

Ridge Point Band Boosters
Monthly Board Meeting – 09/09/19 @ 6:30 PM

MINUTES

Board Present:

President: Rachel Wallace
Vice President: Tracy Alexander
Treasurer: Nisha Shah
Asst. Treasurer: Simonette Wolf
Communications Director: Stephanie Peitsch
Member At Large: Eileen McGrath
Member At Large: Steve Shafley
Parliamentarian: Michael Beckelman

Board not available:

Secretary: Michelle Reuben

Band Directors:

Luis Saldana, Will Burson

Other Attendees:

Vanessa Santiago, Monica Ray, Jennifer Beckelman, Lila Sly, Kristie Price, Carolyn Mathews- Borak, Alka Parekh, Jennifer Major, Mary Mauricio, Frank Mauricio, Thomas Blanchard, Beatriz Elizondo, Brenda Prezas, Roland Prezas, Nick Di Paola, Linda Di Paola, Heather Sanderson, Brian Sly, Kim Hinojosa, Heather Bright, Cora Davis, David Glenn

Call to Order (Wallace)

Board President (Wallace) called meeting to order at 06:37 p.m.

- Approval of Previous Meeting Minutes – 8/6/2019 meeting

Rachel Wallace proposed approval of the previous minutes. Michael Beckelman motioned to accept the minutes. Stephanie Peitsch seconded the motion. Motion passed.

BOARD REPORTS

Directors Report (Saldana/Burson/Banos/Roberson)

- MacBook –returned—not stolen. Found in Orchestra room, on a chair, in a bag. Will now be kept under lock and key in Saldana’s office. Can also be located using Find My iPhone app. Mr. Banos, Mr. Saldana and Rachel Wallace will have the Mac password.
- Mr. Beno Morris visit—need payment approval (details below under treasurers). Mr. Morris will help set up the marching band’s audio equipment for the show.
- BOA Waco Trip—discussion / presentation of costs over budgeted amount

Concerns discussed regarding BOA:

- Per Saldana, FBISD will only cover the cost of the trailer if the trip is within 100 miles. Saldana will ask district if they will cover at least 1/3 or ½ of cost, but he thinks this will most likely not happen.
- Saldana gave an overview of what Bands of America (BOA) is, where BOA is held, registration and contest rules, schedules and how it compares to other marching contests like US Bands.

- Questions were also raised about where money to pay for BOA is from (registration fee is part of the budget + additional \$40/person for the bus fees).
When budget was created in April, Booster was not aware that RPHS had a block time of 7- 8 am at the competition and only prepared the budget as a day trip, not as an overnight trip. Also, since Disney trip is happening this year, an added expense for BOA will not be feasible for other parents.
- BOA trip will be \$4000 over budget if it was to push through.
- Band parents concerned for the safety of the kids traveling at 2 am and then driving back to Houston past midnight, fatigue, utilizing school buses instead of charter buses for the almost 4 hour trip (two way), extra cost/ expenses for meals and snacks, hotel room expenses for the bus drivers so they can rest, as well as logistics.
- Will revisit BOA plans next school year. \$40 fees that were previously collected will be reapplied to next year's fees or reimbursed at end of the year. BOA fees will be forfeited. Saldana will update calendar to remove BOA schedule.

