

FBPO October 12, 2017

**In Attendance:** Jocelyn Ellman, Jodi Hanlon, Kent Krause, Matt Neumann, Eleanore Richards, Lisa Sanstrom, Beata Smoter, Mona Spaid, Doug Weglarz, Julie Westberg

Doug Weglarz requested that someone call the meeting to order. Jodi Hanlon called the meeting to order at 7:02pm. Seconded by Lisa Sanstrom.

Lisa Sanstrom motioned that the September minutes be approved and accepted. Jodi Hanlon seconded. The next FBPO meeting will be on Thursday, November 9th at 7pm in the WNHS Orchestra Room, due to a November 2<sup>nd</sup> band concert conflict. Upcoming FBPO meetings are scheduled for Thursday December 7<sup>th</sup> and Thursday January 11<sup>th</sup>.

**President's Report – Doug Weglarz:** None

**Vice President's Report – Lisa Sanstrom:** None

**Treasurer's Report – Rob Hanlon/Jodi Hanlon:** Jodi reported that we are still waiting for 1-2 Falcon Fest reimbursement forms to be submitted, but that Falcon Fest revenue was higher than projected. T-Shirt sales, higher ticket sales, and free printing all contributed to a stronger bottom line, despite fewer bands participating this year. All participating bands have paid their fee. Jodi requested that all reimbursement forms related to marching band be submitted ASAP. Curricular band polo shirt orders will be placed next week.

**Secretary's Report – Eleanore Richards:** Eleanore asked that all those in attendance please sign the attendance sheet. Lisa Sanstrom will take the minutes at the November 9th FBPO meeting as Eleanore will be out of town. The next Falcon Band News will come out next week, covering upcoming dates and activities for the curricular and jazz band programs.

**Director's Report – Kent Krause:** Mr. Krause thanked everyone for coming to the FBPO meeting.

**ILMEA Auditions** – Illinois Music Educator auditions took place last week, and preparing for the audition is a significant undertaking on the part of the students. District 9 is particularly competitive, and the WNHS band program had a very strong showing, with 10 students invited to participate in the District 9 Festival this year. The upper chairs will be called back to audition for chairs in the All-State Festival, which will take place in Peoria from January 24-27, 2018. Congratulations to **William Richards** and **Jack Wakeman** for placing in the District 9 Senior Orchestra, and to **Sydney Cooke** for placing in the District 9 Senior Band. The Senior Orchestra and Band concerts will take place at 3pm on Saturday, November 4<sup>th</sup> at Elgin High School. Congratulations are also due to **Josh Becker, Vinnie David, Heath Dring, Kellin Hanas, Sydney Hanlon, Nick Jenz and Alex Michalak** who will be participating in the District 9 Senior Jazz Festival on Saturday, November 18<sup>th</sup> at Bolingbrook High School (concerts are at 2:15 and 4pm, depending on Ensemble).

**Marching Band** is wrapping up the season with two upcoming competitions at Illinois State University on October 14<sup>th</sup> and at the University of Illinois on October 21<sup>st</sup>. Mr. Krause reported that the students are positive and focused on improving. WNHS will be competing against some very large bands at the next two competitions, as bands are placed in divisions based on school size rather than band size. Marching Band parent shadow night will be next week, likely Thursday, October 19<sup>th</sup>. An announcement will be forthcoming ASAP. 8<sup>th</sup> grade band students from Franklin and Monroe Middle Schools will be joining the Marching Falcons at the home football game scheduled for Friday, October 20<sup>th</sup>. Mr. Krause is working with the Activities Director to ensure there is enough space for all of the band students. Weather permitting, considering a “5<sup>th</sup> Quarter” performance of the Competition Show for the 8<sup>th</sup> graders. The end of season Marching Band Awards Night is scheduled for October 30<sup>th</sup> in the WNHS Taylor Auditorium. Looking ahead to next season, Mr. Krause is shooting for a Marching Band trip to a Bowl Game destination, likely between Christmas and New Year's, 2018. Mr. Krause is exploring opportunities in the SE, the SW and the West Coast.

