

PIONEER BAND ASSOCIATION GENERAL MEETING

November 15, 2016

PRESENT: David Leach, Nancy Waring, Mary Beth Damm, Stacey Pakela, Amy Higgins, Sarah Boylan, Chris Miller, Cathy Miller, Kathleen Garvey, Pat Blackwell, Monica Turenne, Laura Stubbs, Terry Haley, Jennifer Bruey, Yung Hwang, Jennifer Nelson-Davis

WELCOME/INTRODUCTIONS Mary Beth Damm

· Most of the agenda today relates to Solo and Ensemble (Jan. 28 and Feb. 4) and to Gala (Feb. 10) as planning for both events is underway and large numbers of volunteers and many volunteer hours go into both of these events.

DIRECTORS:

Marching season has ended, and concert music has begun. Dave shared a preview of music for the December 12 Winter concert, including a composition John Stout wrote for the Centennial of the Ann Arbor HS bands. John Stout is gravely ill, and Dave asks our prayers and support for him and Gail Stout a former PBA president and dear friend of Pioneer Bands.

Jazz Band news and events upcoming – The Jazz band is sounding great! We have a singer! Please come and bring friends to these events:

Cliff Bell's in Detroit on **November 28, at 7 pm**

Tonight We Swing Jazz Concert **Thursday, Dec. 8 at 7pm** in Schreiber – MSU's Be-Bop Spartans and guest musician Rufus Reid will visit, workshop, dine and perform with our Jazz band.

Community HS Jazz band and Sean Dobbins' group from the Southeastern Music Assoc. will also play. This event is FREE! Get

Southeastern Music Assoc. will also play. THIS EVENT IS FREE. Get the word out.

Dec. 14-17, Nancy and Dave will attend the Midwest Music Conference (MMC) in Chicago, and they are grateful that PBA pays for them to attend this amazing conference where they discover new charts, teach and learn from other band educators, network, and find out about future tour options.

Symphony band and Chair auditions for Symphony and for Concert band purple and Concert band white are done, and Varsity Band chair auditions are underway.

David loves his job—the best job on the planet—loves teaching our kids, and thanks us for all we do to support Pioneer bands!

Nancy shared some of the details of what makes chair auditions special at Pioneer: each audition is one-on-one with a director. This is so important. Results will be posted soon. Varsity Band is doing excellent work—they get nervous, but she is so very proud of them. They will be a little emotional when the results come out. She wants them and us to know the difference between 1st and 5th chair can be as small as one missed note, so let your kids know how proud of them YOU are, too.

Fourteen students auditioned for the Concerto concert. Results may be in Friday morning.

Gala Update – Pat Blackwell and Katie Garvey

Goal of 300 people coming to Gala, but there is much work to be done, and the committee is meeting tonight 8:45 pm at Wolverine Brewing Co.

Gala will include beer tasting from local breweries, live auction, comedy, dancing, and dessert competition among local restaurants for “best dessert.”

Gala wants to have band kids in uniform taking coats, greeting, etc. Buy early! Tickets should be available to buy online January 1-10= \$50; Jan. 11-29= \$60; after January 30= \$75

Update on Networking and Sponsorship efforts – Mary Beth Damm Parents will receive Google form soon asking for information about

connections to services, businesses, so we can get leads on sponsorships. Mary Beth and Colleen Kollman are working on this. Question on status of Alumni email lists. Mary Beth says we have addresses only 5 years back. Nancy suggests using Facebook as a way of reaching alums—she's in contact with many, going back many years. Laura Stubbs is working on expanding the list of people to receive Gala invites.

Question: can underage band kids and band alums buy a ticket to Gala? Yes, but they will be carded.

Question regarding sending messages out on Pioneer HS messenger – Seems to be a new, good way to get word out, one we should use more. Nancy says be sure to have her proofread before sending on messenger, though.

Orchestra Concert is Dec. 5—band families encouraged to attend!

President's Report

The PTSO Raffle was very successful raising money for the schools this year, and she won the \$1000 cash prize. Bands made \$382 on raffle ticket sales.

There was discussion about possible ways of getting more communication between Jazz Band and the PBA.

VP Report

These are the volunteer roles that need filling:

- S & E needs 1 more Food and Drink committee member, 1 Facilities committee member
- Co-treasurer (Board position) to work with Trixi next year—need someone with accounting skills, and who can begin shadowing this school year.
- Publicity Chair – Pat Blackwell raised this suggestion, and others strongly concurred. Someone needed, separate from Communications secretary, to promote our concerts and events