President (Wallace)—

- Wrapping up Dining Card Sales—sold \$17,280 so far; 14 number of students earned \$50 gift cards, 10 earned \$10 gift cards (\$800 in prizes). With expenses and prizes taken out, we've made \$16,231.85 so far. Still hoping to get a few more sales in. Sold 864 of the 1000 Dining Cards.
Stephanie has started advertising again to sell last remaining cards. Wallace said that for next year, she will really encourage parents to participate in fundraising efforts.
- Panoramic Picture scheduled for Sat. 9/28, at approx. 12:45pm before Kempner game; rehearsal will be at 2pm.
- Update—for Cluster Concert on March 24, we will NOT pay judges; pre-UIL for Symphonic is 3/26 and for Wind Ensemble 3/30; instead the Cluster Concert will be just an opportunity to practice/ get together w Bands.
Will save the money set aside for the judges instead.
- UIL Contest on Tues. Oct. 22 (rainout date, Wed. Oct. 23) at Hall—will need volunteers to work in shifts—great source of extra \$\$ for our efforts! Will put out SUG in October
Volunteer positions like greeters, traffic guides, ticket checkers, etc. will be needed. RPHS Band will once again "host" the UIL this year at Hall Stadium.
- Tracking software to be added to MacBook; locks to be added to Trailer and Storage Units (2) to keep non-band kids and others out—protecting our investments. Chris Stephens offered to help us with the tracking device/ software for the Mac.
Will try to install tracking device after getting MacBook back from Mr. Morris following Friday's game 09/13/19.

Vice President (Alexander)

- Pizza Sales a success, with seven more weeks of sales to go. Papa John's Pizza still a hit despite cafeteria selling Domino's pizza on some days.
- Disney – family opportunities available until Oct. 1.
Parents reminded that any student staying an extra day in Disney will be marked down for unexcused absence (this also applies to siblings who will go to Disney, but is not a member of the band).
- Banquet/Rock-In Scheduled for Friday, April 24—will be looking for Banquet Chair/Co-Chairs to head this up.
Theme for Banquet not decided yet. Wallace gave an overview of what Banquet is for new Band parents.
- Since Stadium rehearsal has been scheduled for Tue, 09/10, Saldana agreed to change practice date back from Fri 09/20 to Thurs 09/19 for a longer weekend off for the kids.
- Saldana also wanted to propose that for next year, if students have a 4- day school week with a football game - to have 2 long/extended rehearsal days (still within UIL rules) instead of 3 rehearsal days to allow the kids a day off.
- Concerns were also raised regarding band students being excused/ missing last class period for stadium rehearsal Tue 09/10/19.

Treasurers Report (Shah/Wolf)

Internal audit report is now available if anyone wants to see it and filed with Fort Bend as per Nisha Shah.

Financial Review

- Financial statements as of June/July /August 2019
- Working on collecting overdue amounts

Check approvals--

New Checks

- Payment needed for Beno Morris, for flights for audio setup, not to exceed \$311. In budget. Tracy Alexander motioned to approve check. Steve Shafley seconded the motion. Motion passed.
- Payment needed for Beno Morris, for Show Audio Engineering; not to exceed \$750. In budget, but over \$500. Steve Shafley motioned to approve check. Tracy Alexander seconded the motion. Motion passed.
- Payment needed for Houston Pizza Venture for 7 weeks in October and November for pizzas purchased during pizza sales. The amount will not exceed \$1,450 per week the sales take place. This covers 200 pizzas and tip. The payments are made bi-weekly so each check will not exceed \$2,900. Steve Shafley motioned to approve check. Nisha Shah seconded the motion. Motion passed.

Under Incidentals Budget: Check to be given to Mr. Morris to purchase cables for the show sound system from Guitar Center (parent company to Music and Arts) for \$119.86 as requested by Saldana.

