

North Hunterdon Music Association

Meeting Minutes

9/13/2022 at the NHHS Band Room

ATTENDEES

1. Laura Lipinski
2. Anna Shustack
3. Jen Fasciano
4. Karen Smith
5. Joe Komarek
6. Chris Lipinski
7. Kathleen Walton
8. Leila Zengel
9. Katie Cudworth
10. Charlie Hopta
11. Dawn Muir

Note: Motions are highlighted in yellow.

INTRO

- **Open meeting @ 7pm**
 - **Motion by Joe Komarek**
 - **Seconded by Karen Smith**
- All attendees took turns introducing themselves
- **Approval of June 2022 meeting minutes**
 - **Motion by Karen Smith**
 - **Seconded by Dawn Muir**

FACULTY REPORT by Katie Cudworth

- **Musical Theater Masterclass by Bart Shatto**
 - In Nov, he's going to do a masterclass during the school day

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- As a pro performer, he'll give advice & feedback to 4 or 5 kids
- Cost = \$1,000
- Katie asks: does NHMA still have a masterclass budget of \$1K? or can we cover partially? Or should she go to Ed Foundation

- **Regional Choir**
 - Any choral ensemble student can audition & compete against other high school vocalists in our region
 - Look out for an email from Katie with info
 - She's hoping to connect to families who may not know about the program because of pandemic

- **Fundraising Question**
 - Katie asked about fundraising for department trip in the spring
 - NHMA will not give funds directly for trip, but we'll help with fundraisers
 - Wreaths, candles, etc. (Katie desperately wants candles!)
 - Students can choose which to participate in to raise funds
 - Students can also just pay for the trip

- **New Student Welcome Event Question**
 - Laura asked for clarification on who the target is for this event (used to be called Freshman Tea)? New students only? All students?
 - Mrs. Cudworth's answer:
 - It's for parents to understand what NHMA is & put names to faces
 - President introduces herself & explains what we do & why the families should be members
 - Gives new parents (of freshmen or otherwise) a sense of what it will be like to be a music dept. parent (evening events, etc.)
 - Freshman performers can get their feet wet
 - It's great to have upperclassmen join in so the group feels connected
 - "NHMA provides food, here are the officers, etc."
 - Jen F. pointed out that parents who attend this event get to see how GOOD the high school students are

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- Mrs. Cudworth is a little concerned about her freshman choir having to perform to a larger group, including upperclassmen
- Mr. Hopta's take:
 - It's primarily for new students but also thinks all families should consider coming, especially if they're not familiar with the NHMA
 - He has historically recruited band council members to attend, as well
- **Membership Emails**
 - Katie offered to send emails re: membership
 - One email now, two more before end of year
 - Will note that families need to be a member to qualify for scholarships

FACULTY REPORT by Charlie Hopta

- **Marching Band**
 - Season is off to a great start, as are concert band, etc.
 - Looking forward to new student welcome event
 - Honors curriculum is in effect for upperclassmen
 - Marching Band will once again be performing at Columbus Day parade in NYC (10/10/22)
 - We will once again stop at Dave & Buster's for lunch & fun on the way back
 - If we go into the playoffs, we'll need more parent volunteers
 - Clinton Christmas parade is also on the horizon
- **Department Trip to Williamsburg, VA**
 - Aiming for the full dept trip to happen April 20-23, 2023
 - Every ensemble can participate
 - Cost estimate (based on 160 kids) is going for board approval @ Sept meeting
 - Once we get the green light, they'll communicate via an interest meeting
 - If any one performance group has low turnout, they'll be combined with another group

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- The number of kids will determine # of chaperones needed
- Marching band would march in Busch Gardens
- Charlie & Katie would be co-lead chaperones
- They'll know in 2 weeks if it's approved

- **Concert Dates**
 - Dates are in Google classrooms
 - The music dept website has not been updated (many other pages have not been updated either)

