

**Amherst Band Booster Meeting Minutes
November 27, 2018**

The meeting was called to order by President Jeff Rakar at 6:32 p.m.

Executive Board in attendance:

President: Jeff Rakar

Vice President: Sandy Pack

Treasurer: Bethany Matos

Corresponding Secretary: Amy Rakar

Recording Secretary: Jennifer Amon

Members in attendance:

Diane Griffith

Brian Bellan

David Strauser

Mary Clotz

Beth Strawn

Dawn Butzina

Nancy Strauser

Jim Clotz

Joe Houghtland

Ranee Bennett

Jim Bennett

Scott Douglass

Staff in attendance:

Christopher Barbaro

Allison Allen

Christopher Lash

Christy Perry

Recording Secretary:

- Read the minutes from October 23th, 2018.
Motion to accept the Oct. 2018 minutes as read/corrected - by Jim Clotz.
Seconded by Joe Houghtland. Motion approved.

Treasurer's Report:

- Reviewed the financial report.

Account	Balance
Student Accounts	409.05
Florida Trip Account	76,832.50
Booster (General Fund)	11,772.07
Uniform Account	7467.93
Indoor	0.00
Total	96,481.55

Motion to approve the treasurer's report as presented - by Joe Houghtland.
Seconded by Beth Strawn. Motion Approved.

President's Report:

- The executive council met on November 20th
- We have 17 senior banners missing, but we received an anonymous donation of \$350 to cover replacement. The missing banners will be replaced, and all 41 seniors will receive their banners once the replacements are received.
- Raincoats: Thanks to Scott and David who got the black borrowed raincoats off the truck, so that the kids would have them in time. Thanks to Bonnie, Mary et al for the work done to get them checked in, packed up, and returned.
- Reminder: we need to file taxes.
- There has been no forward movement on a new code of conduct.

Vice President's Report:

- Dine to Donate: Sal & Al's netted \$200, Chipotle: \$92, a total of \$401.74 so far. Next is Domino's on 12/21.
- Duck Races: February 2 at the VFW. Volunteers will be needed. We will begin selling tickets after the Christmas break.

Corresponding Secretary's Report:

- Collected \$40 for lanyards sold.
- We received \$31.76 from Amazon Smile.

Committee Reports:**Uniforms: Mary Clotz**

- It took 3 hours to repack the borrowed raincoats. They had been vacuum-packed, which we could not do for the return. One raincoat was not returned on time. It will be shipped separately, and the student will be charged for the shipping.
- All uniforms have been taken to the dry cleaners. Bonnie is washing all of the pants herself. There were several pairs of pants with split seams, etc. They are being repaired, so that they can be put back into use.
- The dress and tux fittings have been completed. There were 6 bowties being held together with duct tape. Mr. Barbaro took care of ensuring that everyone had a bowtie. The garment bags are in bad shape. They have a rubberlike lining that is peeling. We should replace them. We would need 80 of them at \$10/each. The alternative is to cover the uniform with a trash bag before putting it into the garment bag, so that the uniform doesn't get what looks like grass stains. Mr. Barbaro suggested that we continue with the ones we have for the Disney trip. We can reconsider options at a later date.

Band Banquet (Nov): Sandy Pack for Lynette Gilles

- It went well. Reserved German's for next year. November 10, 2019

AJH Director's Report: Mrs. Perry

- Having a very good year
- Upcoming concerts
 - Grades 6 & 7 next Thursday (12/6)
 - Grade 8 the following week (12/13)
- Scheduling for next year for the 8th graders begins in January
- The 8th grade concert would be a good opportunity to talk to the 8th graders and their parents about H.S. band. It's 8th-grade only. It was suggested by a parent that we might want to send a student to speak to the students.
- Looking for venues for small groups to play holiday music. There is no book fair this year. Considering Amherst Manor. The Christmas parade day was an option, but the date doesn't work for Mrs. Perry.

Steele H.S. Director's Report: Mr. Barbaro

- Money:
 - The latest Disney deposits and uniform deposits have been given to Bethany.
 - Two invoices for gloves: \$156.29 recent, \$84.18 late. They are forgiving us for that. (Bethany had it in-hand, ready to be mailed.)
 - An invoice for \$716.28 for tux shirts and bowties.
 - An invoice for \$7,057.38 for the new raincoats. They are here. Mr. Barbaro modeled one for us.
 - The credit card statement for \$145.11, due December 12th
 - \$52.49 - gas to get to state competition
 - \$14.56 - Gage's Offrenda Flowers
 - (the judge noticed and liked that we tied the offrendas to the show as something other than just mini stages)
 - \$8.64 - Oops charge at Jimmy John's. Mr. B paid \$9 cash to cover it.
 - \$55.55 - gas to get home from state competition
 - \$13.87 - Amazon Prime (We will cancel.)
- Music, Repair, PI Budget
 - \$20-25K PI available for next year, but it's tricky to know how to use it. We have much larger needs than that and a smaller year-after-year amount might be more helpful.
 - The needs include:
 - New trumline equipment
 - Mellophones (start at \$2K each)
 - Baritones
 - Tubas
 - A bassoon (\$3-5K)
 - An oboe
 - Bass clarinets
 - He'll let us know in January what was requested

- 2018 Marching Band
 - We need to pay Laurel Florek \$700 we still owe her
 - As mentioned above, we need to pay the balance on the raincoats. It would be a good idea to check that we got the right sizes, etc., before we pay it. Once paid, it's hard to go back with issues. They are thinner (Thinsulate) than the ones we wore at state.
 - As mentioned above, two glove invoices to be paid
 - Senior Banners issue - done deal and no longer an issue
 - Nice banquet
 - Thanks for the gifts
 - Thanks to all the parents who helped
 - Focus on Disney from here on out to the end of the year
 - Parade next week Friday - Report time is 5p.m.

