



Mars Area Band Boosters Inc
PO Box 1061
Mars PA 16046

Contact: bandinfo@marsband.com
Web site: www.marsband.com

Band Booster Meeting Minutes – October 12, 2021

1. Call to Order

- President Ruth O'Donnell welcomed everyone to the meeting. She then called for a motion to approve the minutes circulated for the last Booster meeting held in September. They were then approved as written.

2. Treasurer's Report

- Lori MacDonald, Treasurer, reported and distributed the current checking and saving account statements and indicated that the projected balance for the end of the season is \$5894. She stated that the budget is in a good place and we will continue to track what is needed for the remainder of the year.

3. Chaperones/Volunteers

- Ruth indicated that we are still in need of more volunteers for each game and competition. She encouraged everyone to volunteer if possible.

4. Old Business

- Competition Meals – Ruth thanked everyone who volunteered to provide meals for the students this year. She also noted that the senior student parents have volunteered to sponsor the meal on championship day (October 23).
- Fall Fundraisers - Dana Fenio updated the group on the recent fundraisers and also stated that a new one is being held by Yama Sushi on October 26. A portion of the proceeds for that night will go to the band. Customers just need to mention Mars Band when they order. Dana also mentioned that the popcorn, pies, and pillows fundraisers are underway right now. The next fundraiser is planned for January (pepperoni rolls). It was suggested that we could promote the fundraisers more on social media, the Communicator, etc. as well. Dana agreed to look into that with the school.
- Parent Donations – Ruth acknowledged and thanked all the parents and volunteers for their donations of time and money this season to help the students. She stated that we have received overwhelming support this year and it's greatly appreciated!
- Family & Friends – Ruth indicated that the Family & Friends event had to be rescheduled from October 20. The new date will be communicated as soon as it's finalized.
- Concession Stand – Senior Night – Concession help is needed for this last home game. The band will play their show during halftime and the senior ceremony will be held before the game.



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- Equipment Help – With the two upcoming competitions, equipment help is needed to get the front ensemble pieces to the field. Both fields have hills that require extra help. Parents are able to sign-up to help for these shows via the Sign-up website. Ruth will send out the link again to everyone after this meeting.
 - Increasing Band Numbers/Recruitment – Kim Cannon and Eva Biaggini reported that at the last meeting we discussed trying to increase visibility and communications about the marching band to help recruit new members next year. Many new ideas were discussed and proposed by parents during the meeting. Ruth noted that Eva and Kim should first talk with Dave to get his approval to proceed with contacting the appropriate people and teachers. It was also noted that finding the marching band on the school's website was very difficult. The Boosters will look into this and see if we can make our program more prominent and easier to find.

5. New Business

- Senior Night – Ruth stated that bios are due for seniors by tomorrow. A pre-game gathering will take place at 5:15pm before the game for students and parents. The senior ceremony will take place at 6:15pm.
- Indoor Percussion Season – Ruth reminded everyone that for the indoor season the students will sometimes need to load the trucks to move the equipment to the Centennial School and then load the truck again to return to the High School on certain days. All students are to help with loading and unloading the truck. She also indicated that as of today, the costs per student for the indoor season may be almost \$500 each plus the district fee and costs to attend the WGI event in Dayton. The goal is to off-set some of these costs with more fundraisers. After much discussion about these increased costs, Ruth encouraged everyone to share their concerns with Dave Soose and also welcomed ideas for additional fundraisers to help receive more donations to the program.
- Fall Craft Show – Ruth shared that the upcoming craft show at the high school on November 20 is a very large fundraiser for the band and that everyone's help is needed that day and the night before. Students also volunteer during the show to deliver food to vendors. More information on how everyone can help will be communicated soon.
- Additional Fundraising Ideas – Parents in attendance proposed several ideas to generate more revenue for the band program including a silent auction, night at the races, Supremo's fundraiser, etc. All ideas were welcome and parents were asked to submit any fundraiser idea as a proposal to the Boosters Board for consideration.
- Photographer – Ruth noted that the Boosters hired Macey Wright, the photographer who took the band pictures this year, to take photos of the band during two football games this season.



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6. Upcoming Dates

- Ruth reminded everyone of the following upcoming activities:
 - October 16 – PIMBA Competition (Deer Lakes)
 - October 22 – Senior Night Football Game
 - October 23 – PIMBA Championship (Gateway)
 - November 20 – Craft Show

7. Adjournment

- Ruth thanked everyone for participating and the meeting was adjourned at 8:39pm.

Band Booster Officers in Attendance

Ruth O'Donnell, President
Kim Cannon, Secretary
Dana Fenio, Vice President – Fundraisers
Lori MacDonald, Treasurer
Heather Zimmerman, Vice President – Uniforms

Parents/Guests in Attendance:

Eva Biaggini
Carrie Denk
Jo Drutarosky
Beau Gamble
Laura Gamble
Angie McSwain
Mac McSwain
Courtney Montgomery
Christy Nickl
Rita Ostapchenko
Julia Stephenson
Mike Stephenson
Lisa Suppo
Dave Wingertsahn
Kim Wright