

NATION FORD BAND BOOSTER CLUB
MINUTES OF MEETING held on 24th November 2008

The meeting was called to order at 7:30 p.m.

Jamie said how he appreciated everyone coming out on a cold, rainy night.

The October Minutes were approved.

Financial Report

These figures do not include money from the Oyster Roast or the fruit sale. Verizon funds have been included and band fees are included. Band fees are still outstanding from past year and this year, unfortunately. The outstanding amount is \$12,000. Our first course of action is the executive secretary sends a letter, then Mr. Dickey sends a letter, then we can have our CPA people send one out, and one on school letterhead from the school bookkeeper. We make a payment plan for those people who owe. This is actually quite typical. There are only a few cases of people who have paid nothing at all. The Financial Report was approved.

President's Report

Jamie reported that we have had a good fall. We've had lots of fun and the kids have done great. We are very proud of the students. The whole district band program has done really well this season. Tell your kids how proud you are of them. Their hours of work have paid off.

Vice President's Report

We made it through. The Verizon figures @ 11/21: at the 26 concerts NF worked more hours than FM. Our goal was \$12,820, but we actually made \$23,000!! This outcome reflects everyone's efforts. The e-mails persuaded lots of people to come out and volunteer. Many thanks to all our volunteers.

We are currently researching an opportunity to work at Carowinds. We would have to work wherever they assign us – inside or out – and in any type of weather. However, this is an opportunity for those who do not want to drive out to Verizon. We are also investigating the Bobcats Arena. The registers are easier, and it's easier to get to. Verizon is also looking to install cash registers. Levis who work Bobcats do not require TIPS training – another bonus. There are different packages available. We would only work because they have a manager and depending on the stand, a chef also. These would offer extra opportunities for some people to earn points.

Band Director's Report

Winter guard: we are trying to keep the budget down by attending nearby competitions. It costs \$1,000 per kid to operate the band program although the kids are not charged \$1,000 each to belong to the program because their expenses are offset by fundraisers. We would like to go to

other competitions without raising fees. We need to look at the whole picture – every student, not just individuals.

Mr. Dickey told the meeting that he attended a meeting last Tuesday morning at the district office to answer questions regarding honors credit for juniors and seniors. The Fine Arts Department was the only one without an honors course. He was pleased to report that the proposal passed with unanimous vote. Mr. Dickey was also proud to report that he is now a National Board Certified teacher. Well done!!

On the question of uniforms: NF is owed 50 uniforms. The superintendent has approved these and the order has been confirmed. These will come out of the capital funds. (FM uniforms are 13 years old. Hopefully they will be able to purchase new ones for the 2009 fall season.)

The Percussion Ensemble had a meeting today at FMHS. There were 20 kids present. MD would like to see more NF students. The students will be combined NF and FM members due to numbers. This may change next year. The students are excited. They have lots of music. It will be a marching show.

Winter Guard is split this year. 18 students are involved.

Fees for participation are: \$525 for guard and \$625 for percussion.

The Christmas Parade will be on 6th December at 11 a.m.

The Winter Concert will be on Monday, December 15th.

Region band auditions will be held on January 10th.

Committees

Fruit Sale: Linda Tennant reported that this has gone very smoothly. NF had 45% of sales. We've had strong parental support. NF sold more volume than FM. 59 students sold 445 boxes at NF for a total sum of \$9,028. \$4500 = profit. We had a lot of internet sales. (At FM there were 79 students who sold 304 boxes)

We need volunteers for delivery 9 am on Friday (e-mail will go out).

6-8 pm distribution - we need 6-8 people (students are always welcome!)

10 am-4pm on Saturday - we need helpers for distribution

The storage barn is behind the bus parking lot at FM. We will need someone to direct traffic!

There are some extra boxes available – contact Chris

The meeting suggested that we need to get the information out earlier next year. The meeting noted that there was nobody to head up this effort so Chris took on the task once again!! We will need to find someone to drive the forklift because Jim Grumbles is no longer available.

If there is any fruit left after Saturday's collection we could try to sell it after the concert on the 15th and split the profits. We could even try to sell some after the middle school concerts.

Oyster Roast: Jamie wanted to thank everyone for their help – ticket sales, working on the night. We had lots of fun. The DJ was great. We ran out of barbecue. We sold 60lbs! We also ran out of hot dogs. We had some oysters left over. A big thanks to Larry and his dad for driving to Mt. Pleasant, and for cooking. The fried oysters were a hit. Next March we will have some oysters set aside specially for Bill Pace! He raised \$65. We made right around \$3500 profit. This event is well worth doing for that amount of money. We split that profit with FM. Points were assigned for ticket sales. March 14th is Oyster Roast and Silent Auction. The Field Trial Barn has already been reserved.

Programs

Mr. Dickey is currently proofreading the NF scrapbook. FM's will be ready tomorrow. They will be ready by the Winter Concert on December 15th. They will be black/white and will sell for \$5. We need volunteers to put the books together – please contact Michelle Henderson or Susan Mize.

Other Business

Senior night: We have had positive feedback on this event. Things were done differently, and the principal was involved. Vicky Niedermeier reported that the principal was on the field (Mr. Dickey noted this was the first time this has happened). She shook everyone's hand, presented every mother with a rose, and photographs were taken. Steve Turner also added a personal touch by making announcements based on the personal information each student provided regarding his/her number of years in the band. He did a great job of introducing every student and chaperone. Thanks Steve!

Band party: Once again positive feedback on this event (despite the change in venue due to horrendous weather). We had a great turnout – about 150 students. The kids had a great time. There was lots of food and plenty of dancing. The event turned out really well. Connie said thank you very much to the booster club for organizing it.

Pit crew cookbook: The door is open if we want to put one together. Peggy Gray will head this up.

Need for space and decibel level in the Band Room: A note has already been sent into the superintendent. Mr. Dickey has to practice on the stage every day due to these issues. Jamie attended a strategic planning meeting with all principals and the administration; however, things are tough due to lack of state funds. In addition we have two new schools coming on board next year. There may be funding available, but we will have to wait and see. Fortunately, we do have good support on the school board for the band program.

Local Community Arts Program: Jamie is working with the arts commission regarding holding events in our auditorium. Jamie has been looking at the Clover High School program. Perhaps we could have a musical performing arts season and use both auditoriums at NF and FM. We could host small musical acts and sell tickets to watch them here rather than going to Charlotte. It would help our kids and our program.

Spring Fest May 2nd: this will be expanded. We will have wings, pickles, and okra as before, and we will add funnel cakes and fried snickers.

New Business

In January the Boards of both booster clubs will meet separately.

There will be no meetings in December.

The next meeting will be on 26th January.

The meeting was adjourned at 8:37 p.m.

Minutes Respectfully Submitted by

Susan Longfield