Fine Arts, also expressed he recommends not allowing a vendor to be a board member. Autumn again asked where he was since he was not present to state that. Parents want to go by whatever the UIL rules state. Armstrong says UIL isn't going to do anything because of this stuff. They will only do something if we give him more

than \$500. The board will check on specific rules pertaining to Conflict of Interest with UIL, district, and 501(c)3 status. Meaghan Baeza motioned to table it for now since no progress was being made. It was ignored by the room and conversations continued. Robin Jeter motioned again to table the discussion. Breanna Williams seconded.

**Motion to adjourn Chrissy Holmberg, seconded by Kristin Trejo at 9:04 pm.
Everyone audibly agreed.**

**Next ET meeting Tuesday November 1 at 6:00 pm, Next Family meeting Tuesday
December 6 at 7:00 pm.**