

SFMA Meeting Minutes

December 9, 2024

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November Meeting Minutes Approval – not yet posted, approval waived until next meeting

Directors' Reports

Ms. Eddowes-Keirnan, MS Color Guard Director

- Got a new drill designer last year, will continue with him this year, last year consistently got a 96 & 97 in design score, came in 2nd at champs with the highest score they ever did.
- There are 9 kids this year, they are strong and we are going to go with it
- The show is called "Diamond Heist" with the songs Diamonds are a girls' best friend, Material Girl and the Pink Panther theme, obviously using a lot of pink and sparkles
- Tomorrow night at practice we have 8 pages of drill already and that's exciting since it's more than we have ever had this early in the season
- Looking ahead to next year, we will only have 3 returning and that's very concerning, need to promote more, FB was great but didn't really get anyone, I'll do anything and everything you can think of to get people to sign up
- The Cadet Guard contract is still not signed by anyone, if it ends up being me, I might not have a performance for indoor night, I would rather have something for Limerick Day
- I need to ask for help with the props, with only 9 kids, I can't get enough volunteers, last year I actually had a student quit because their parent thought they were being asked to do too much to help
Lisa: Have you had a parent meeting? I had 2 and there were 2 parents in each
- Sign Up Genius for chaperones and truck drivers will be made and sent out

Officers' Reports

Vice President, Lauren Chychota:

- Pie sale is closed and all have been delivered, there was a little mishap but it was all fixed in time and everyone seemed ok with the outcomes
- The holiday shop went really well, I have some easy suggestions for next year but got lots of compliments

Treasurer, Sissy Morelock:

- Budget – doing well with donations
- Fundraising went up by \$16k, don't have the exact numbers for the holiday shop but it roughly netted \$11k
Chuck: If the budget is good, why was a Go Fund Me needed for indoor percussion? Sissy: Mike is over budget with props, staff, floor, uniforms, etc
Brandi: I thought we aren't allowed to fundraise for one particular group? That's what the guard was told. Lisa: We changed it over the summer, each group can have one NON SFMA fundraiser for themselves

Assistant Treasurer, Dawn Svendsen:

- SPA is updated with Raise Right and Joe Corbis and the pie sale, nothing yet for poinsettias or ornaments

Secretary, Gwen MacDonell:

- Holiday shop went great, thank you to everyone who came out to help
- I'm working on all the Sign Up Genius' for the indoor groups so keep an eye out for those

Committee Reports

Chaperones, Chris Chychota:

- Will need some chaperones for Jazz Band
- Might need extra chaperones for indoor percussion now that they have costume changes, still trying to figure that out

Concessions, Carrie Rutkowski:

- No report

Fundraising, Scott Houde: (read by Lauren)

- All ornaments were distributed at the concerts
- Poinsettia sale raised about \$200, there was a 50% decrease in orders, might sell wreaths next year
- Wawa will go up the 1st week in January and run for 3 weeks
- There will be a Dine and Donate at Downtown in Royersford, it's on January 18th and will be a brunch, fun to do something different
- Still working on a Bag Bingo for February
- Trivia will be about 6-8 weeks after that

Kathy Louis: Why can't we shift the Wawa sale date earlier? It'd be a great teacher gift or something the teachers could buy.

Chuck: Wawa is doing away with coupons and the ones you own now expire at the end of 2025.

Sissy: We usually pick dates based off of when the music groups have rehearsal times because they run to Wawa on their meal breaks

Membership / Data:

- No new members
- Data is fabulous

Merchandise, Brynn Lange: (read by Gwen)

- Merch table did well at the Holiday Bazaar yesterday; pleased with the sales and interest in new items for sale
- Will be selling merch at all three concerts over the next two weeks
- Working with the Indoor Ensemble Directors to ensure the essential items required for the indoor seasons (jackets, jersey's) etc, sales are up and items are ordered in time for the indoor competition season.
- Indoor Percussion Jersey sale ended on 12/1, Mike wants to handle ordering the jersey's from the vendor
- Indoor Guard (MS and HS) Jacket sale ends on 12/10
- Outdoor Marching Band Show patches have been ordered through vendor and should be in in the next few weeks for distribution (hopefully)

Raise Right, Lauren Chychota:

- 175 families signed up as of 11/25/24 (plus 3 from last month)
 - 105 active families with Online Payments enabled
 - 19 families purchased \$20,165 in gift cards

- Net rebate to SFMA was \$1193.63 for an average rebate of 5.92%
- the 60% share to student SPAs was \$716.19
- the 40% share to SFMA of \$477.44 was reduced by \$22.00 for shipping costs, for a net return of \$455.44

Ram Crew, Tom Kuch:

- Took down the command center
- Guard built their own chairs but I have talked with Dani and know what needs to be built
- I have Annette's request
- The percussion wave is here, just need to complete a few more things for him, not too expensive

Dining Crew, Laura Simon: (not in attendance, read by Gwen)

- Marching band end of season banquet is booked and is on Sunday 12/11, sign up deadline to register was 12/6, payment of \$21 per person is due by 12/21 cash or check to SFMA
- I am working on putting together a holiday lunch for indoor percussion on 12/21, more to come on that
- Continuing to work with Mrs. McGranahan, Lisa and Carrie to assist with the meals/snacks etc for PMEA in January

Sponsorships, Erika Nelson:

- Nothing new

Uniforms, Becki Fretz:

- Not in attendance, no report

Vehicles, Karl Weber:

- Not in attendance, no report

New Business

Indoor Show:

- Pretty much the same as last time, Sign Up Genius will come out, nothing new to discuss right now

Adopt a Family:

- Raising money for a Spring-Ford family in need, one of the greatest things was the kids who volunteered at the holiday shop were receiving tips and they donated their tips, it was so great to see

Old Business

- We purchased additional poinsettias to sell at the holiday shop and most went, Lisa will go to buy some for the holiday concerts
- End of year banquet meal has been settled on, ready to go with about 105 attendees
- PMEA food orders are ready to go but not placed yet, just waiting on a head count