- **7th & 8th Grade Band Night**
 - Happening the same night as the Homecoming Pasta Dinner Night
 - Historically, NHMA has given money to PTSA so that every marching band member could have a pasta dinner
 - For 7th & 8th grade band night, NHMA has funded (marching band line item) pizza for middle schoolers in the past
 - Friendly sons of St. Patrick owe us a pizza party (maybe for playoffs vs. 7th/8th grade band night)

CORRESPONDING SECRETARY REPORT by Karen Smith

- Sent thank you to 50/50 winner for donating his winnings back to NHMA

TREASURER REPORT by Jen Fasciano

- **Budget Notes**
 - Budget is mostly the same as last year
 - Big deficit in 2020 but last year we made it up
 - Starting balance = \$8,000
 - We don't carry line items over from year to year
 - Jazz band picnic money was received over the summer, so the expenses don't show on this year's sheet
 - Jen has reimbursement & deposit forms for anyone who buys supplies/items on behalf of NHMA
 - P.O. box costs \$166

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- **Re: Musical Theater Masterclass (introduced by Katie Cudworth)**
 - Should we fund half & ask Ed foundation to fund the other half?
 - They were working on an instrumental masterclass before COVID
 - Laura will follow up with Katie Cudworth
 - **Motion to cover half by Joe Komarek**
 - **Seconded by Karen Smith**

MEMBERSHIP REPORT by Jen Fasciano

- Currently at 36 members
- QR Code
 - It works well for guiding people to membership page, but people aren't following through to PayPal, so Jen has to track them down for payment
 - The process is a bit cumbersome, so we'll think about how to streamline it
- Wait til the new year to mention positions that need help filling

FUNDRAISING REPORT by Chris Lipinski

- **Flower Power**
 - Chris has reached out & will get the ball rolling for holiday fundraising (10/18-12/15)
- **Clothing Drive on 10/29**
 - Facilities requested & approved
 - Parking lot by scoreboard (district office parking lot)
 - Chris will make a flyer
 - This company takes nearly everything, including bikes
 - Same date as Spooktacular, so confirm the location in case there's an overlap
 - Include clothing drive on cheer flyer
- **Amazon Smile**
 - Amazon program where a small % of each purchase made is donated to a charity

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- People just need to set it up once (on their phone app)
- Include the link on emails

- **Stadium Seat Cushions**
 - Jen has about 50 cushions
 - She needs a table to sell them
 - The teachers (Hopta, Boccuti, etc.) can request a table for home games
 - Chris will ask re: tables for NHMA during home games

- **Flapjack Fundraiser**
 - Was going to happen but got canceled (Harper's Table was sold)
 - Tabling that for now

- **Shop-Rite**
 - Generous donations from Shop-Rite
 - Fruit platter, cheese platter, & cupcake platter donated for the New Student Welcome event

- **Fundraising Ideas for Spring Department Trip to Williamsburg, VA**
 - Gift card fundraiser?
 - Raise Right – sell to family members for various stores, restaurants, amazon, etc. (sales will be tracked per student to go toward their fee)
 - Candy?
 - Laura can't find a candy one that will keep track of sales per student
 - Gertrude Hawk doesn't track per student
 - Someone would need to track that

 - We'll keep brainstorming ideas
 - Idea from Joe Komarek
 - We can hold auctions to raise money
 - Teachers could donate an experience with them (could be a lesson or laser tag, mini golf)
 - Could auction front row seats to concerts

OPEN/NEW BUSINESS by Laura Lipinski

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- **Volunteer Status**
 - Away games are tough because we load up the truck while most folks are still at work

- **New Student Welcome**
 - Donations need to be picked up at 5:30pm (event is 6:30pm)
 - Maybe next year, have a new student picnic before school starts

- **Fall Newsletter**
 - Info due 9/30
 - Include updates & events we've got coming up, etc.

- **Columbus Day Parade**
 - Parent volunteers will get figured out by Joe K & Jen P

- **Motion to close meeting: Joe K**
 - **Second Karen Smith**

NEXT MEETING: October 11, 2022