

CBI MEETING MINUTES November 11, 2014

Attendees: Joanna Dietz, Becky Martin, Shawn Barnes, Cindy Schelhorn, David Gerlitz and Katie Pierce.

Meeting started at 7:04pm. October meeting minutes were approved via e-mail and posted on website.

BOOSTER MEMBER UPDATE

To date, 35 families have signed up as Booster members. Joanna sent thank you letters to all members, including those who had previously picked up their thank-you gift. If members selected a Chorale magnet or t-shirt, gifts will be sent after Spirit Wear orders are received.

MIXER / SPIRIT NIGHT

January looks to be best month for Choir Spirit Night and it is close to last trip payment. CBI will consider options for the funds raised, including, but not limited to, dividing it equally between all students going to Orlando, trip scholarships, etc. Shawn recommended making electronic list of restaurant options for CBI Board to vote on. Want to decide by end of November and get selected restaurant/date on CBI calendar. Suggestions for restaurants to contact include, but are not limited to:

- Santini's NY Deli
- Potbelly's
- Restaurants that support Bulldog BBQ (Moe's, Brick's Pizza, Texas Roadhouse, Chick-fil-A)

BUDDY PROGRAM

Katie spent 2 days at Rachel Carson and one day at Stone. Response from middle schoolers has been very positive. Need to schedule a day at Rocky Run and another day at Stone. Rachel Carson (RC) had 7 students sign up after first visit, quite a few from Stone. Total number is TBD as students can sign up on Google form as well. WHS students signed up on volunteer basis. Pairing will be one Senior, one Freshman and a buddy. Katie will make every effort to match students with similar interests stated on form (Show Choir, District Choir, a capella, etc). Seniors are excited. Katie is working with Amy Moyer at RC and their fledgling men's chorus, trying to encourage boys to keep singing. Ideas include:

- MS boys would learn "Grinch" and join all WHS men at Candlelight Concert
- WHS guys would go to RC winter concert (12/9) if possible
- WHS, MS and elementary boys would join Stone's choir at MLK Festival (Sunday, 1/18, time TBD). Steve Kogut is coordinating and trying to make it a multi-generational event.
- Franklin and Rocky Run winter concert dates will be added to our calendar when available.

Katie will email all Buddy Program students prior to Candlelight Concert encouraging theme to ask their buddy if there is something they want to know. WHS students will write buddy a letter and send wristband.

CHOIR FOR A NIGHT

Date set for December 12 in Choir Room. It will start after school ends for Buddies and simulate a year in choir (social & instructional). Students will learn "Believe" for Candlelight Concert and participate in possible Secret Santa exchange during dinner. CBI will provide pizza/drinks and will add volunteer times for chaperones in Charms as details are finalized.

PARENT MENTORS

All agreed that focus should be on Buddy Program this year. We will work to integrate parents more fully into WHS choral program next year after active presence in middle school programs is established this

year. CBI will keep monitoring Personal Finance class registration periods and alert middle school/WHS parents to options so that it does not have to replace fine arts class.

FUNDRAISERS

Thanks to Mary Roney for coordinating the pie sales. Trying to fill one late order with extra pies included with orders. Profits from pie sale were \$769 and \$1135 from Claire's Gourmet sales and have been updated in Charms. Jennie Joiner has agreed to be Cookie Dough Sales Coordinator. Prior to submitting the order online, another person will double-check the data entry. Joanna and Katie are talking with Chuck Batt, pie/cookie dough supplier, about his fundraiser which is similar to Claire's but profit margin is better and all items on one brochure. Claire's was not as easy to work with this year. Decision will be made this spring.

FINANCES

Shawn provided summary of activity (deposits/checks) for each account. He will review bank statements for current fiscal year to make sure PNC/Charms accounts balance. Annual insurance is paid and CBI taxes will be filed by 11/15. Tag Day participation numbers should be finalized soon as Symphony enrollment is set. Dr. Ulrich received replacement honorarium check for Atlanta workshop.

