

Archbishop Ryan Band Parent's Association

Meeting Minutes

Date: August 11, 2009

In attendance: Brian Agger, Joseph Amado, Maria Amado, MaryAnn Blohm, P and C Zanoft, Dave and Suzanne Harvey, Bob and Chris Jenkins, Steve Kates, Mary Shore, Joe and Kristien Mc Crosson, Julio and Myriam Meneses, Christine Slegel, Chris Sides, Mike and Debbie Suwala, Cindy Tracey, Paul and Vickie Walush and Mark and Dawn Wilson.

Materials Given Out: Financial Report 2009, Craft Show Letter and Parent Volunteer Form

Chris Sides asks everyone to sign in because, every year we raffle off two tickets to Hershey including bus tickets after you have been to three parents meeting for the season. We didn't have enough seats filled last year and lost money on that and we may not have a bus but will discuss that as time goes on at a future meeting.

Chris Sides introduces himself as the President of the Archbishop Ryan Marching Band Parents Association, (that's the official name), also known as ARIMBA. What we do is we raise money to help with the expense of the band fee. We help them at their competitions. We help them get on and off the field, chaperone them on their school bus to and from these competitions, we are their right hand. When they are here for marching band we are here with them. So what we do is raise money to help them with what they need. The school has a limited budget that they give to the band and we raise money to help with what is needed after that.

Chris introduces the rest of the board: Christine Slegel, Vice President, Michael and Debbie Suwala, co-Secretaries, and Maria Amado, Treasurer.

The need for new parents to get involved was expressed. We are a great bunch of parents that only want to do the best we can for our kids. Volunteering if anyone can do it is needed and appreciated.

Chris expresses that we don't want parent's money. We want their help in getting other people's money. We have three fundraisers: Flea Market, Craft Show and Turkey Bingo. Former president, Cindy Tracey is introduced; she is the co-chair along with Sheryl Davish for the Flea Market and Craft Show. She explains that the flea market is 15.00 for a space. The signup sheets are on the table. The time is 7:00am till 1:00pm. She asked for volunteers. But if you cannot be at the flea market, she asked if you could donate baked goods or cases of soda to sell. We can make more money on selling concessions because we would have less money to put out for if food was donated.

Craft Show is October 3, 2009. We are off to a good start. We have about 13-15 crafters already. Sheryl is more involved because she did it last year. There is a letter and a sign up form for any crafter. It needs to be a homemade craft. Nothing out of a catalog. Concessions are also sold that day. Baked

goods are also needed for the craft show too. SAT's are on that day so we sell a lot to the kids that take the test that day. There is a set up the night before. That day we need set up and clean up. That particular day is busy. There is a football game and a competition later that night. She needs people for both clean up and set up. Popcorn bags and pretzels will be sold. Letters were sent to Tastykake and WAWA for donations.

We have a candle sale during the fall. We sell Mountain Home Candles. They cost us 7.00 each. We sell them for 12.00 (making a profit of 5.00 for each candle). We are also going to be doing a coin collection outside of Acme on Red Lion Rd. and Northeast Ave. Magnets are for sale as well.

Turkey Bingo is our fundraiser in November. Maria runs that fundraiser. She just asked that at Turkey Bingo they raffle off tickets for baskets. Anyone who wants to donate a basket may. It can be any kind of basket. Example—Movie night, Bath and body etc.

Chris mentioned the volunteer form which has phone numbers and list of items to volunteer for. We understand that not everyone can volunteer but if you can please do so. We need phone numbers just in case something changes last minute. We do have a lot of families that help out but eventually they leave so we need as much help as possible.

Website is the first place to go for information. ARBandParents.com is the website. Email seems to be easier to get in touch rather than the phone. If any questions ask, please don't hesitate. Website has the most information. It has a calendar of events. The competition times, dates and also directions to the competitions are on it. There is also a link to the school. The band alumni also has a website.

Anyone who has questions please don't hesitate to contact one of the board members.

We have to load equipment for all competitions and games.

Fees for marching band

--Fee is 225.00. Parents group is paying 50.00 each member and alumni paying 50.00 for each member. Your fee has been brought down to 125.00. Fundraising is very important for this reason.

Maureen explained what is involved in chaperoning the events. Usually 4 parents are needed to chaperone. For parades, three are needed. Make sure the kids look good. One benefit to chaperoning and handling is that at the competitions you don't pay the admission.

Friday night is pizza night. Please bring dessert if you can.

Paul and Vicki Walush were introduced. They take care of the concessions. If there is any allergy to any food products please let us know. If any child doesn't like meat please let her Paul or Vicki Walush know because of feeding them before competitions when they have a football game before.

Questions about how long the competitions were, was answered. The kids go together on the bus and come home together on the bus. Handlers load before and after game and then before and after competition. Car pooling recommended for the competitions.

Chris introduced Brian Agger- he has been pleased with their progress this week. The kids need to be commended. We are in the Independence Division. Practice still needs to be done. School will be starting soon and a lot is being thrown out at them, especially the freshman. The theme is kind of a Halloween theme. The theme is Who is afraid of the dark? Music is Danny Elfman, the nightmare before Christmas, Beetle juice and Edward Scissor hands. The music is familiar to the kids. They identify with it and they are enjoying playing it. There will be band members coming out with capes and props will be cemetery plots on the field.

Black pants have been purchased by the alumni. Black on the field makes everyone look uniformed. It does hide mistakes. The kids are getting fitted today. Pants were purchased from West Chester University used at 15.00 a pair. They are in great shape.

Black shoes are needed to go with the black pants. Brian quoted the price of the shoes to about 25.00 a pair. Trying to offset the cost with our coining collecting.

Pictures will be taken on Friday the 14th. Adjustments are needed to some of the pants. Medical forms need to be filled out. The kids will be bringing that home Friday. Brian's goal is to have the 1st and 2nd number completed before Labor Day. A preview night will be set but hasn't been at this point yet.

Bob O'Brien was introduced. He is the vice president of the alumni band association. He explained the scholarships available to cover the music fees. One is the incoming freshman and the other is for the sophomores, juniors and seniors. He explained that they may have another one but not sure of that yet. For the kids to be considered there is a process for them to go through. Instead of the essay like last year they are going to be presented with a list of questions which will happen on August 27th. They will be asking them questions about music. They will pick the best two, one freshman and one upper classman.

Chris mentioned that the fee for the shoes can be lowered with the fundraisers. Our hope is that we can cover the cost of the shoes. Tour shirts will be available for this year. Parents association pays for the shirts.