- Honors Bands
 - Congrats to Ardith Amon for last minute participation in the Districts 4&7 Honors Band as first bassoon.
 - Congrats to Ardith Amon for sitting 2nd chair out of 4 bands in the top group at BGSU's Honors Band weekend.
 - Several kids are applying to play at Kent State's Honors Band festival, but only a few were accepted out of a bunch of applicants last year. Their program is getting more popular. The list of those accepted will be announced when it is known.

- Concert Tuxes/Dresses/etc
 - Concert uniforms have been distributed. Thanks to Bonnie and the moms.
 - Girls' dresses were fitted and distributed
 - Tux shirts have arrived and have been distributed
 - Tux/Dress maintenance fees for dry cleaning and tux shirts are being collected. Still at \$15 to the students. Girls have been asked to repair their own dresses as needed, and the cost would be taken off their fee.
 - Tux shirts actually cost \$17.95 + shipping, but we still charge \$15. We ordered 35 shirts, so the difference is \$126.28. We need approval to continue the discount. Motion by Joe Houghtland. 2nd by Jim Clotz. Approved.
 - We bought 20 bowties. We have more guys than we previously had. We need approval for the \$65 for those. Motion by Joe Houghtland. 2nd by Diane Griffiths. Approved.
 - All other costs will be money in/out for dry cleaning. Let's keep the dry cleaning deposits in a separate account, so we won't accidentally not save it for end-of-year dry cleaning.

- Solo and Ensemble Contests:
 - OMEA is at North Ridgeville H.S., Feb 9, deadline: Jan 12
 - Lorain County is at Firelands H.S., Feb 23, deadline: Jan 27
 - We will start taking S&E requests just before the break

- Upcoming Concerts:
 - 6th & 7th Grade Bands - Thursday, 12/6 at 7p.m. at AJH
 - 5th Grade Band - Monday, 12/10 at 7p.m. at Nord (FREE)
 - 8th Grade Band - Thursday, 12/13 at 7p.m. at AJH
 - HS Winter Concert - Tuesday, 12/18 at 7p.m. Need volunteers for ticket sales. Bethany and the Strausers volunteered. Bethany wrote a check that that change could be obtained for the cash box.
 - Pre-Contest concert is March 11th

- Marching Band Spring Tour:
 - 4th payment of \$150 was due last week
 - \$150 due 1/15 - hotel sign-up depends on it
 - Balance due 2/15 - bus sign-up depends on it
 - Some students are not going, and refunds have been requested. Except for the non-refundable \$100, all or part of the money **may** be refunded, depending on how the numbers work out in the end. Each room costs \$125 for 4 students. Each bus ticket is \$165, and our final costs are based on what we quoted them, not on the count of people who actually show up and use the seats.
 - Currently, we are still on for Sunday afternoon for the Magic Kingdom parade, but Disney can change that on us at any time.
 - Chaperones are asked to have background checks by January 15th.
 - There will be a mandatory staff and chaperone meeting in early March.
 - There will be a meeting of upperclassmen that same day to discuss expected behavior, etc.
 - We are aware that some are struggling with the money for the trip, but the total trip costs more than \$130,000. Mr. Barbaro saves us probably \$10K by making the arrangements himself rather than hiring an agency to do it.
 - We will attempt to get the Disney tickets early, so that the kids can have the codes to allow them to FastPass. They couldn't do that last time because they don't actually get to keep their passes while at the parks.

- Indoor Performance Group:
 - None this year. Mr. Barbaro contacted several possibilities to run it. None were interested in doing it for free. He is working on making it a paid position

- Outdoor Staffing:
 - Working on adjustments to pay
 - X2 up to 8-10% of base pay for percussion advisor
 - Increase for guard advisor, decrease for majorette advisor
- Pep Band:
 - Mr. Lash will be doing it.
 - There will be a meeting in December, and rehearsals will begin in January
- Scheduling Next Year:
 - No more block scheduling.
 - Students will need to audition and be placed into either symphonic band or wind ensemble in January.
 - Students will not automatically be available to attend both rehearsals, so the music rehearsals will be half the band at a time. They will only be all together after school. This is what other schools already deal with, but it does make it difficult for the upperclassmen to act as mentors to the younger kids. They are not in the same bands: example: snare drummers (2 in symphonic, remainder in wind ensemble)

New Business

- None
- Next meeting is January 22, 2019. There is no December meeting.

Motion to adjourn by Scott Douglass at 7:26 p.m.

Second by Beth Strawn. Motion approved.