

Branham Band Boosters Regular Meeting
November 3, 2011

Held at: Branham Music Room 64

Attendees: *Linda Ho, Karen Flens, Joni Kiefer, Tom Utic, Ed Radzikowski, Bob Aron, Marc Brodeur, Jim Von de Bur, Paul Lee, Brian Ward, Kathryn Vandiver, Bryan Vandiver, Joe Morales, Carole Hayden, Diane Wyant, Linda Brogden, and Tom Wieske*

Meeting was called to order at 7:15 p.m..

1. Discussion of Photo day on Saturday, November 5th:

- ☞ Band – need to start earlier than scheduled 2:15 time. Uniforms crew to come a little earlier so kids can dress and begin photos shortly after 12:30pm. Sections such as woodwinds can be done first and those with more equipment, such as pit, later.

Linda Ho to contact volunteers that were “wait-listed” for 11/5 to see if they can help with photo logistics—rounding kids up, etc. Joni to contact MaryAnn to see if uniforms crew can arrive earlier.

Guard – photographed last due to time needed for costuming

- ☞ Photo products – Bob has been in touch with Bruce MacIssac re: production of DVD which will be available for pre-order at Awards Night. Sue is working with Bob re: photo for the Jamba Jamboree/Middle School recruiting flier.

Once photos are in, Diane will place order with Smug Mug/Shutterfly for mugs, etc to be sold at Awards night on November 18th, or create a mock-up for pre-orders. Paul Lee will use photo to produce flier similar to last year’s Jamba/recruiting flier.

2. Discussion of Leigh Show for middle schools on November 18th – Diane is waiting to hear back from Susie at Leigh re: timing, etc. Jim Von De Bur reports that there is no issue with support crew for this event, despite it being on a Friday.

Diane to forward message sent to Susie to Tom Utic who will get in touch with Susie to resolve timing issues asap. Diane to get permission slips out to students for this event next week.

3. Directors Report – Diane Wyant

- ☞ We have the okay to put platforms on the track for this Saturday’s competition. Independence director is pleased with our efforts.

Paul Lee and crew to go to Independence High approx. 8am Saturday to place platforms.

- ☞ Discussion of extra rehearsals. Diane reminds people that the rehearsal on Nov 11 was in the original contract and is required, despite some parent complaints.
- ☞ Pep band for football game on November 11th is cancelled as game was moved to November 10th, which differs from the stated contract.
- ☞ Diane reports that Branham has fewer rehearsals than other bands in our area and that any additional rehearsals (beyond the original signed contract) are not mandatory.
- ☞ Diane expresses some concern that it may be difficult for band to prepare for both the Los Gatos parade on December 3rd and also for the Winter Concert on December 8th (with dress rehearsal on December 7th), as there are not enough

rehearsal days between the end of the field show on November 19th, and the December performance dates. She said that we may need to drop from the parade if she feels the band will not be adequately prepared for it and/or the concert.

Diane to carefully review fall/winter time table early on next year to make sure there are enough rehearsal dates to accommodate all planned performances.

4. Jamba Jamboree Discussion

- a. Diane has reached out to Catherine and Sam regarding music for the event. The intention is to buy the music, (with their input in its selection), and give them the music for their libraries. Karen Flens volunteers to be Diane's middle school/event coordinator.
- b. Concern is raised that the planned dates for Jamba Jamboree are the same dates as first semester finals. Diane said it was difficult to nail down dates with the middle schools and wants to keep the dates as they are. Linda mentions that although students and parents sign the performance agreement at the beginning of the year, they may not realize at signing in August that there are finals in the middle of January. Diane points out that the evening should only be a couple of hours.
- c. Diane stresses that it is important that we start working on this event now or in the very near future.

5. Color Guard—Marc Brodeur and Linda Brogden

- a. Marc and Linda report that guard is going well.
- b. Winter Guard auditions are set for November 16th and 19th. They have yet to decide on a show theme, but plan to take 14-16 members for the winter season.
- c. Winter Guard season will run from the beginning of January through March 31. Marc has coordinated with Larry for facilities and practices through February. There will be six performance competitions, beginning with Evaluations on January 7 at Logan.
- d. Linda Ho has agreed to coordinate and prepare food for guard meets but needs a person to be the on-site lead as she will not be present at the competitions.
- e. Marc reports that guard and percussion will not be able to share a floor and that the guard floor needs to be ordered right away.