DISNEY TRIP

To date, 75 students are registered with 17 scholarship applications. Trip will go as planned even if some students have to withdraw. Orlando trip is most expensive during student's 4 years in choir. CBI will consider advancing 2016 trip scholarship budget amount to 2015. Next year's trip could be closer to home, less expensive (under \$400), and scholarships might not be needed. Cindy suggested contacting select businesses to see if they would donate, saying CBI would match donations dollar-for-dollar. TASC will donate \$500 to choir program and CBI has designated it for trip scholarships. Shawn volunteered to draft letter and work with Cindy and Joanna to finalize it. Businesses to consider include, but are not limited to:

- VA Dominion Power
- NOVEC
- Car Dealerships near WHS

All Show Choir students are planning to go to Disney and compete. All other choir ensembles will participate in workshops. Seven choir students are in multiple programs (Choir/Orchestra, Choir/Band, etc.) and traveling with other group. Some may elect to join choir for workshop if timing works and will pay for that ticket. Registrations are:

- Band—180
- Choir—75
- Orchestra—45
- Theatre & Guitar combined—50

Trip scholarship review process:

- Katie will black out names on essays and suggest meeting date/time
- CBI Board will meet to decide full/partial/maybe scholarships based on essay and contributions to choir program
- Number of trip scholarships awarded will be reported at January CBI meeting.

SHOW CHOIR

Katie is working with other schools with similar level/type of show choirs to set up a countywide event.

COMMUNITY OUTREACH

- Chamber Singers and Bel Canto participated in TASC Veterans Day ceremony. TASC was acquired by other business but it is hopeful this partnership will continue. Having one TASC contact streamlined communication. It is possible students will be invited to carol there.

- Grace Covenant invited students to participate in multi-denominational concert/craft fair in December. Students involved to be determined by time of event. A \$250 donation is possible as recognition of students' contribution to event.
- Cindy recommended contacting civic groups (Civitan, Lion's Club, Rotary Club) as they have discretionary funds and could provide awareness of scholarship programs for seniors.
- Katie is investigating other caroling opportunities. Forward all suggestions and contacts to Katie for next year's planning purposes.
 - Cindy will check with shopping center marketing departments
 - National Harbor event is filled this year
 - National Christmas Tree Lighting
 - Zoo Lights
 - Bull Run Lights
- Cindy will check on contact for Spotlight on the Arts (weekend performances in Fairfax City)
- Waiting for WHS approval for field trip to MVLE (work program for adults w/developmental disabilities) during school day. Went 2 years ago but not sure if it will work this year.
- Suggestion was made to include pictures of choral students at community events (TASC, etc.) in weekly e-mail and post on choral department Facebook page and Twitter.

CANDLELIGHT CONCERT

CBI will collect donations for Hanley House with "Winter White" theme. Hanley House has benefitted last 2 years and we will continue this partnership. Katie will contact HH Director to confirm donation list and delivery date. Cindy will contact FCPS media department for possible publicity opportunity.

PIANO

CBI is looking for an electronic piano to use at sectional rehearsals and community performances. Becky found one at Costco but it was not portable. A weighted, 88-key keyboard and sturdy, but not heavy, case are priorities. CBI has identified certain audio equipment to be purchased this year and Shawn believes the CBI has enough funds in a Capitol Expense—Equipment budget for these items as well as the piano/case. Becky will continue to look for options and present at a future meeting.

CBI SCHOLARSHIP PROGRAM

The Scholarship Committee is comprised of 5 CBI parents of underclassman choir students (no parent of a senior student may be involved). Cindy has one parent confirmed and one possible candidate. If you are interested in volunteering on this committee, please contact Cindy Schelhorn. If you know of someone who might be interested, please forward suggestions to Cindy.

CHORALE SASHES

Katie and Joanna identified Etsy supplier to create florets for Chorale sashes. Each sash will have 3 florets attached to yellow sashes from different online vendor. The yellow sash will complement men's striped tie. Each sash/floret will cost approx.. \$7. As with all sashes, CBI will own sashes. Students will be assigned one for the year and it must be returned in good condition or student will be billed a replacement cost.

Meeting adjourned at 8:13pm.

Upcoming Dates

12/4	Stone MS Choir Concert	12/16	Candlelight Concert
12/4	Rocky Run MS Choir Concert	TBD	Franklin Farm MS Choir Concert
12/9	Rachel Carson MS Choir Concert	1/18	MLK Festival performance (tentative)
12/12	Choir for a Night		