E- Motions to Ratify- September 2019 Board Meeting

- Passed 8/19/19. This covers 4 Educator Licenses for Smart Music. Three for Directors and the fourth for the private lesson staff in amount of \$160. Will use money from Drum Major Camp to cover this cost
- Passed 8/20/19. Payment to Sacramento Mandarins for Yamaha Mixer \$1,957.50. **** Mr. Saldana agrees to cover this amount from his district budget payable to Andrew Toth.
- Passed 8/20/19. Payment to Sara Solomonson \$575 for graphic design fees on tarps and flags.
- Passed 8/20/19. Payment to Osman Hance \$1,000 for professional fees in percussion (battery arrangement).
- Passed 08/20/19. Purchase of 8 additional UDB app licenses for the directors and percussion/guard techs. Total for 156 students and additional staff is \$1689.20. Original budget amount \$1,600 *** Need to adjust. Actual cost \$1,640 for 164 licenses ordered.
- Passed 8/22/19. Payments to Houston Pizza Venture in August and September for pizzas purchased during pizza sales. The amount will not exceed \$1,450 per week the sales take place. This covers 200 pizzas and tip. The payments are made bi-weekly so each check will not exceed \$2,900.
- Passed 08/26/19. Future payment to Christy Stephens of Trouville Meetings and Events as reimbursement. She will be paying the deposit required to secure flight on Southwest Airlines for our Disney trip in January. This amount will not exceed \$6,950 and check payment will come out of Disney fund.
- Passed 8/29/19. Payments to Tote Unlimited- \$2,586.87 for 65 pairs marching shoes.
- Passed 8/29/19. Payment to Texas Color Guard Circuit - \$600 for indoor percussion registration.
- Passed 8/29/19. Payment to Leonetti Graphics- \$1,390 for Band and Guard show shirts/proud sponsor shirts, caps and mom shirts.
- Passed 09/03/19. Reimbursement to Rachel Wallace for purchase of 35 pairs of dance shoes for guard from McCormick's. Total cost with shipping \$1,045.86.
- Passed 9/3/19. Payment to the Perfect Shirt for \$584.00 for alterations of 73 pairs of pants.
- Passed 09/06/19 Reimbursement to Rachel Wallace \$595.20 for purchase of corporate sponsor plaques and gift cards used as prizes for dining card fundraiser.
- Passed 9/6/19. Payment to Leonetti Graphics, Inc. - \$3110 for 2019-20 Fan shirts and embroidered polos.

Tracy Alexander motioned to ratify all the e-motions. Stephanie Peitsch seconded the motion. The motion was approved.

Communications Report (Peitsch) –

- Emails need to be answered within 48 hours- Saldana agreed
- itineraries needed two weeks in advance- Saldana agreed
- Charms needs to reflect real times/changes almost immediately—students and parents are not getting correct information there when we are told to use Charms- Saldana aware
- RP SOLO Results—Told in May 2019 that we would be receiving results and still no results. Scheduled for May 7 this year (rain makeup May 9)—what about kids who paid and didn't even get to "submit" their solo? Per Mr. Saldana, not all results are in yet, but should be available soon.

Parliamentarian (Beckelman) –

Playing at the Game/Hyping up the Crowd—more "fun" crowd friendly songs—although we are preparing for UIL/Marching Season, our purpose is also to be the "fun" at the game for our team and fans! "O" not being allowed yet—the fans miss it! Criticism on social media, complaints from Royals, Cheerleaders, students, fans... (Supposedly band is not playing enough during the game).

Drumline playing for the student section to hype them up at the start of the 3rd quarter, so band can't play without the drumline.

Secretary (Ruben) – none

Member-at-Large (McGrath/Shafley) – none

COMMITTEE REPORTS:

Merchandise—Merchandise sales to happen at Hall and Mercer games—9/28, 10/11 (HOCO), 10/17, 10/25.

All merchandise have been ordered. More long sleeved items for purchase coming in the fall/winter.

Meals—Itineraries needed to plan for food vendors at least 2 weeks out (times at least)

Fundraising—Chipotle Night, Saturday, 9/14 and MOD Pizza Challenge Night—Wednesday, 9/18.

Parents informed by Peitsch that Chipotle would have to make \$300 total or more in sales first on the 09/14 fundraiser before 33% of proceeds go to the Band. She was urged to put this information out so more people will come to Chipotle on 09/14.

ADJOURNMENT – meeting adjourned at 08:07 pm

Next Board Meeting scheduled for Tuesday, October 1, 2019 –will be rescheduled for Oct. 2 or 7; TBD, at 6:30pm in Band Hall.

Minutes typed by: Vanessa Santiago

President: _____


Rachel Wallace