Marc to coordinate the March facilities schedule with Larry. Marc to shop for new floor and place order. After auditions and it is known who will participate in winter guard, need to find an on-site food lead for competitions. Not clear who will do this.

6. Winter Percussion—Tom Wieske

- a. Tom Wieske reports that no dates have been set for percussion auditions, but that "expression of interest" fliers will be handed out to students this Saturday. Once these have been received back, a date for auditions will be set. Tom reports that they are looking for anywhere from 16-30 students. Auditions will be for placement, rather than selection. Dartmouth 8th graders may be considered, with Sam's approval.

- b. A show has been tentatively chosen, an ambitious piece called Cop Drama, based on the theme songs from old TV cop shows. The piece has no battery parts, so Tom will be writing those in.
- c. Winter Percussion will practice three times per week, with days and times to be determined. Cost of the program is \$250, as it needs to be self-supporting.
- d. Tom will need parent support for transportation and logistics. Brian Ward and Linda Brogden offer to share expertise, as they have been through a winter competition season.

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7. Chaperones—we are good for the Leigh show.
8. Food—Linda Ho; Under budget so far. Linda will again host her “clean out my freezer” party, date tbd
9. Operations—Jim Von de Bur—discussion of another trailer for hauling our equipment to events. Suggested that we plan ahead for the time when band will hopefully have 100+ members. We borrowed the Renegades’ trailer last year and that is probably the largest we would want, given that we haul by pick-up truck. That size is 8 ½ feet by 20feet. Cost for a new trailer that size is approx. \$5200. Our current trailer is 8 ½ feet by 16 feet. Suggested that perhaps we ask for sponsorships to fund a new trailer, maybe \$200 for a family sponsorship and \$2000 for a corporate sponsorship, which would include advertising on the trailer. Suggested that we approach those businesses with whom we are building relationships: Pet Food Express, Lunardi’s, etc. Personal visits to ask about this and focus on neighborhood connections recommended. The following points were brought up:
 1. Paul Lee suggests that this be totally separate from the existing budget. Linda concurs.
 2. We should try to act on this to have trailer by next season. Try to launch fundraising for this on or near January 1st, but must coordinate with current fundraising plans.
 3. Diane would prefer a trailer over a truck unit to avoid automotive maintenance costs.

Jim to do additional research on needs for our program and possibly look at more trailer possibilities, then flesh out a more detailed proposal.

10. Awards Banquet – the following points were discussed:
 - We will try to have scrip sign-ups at this event
 - Call time for the kids on 11/19 is 1pm
 - Need the following items from Sue: performance time, banquet time, awards time. So far it seems Diane prefers a 6:30 dinner time. She and Linda will work out the details.

- Cost to be same as last year: \$15 adults, lower to \$5 for students and kids (hope to make about \$1100 on this event, exclusive of photo and DVD pre-sales).
- There will be a silent auction with items similar to last year.
- Linda says food will be Latin themed

Diane to do a mock up of mug we will sell and price on Shutterfly, etc.

11. Winter Guard Auditions – Marc Brodeur The following points were discussed:

- Auditions will be held on Nov 16 and 19.
- Taking 14-16 students
- Season runs from January to March 31; There will be six performances at various sites; theme discussion in process
- Practices to be held three times per week
- Linda Ho has agreed to coordinate food for the performance dates but will not be at the performances so will need an on-site person to handle

12. Treasurer Report – Joni Kiefer; The following points were discussed:

- We have sold all but six of the stadium seats. Should be a net profit.
- Each family should receive an account statement with their balances for the trip and other band items on the night of the appreciation/awards dinner.
- Janet Yi won the drawing for a \$50 scrip card for purchasing Scrip in Oct.
- Coffee sales—Julia Hayden won for selling the most: \$464 worth! She donates her \$25 scrip card prize back to band.
- Kids are excited about selling See's and candy bars. See's to kick off on November 14th.

13. Other:

- Sue is tracking trip paperwork; most is in now
- Paperwork for Jazz Columbia trip to go out on November 4th
- Diane has preliminary dates for next year's shows

All action items noted in red.

Meeting adjourned at 8:45 p.m. Next meeting, Thursday, December 1st.