**Concert Band Program:** The first concert of the year will be a “Band Showcase” on November 2<sup>nd</sup> featuring performances by the **Wind Ensemble, Symphonic Band, Concert Band, and Percussion Ensemble**.

**Jazz Ensemble auditions** will take place at WNHS on November 14<sup>th</sup> and 15<sup>th</sup>. Mr. Krause would like to emphasize that **Jazz Band** is open to all students, with no audition required. Mr. Krause is currently picking jazz contests and performance opportunities, with an emphasis this year on local, community-focused performances.

## **OLD BUSINESS:**

**Budget Discussion – Doug Weglarz** announced that the goal is to have the 2017-2018 budget finalized and approved for the next meeting. A few line items need to be finalized.

**Swing Dance** – Swing Dance is scheduled for Saturday, March 17<sup>th</sup>. Doug Weglarz will discuss participation and scope of the Middle School bands with Mr. Krause. If the Middle Schools do participate, Matt Neumann and Jocelyn Ellman agreed to be the liasons between Franklin Middle School and Monroe Middle School, respectively. Matt and Jocelyn will announce the upcoming concert at the Christmas Programs, and also hand out flyers to parents with information. Doug discussed the possibility of continuing the Jamba Juice fundraiser started two years ago. Penny Becker is working with Judi Jenz to discuss ways to get more students involved with fundraising related to Swing Dance.

## **Falcon Fest – Julie Westberg:**

- Huge thanks to my fellow planning co-Chairs Mona Spaid and Eleanore Richards
- Thanks to the committee chairs, especially to our new Freshman families – hope you will volunteer again & good-byes (for now) to our Senior parent leads: Brock Stout, Liz Westergaard, Laurel Spahn and Mona Spaid.
- Selling shirts, color cover on the advertising program, ShoutOut/CandyGram/Water table in the bus area and new location for bus pull-in and registration were all successes.
- Julie will be posting a link to a Falcon Fest feedback form soon – please watch for the link on Facebook and in the newsletter.
- Next stage for Falcon Fest will begin in early February as we begin to plan for 2018. We'll especially need the vacant spot of the Lead Volunteer Coordinator filled!
- Doug Weglarz suggested that the First Aid tent be moved next to headquarters, which will allow patients and staffers quick access to the building.
- Only a few minor hiccups this year – overall a very successful contest!

## **NEW BUSINESS:**

- Jazz Café is scheduled for February 5<sup>th</sup>. Need a parent volunteer to coordinate. Lisa Sanstrom pointed out that if we want to use heavy duty command strips to hold the Christmas lights, they should be installed early so that the adhesive has time to cure.
- The dates of the next three FBPO meetings are November 9<sup>th</sup>, December 7<sup>th</sup> and January 11<sup>th</sup>
- The music department pancake breakfast is scheduled for Saturday, December 9<sup>th</sup>
- **Marching Band Awards Night** – Monday, October 30<sup>th</sup> – Doug Weglarz said that the Marching Band leadership team has requested that the band return the Awards Night format to a banquet,

rather than a presentation in Taylor Auditorium. Doug brought up the following 4 points on why we should NOT go back to a banquet format:

- Band is too big – the Commons only seats 270, and we have potentially 300+ attendees, including parents and siblings
- There is a cost to attend for families, and a cost to the FBPO to pay for the students.
- It is both hard to see the video and hard to hear the presenters in the Commons
- No other group at WNHS does an end of season banquet on this scale.

The board unanimously voted against a Banquet. The Marching Band Leadership Team met with Mr. Krause last week to discuss; as of yet the board has not seen a formal request to reinstate the banquet.

Motion to adjourn was made by Lisa Sanstrom, with Julie Westberg seconding.

Meeting adjourned at 7:51pm.

Minutes submitted by Secretary, Eleanore Richards