



Mars Area Band Boosters Inc
PO Box 1061
Mars PA 16046

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

Band Booster Meeting Minutes – March 8, 2022

1. Call to Order

- President Ruth O'Donnell welcomed everyone to the meeting.

2. Update from Dave Soose, Marching Band Director

- Dave provided updates on the following activities:
 - i. Indoor percussion and winterguard seasons are almost completed; Winterguard has been promoted to Scholastic A level and recently placed 1st place in the Pittsburgh Regional competition; the percussion group travels to Dayton for a regional competition against 15 different groups on March 26.
 - ii. Family & Friends Show to be held on March 31
 - iii. Championships will be held on April 2 at Kiski High School
 - iv. Working on a tentative marching band schedule for the year; waiting for the WPIAL schedule to come out before the PIMBA schedule is set
 - v. Band camp will be held the first two weeks in August (Monday-Friday from 1:00pm to 9:00pm); rehearsals for the band to be held on Wednesdays during the summer months
 - vi. Trip to Kennywood may be on Saturday, August 6 but the date has not been confirmed yet
 - vii. Staff will be on the school buses going forward with the students as they travel to competitions, football games, etc.

3. Approval of Minutes

- Ruth called for a motion to approve the minutes circulated for the last Booster meeting held in November. They were then approved as written.

4. Treasurer's Report

- Lori MacDonald, Treasurer, reported and distributed the current checking and saving account statements. She said that some expenses are still outstanding from the indoor season and some instrument repairs are still to be done for marching band season. For the indoor season, we were able to supplement some of the expenses for the students and we hope to be able to do that again next year. Currently, the budget is strong.



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5. Old Business

- Dana Fenio updated the group on current and upcoming fundraisers including the craft show, pillow sale, and Supremo's nights. All went well for the band. A hoagies sale is planned for the summer along with a Moe's night during band camp in August.
- Car washes are planned for June 25 and July 23 and we are still looking for dates for May and August. More information will be shared on those dates soon. Parent volunteers are also needed and appreciated for each car wash.
- Kim Cannon stated that a band recruitment meeting will take place on March 22 to discuss ways to encourage more students to join band. Those parents who expressed interest in being on this team were invited and anyone else who would like to participate are welcome to attend as well.

6. New Business

- Ruth shared the current plans for a trip to Disney in November. The group would leave on November 10 and the students would only miss one day of school (Monday) due to students already being off school on November 10 and 11. The date of the parade at Magic Kingdom is to be determined. The trip costs would be around \$1400 or \$1500 per child and this includes flights, hotel, transportation, and four-day tickets to the parks. Parents are to confirm their student's attendance by mid-May. More information will be provided soon. Chaperones will also be needed for the trip.
- Dana Fenio stated that to help offset some of the costs of Disney, the Board is planning to work with an organization called SnapRaise. This is a crowdfunding-type app that can help us fundraise for the trip. The bulk of the money raised through this initiative will go towards the funds for Disney.
- The Middle School & High School bands will have a joint rehearsal for their spring concerts on May 11 and a meal will be provided for the students. This is being done to provide a recruitment opportunity for the high school students to talk to the middle school students and encourage them to join marching band.
- An end-of-season celebration event is being planned for the students and the date is to be determined. This will be more informal than in years' past. More information and the date will be communicated soon.
- On May 31 and June 2, a mini camp will be held to orient new members and have the section leaders teach some basic skills. It was suggested to have current 8th grade marching band students attend as well to help make new band members more comfortable.
- The kick-off picnic for the 2022 season is tentatively scheduled for June 3. More information on this event will also be communicated soon.



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- Angie McSwain has volunteered to help with social media posts for the band activities. She will coordinate announcements on Facebook, Instagram, Twitter, TikTok, etc.
 - The 2022-2023 Officer Nominations took place via e-mail and those in the current roles have agreed to continue in these roles for another term. If anyone is interested in joining the Booster Board, please let Ruth know.
 - Ruth indicated that as she did last year, she will be reaching out to the cheer, football, and dance team booster organizations to explore more collaborative activities. She stated that they developed a good relationship last year and is looking forward to this continuing.
 - A new pie festival is being considered to kick off the start of the fall football season. This would be a joint event/fundraiser between band, football, cheer, and the dance team. More information will be shared if the event is confirmed.

7. Adjournment

- Ruth thanked everyone for participating and the meeting was adjourned.



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Band Booster Officers in Attendance

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

Parents/Guests in Attendance:

Wendy Davis
Jo Drutarosky
Marsha Haley
Crystal Krepin
Angie McSwain
Mac McSwain
Anita Morrison
Ray Mueser
Mark Nelson
Christy Nickl
Rita Ostapchenko
Julia Stephenson
Mike Stephenson
Lisa Suppo
Melanie Wingertsahn