

Prairie Music Association

January 10, 2012

Meeting Minutes

The meeting was called to order by Amy Ganske at 7:00 pm.

**In attendance:** Craig Aune, Kathy Crouse, Mike Davies, Julie Farmer, Amy Ganske, Deron Jimmerson, Kathy Knutson, Michelle Krapfl, Sharon Langenberg, Kendra Purscell, Brian Revers, Justin Sands, Marija Santos, Chad Smale, Sondra Smale, Kim Smith, Amy Williams.

Minutes of November 15, 2011 approved.

**President's Report:**

1. Amy Ganske reported that Kathy Crouse has volunteered to be on the (district-wide) committee that is searching for our schools' new superintendent. Richard Whitehead will be retiring this June. Please let Kathy know if there is anything you'd like to be addressed to the search committee.

**Treasurer's Report:**

1. Kim Smith passed out latest reports to PMA board via email. Reports were reviewed and discussed. Suggestion was raised to prepare budgets in the future for events such as BAP, Fab Five, etc.

**Patron's Report:**

1. Sharon Langenberg reported that there are currently 72 patrons the 2011-2012 school year. There is currently \$4,324 in patronage funds. Marija Santos keeps our patron list updated on PrairieMusic.com. Mentioning our patronage program at music concerts does help and is greatly appreciated. The holiday cookie sale (193 dozen!) raised \$1,000.

**Volunteer Report:**

1. Kathy Crouse reported that she is continuing to gather volunteers for future PMA events.

**High School Band Directors Report:**

1. Craig Aune went over the new band department posters that reflect their various instrumental groups during recent performances. They are beautifully done. A copy of these posters is being given to Prairie Point's 9th grade band department to garner excitement about the high school's instrumental opportunities. Next school year's band events are already planned. Kudos from Amy Ganske for band performances at high school basketball games.

2. Deron Jimmerson expanded upon this, reporting that they have received many notes of appreciation regarding their performance at games as it really fires up the players and fans! Deron also noted that State Band Festival happening at end of this month.

**High School Choir Directors Report:**

1. Justin Sands reported that their holiday concerts went great! Many notes of appreciation were received for Chamber Choir's performances at Mercy Hospital and YellowBook, Concert Chorale's performance at the Cedar Rapids Airport. Justin also reported that show choirs' performances in

Viterbo, WI went well, with Focal Point winning first place and Ambassadors winning fifth place. This was a very tough competition with nationally ranked choirs so our Prairie kids did an awesome job! Ambassadors travel to Gretna, NE for next competition.

**Prairie Point Band Directors Report:**

1. Mike Davies reported that they have had visiting educators for band instruction. This is a valuable learning tool for students. Winter concert for 7th and 8th grade band will be held on January 24th. Concert for 9th grade band will be on February 9th.

**Prairie Point, Prairie Creek Choir Directors Report:**

1. Kendra Purscell reported that preparation for the upcoming musicals, "A Pocket Full of Rhymes" and "Happy Days" is going well. Also discussed upcoming events.

**Prairie Creek Band Directors Report:**

1. Amy Williams reported on highlights from past band performances. Many congratulations to Wendy Morton, Creek band director as being named the Northeast Iowa Bandmasters Association's Phillip Sehnemann Excellence in Teaching award winner! Selected 6th graders will perform in Marion Honor Band performance on January 21st. Creek honor band of selected 5th and 6th graders will perform in late February. Better participation overall by students this year.

**Upcoming/Important Dates:**

1. Show Choir Festival of January 17th – Sondra Smale reported that she has sufficient volunteer help.
2. Fruit and Candy Sale – Kathy Knutson reported that packets will be prepped and ready to distribute to music directors on January 23rd. Event continues until February 6th. Discussed volunteer needs for prepping of packets, money counting and pick up dates.
3. Fab Five of February 4th – Amy Ganske and Sondra Smale reported that upon our choir directors' approval, a letter for participating schools' choir directors will be sent next week. Volunteers for the event and to provide baked goods are still needed.
4. Band/Choir trip from March 1st to March 5th – Parent/student meeting scheduled for February 12, 2012.
5. Curtain Call of March 30th – Sharon Langenberg reported that invitations are going out March 1st. Reception to again be held during intermission, discussed ways to prompt attendees to return to their seats. Thought of ways to recognize families of senior students.

Meeting adjourned at 8:00 pm.

Next Prairie Music Association meeting scheduled for February 7, 2012.