

**Barrington High School Fine Arts Boosters**  
**Minutes of the Board Meeting held at Circa 57**  
**May 14, 2014**

**20 Attending:** Marilyn Andriesen, Jeri Broderick, Pam Conroy, Marilyn Dato, Louise Fox, Jay Gerak, Cindy Johnson, Diana Jonske, Char Moos, Louise Nelson, Kirsten Neptun, Kimberly Priola, Anthony Priola, Chris Rudolphi, Grant Sahr, Ruth Schlossberg, Carrie Stegvik, Kathleen Uhran, Gregg Werner and Kelly Yager.

**Meeting Called to Order: 7:20 p.m.**

**Minutes of Previous Meeting** Diana Jonske made a motion to approve the April 8, minutes. Jay Gerak seconded the motion. The motion passed and the minutes were approved.

**President's Report (Kimberly and Anthony Priola):**

- Kimberly thanked the following outgoing members with graduating seniors for their time, energy and contributions: Barry and Claudia Altshuler, Cindy Johnson, Louise Nelson, Chris Rudolphi and Kelly Yager. The Altshulers spent 13 years on the FAB. All will be missed.
- The Executive Board will remain the same next year.

**Treasurer's Report (Gregg Werner):**

- Gregg was very happy to report that our 501C3 status has been reinstated! We applied for reinstatement over a year ago. As of 6 months ago, the IRS had 60,000 applications ahead of ours that were dated 11 months ahead of our filing date. In March, Gregg asked town President Karen Darch to contact Congressman Peter Roskam and see if he could move our request to the top of the list. In April, Congressman Roskam informed us that our application was moved up. This has the following implications for the FAB:
  - We have been reinstated retroactively so we don't have to pay income tax for the past two years. The \$12,000 we set aside to pay taxes can now be spent. The IRS is asking us to pay \$4,000 for the first year our status was revoked, but Gregg is working with them to drop the request.
  - Now that our non-profit status has been reinstated, we don't have to spend down all of our profits each year.

- We will need to add certain language to our letters that ask for contributions.
- When selling ads for our program, there are rules for the types of ads we can sell. Ads can no longer sell a particular product, but must contain language such as “this program is sponsored by Harris Bank” or “best of luck to the cast and crew from The Barrington House”.
- There is still time to donate to the Nancie Tobison Scholarship Fund. Those who donate will receive a tax exempt letter and have a personalized card go into the book that will be given to Nancie at her retirement party on June 8<sup>th</sup>. Checks can be made out to the BHS Horseshoe Club, but please write “Nancie Tobison Fund” in the note field. The fund has \$14,000 so far. Gregg will transfer Nancie’s scholarship funds to a new Fine Arts Boosters bank account he will set up this summer. The scholarship money will be awarded next year based on contributions made to the BHS choral program while in high school. There is no requirement to study music in college.

### **Committee Reports:**

#### **Membership (Jeri Broderick, Susan Buerckholtz, Louise Fox and Lyn Messemer)**

- The committee is looking at postage costs for a postcard mailing to remind parents to look for email blasts from the FAB and to visit the membership table at Back-to-School night.
- For the initial membership email blast, Grant will email the entire student body as well as 8<sup>th</sup> grade parents. This year, he wants to track which communication method was most effective in recruiting new members – the postcard mailing, email blasts or visiting the membership table. Currently, membership comes from parents with kids in the Fine Arts programs.

#### **Website (Chrissie Mena)**

- Chrissie was absent. A Website chair is no longer neededs since Grant will handle the website from now on.

#### **Citrus (Diana Jonske, Laura Kamptner and Louise Nelson)**

- Diana thanked Louise for all of her help with the Citrus committee. Since Louise is leaving, Diana and Laura would like to add one more person to their committee.
- Healthwise coffee products will be added to the Citrus sale next year. The paperwork will be improved as well. Instead of using the 3-ply order sheets, Diana and Laura are discussing options that are simpler to use and cheaper to print.

### **Scholarship (Kelly Yager)**

- Chrissie Mena will be the Scholarship Chair next year.
- There was one application for the \$1,000 Interlochen Scholarship from Sydney Bakal, applications for \$200 summer camp stipends from Catherine Leonard, Kenzie Frystak, Madleyn Stearney and Shelby Sanders and applications for the \$100 lesson stipends from Ashton Dato, Kirsten Holland and Kendra Kudla. **Jay Gerak moved to fund \$1,000 for the Interlochen Scholarship and a total of \$1,100 for the camp/lesson stipends. Marilyn Dato seconded the motion. All voted in favor and the motion was approved.**

### **Concessions (Marilyn Dato, Char Moos)**

- Char and Marilyn will continue as Concessions chairs next year.
- The most recent concession sales were \$501 for the Orchesis concert and \$27 for the choir talent show. They asked those in charge concessions for Brighton Beach Memoirs and the last choir concert to send their proceeds to Gregg.

### **Student Board (Lisa Gabriel):**

- Lisa was absent. Marilyn Andriesen will be taking her place next year. Marilyn is meeting with Grant next week and will present her ideas for the program in the fall.

### **PTO Representative (Louise Fox):**

- Lyn Messemer will be our PTO Representative next year.

### **Alumni Representative (Starr Shum):**

- Starr was absent. Tedd Gagen is taking her place next year.

### **Publicity/Special Projects (Terri Longo):**

- Terri was absent but will remain in her position next year.

### **Best Seat in the House (Cindy Hesselbein)**

- Cindy will continue in her position next year.

### **Advisor (Judy Bruce)**

- Judy will continue as Advisor next year.

### **Rep Reports:**

#### **Choir (Cindy Johnson and Chris Rudolphi):**

- The trip to New York was fabulous.
- In the beginning of the year, the FAB approved \$500 for an outside director to conduct vocal jazz workshops. The director cancelled and the workshops never took place. Nancie Tobison is asking the FAB to divert those funds to pay Ellen Werksman to choreograph dances for the last choir concert. **Cindy Johnson made a motion to use the \$500 initially approved for the vocal jazz workshop to pay Ellen Werksman to choreograph the year-end choral concert. Kelly Yager seconded the motion. All voted in favor and the motion was approved.**
- Next year's Choir reps will be Kathy Urhan and Louise Fox.

#### **Drama/Theater (Jay Gerak):**

- Brighton Beach Memoirs was a big success. Congratulations to everyone involved in the production.
- The Drama Club parent party will be held at the Gerak's home tomorrow evening.
- Jay and Mary will continue as Drama/Theater reps next year.

#### **Band (Barry and Claudia Altshuler):**

- After 13 years, the Altshulers are stepping down as Band Reps. Everyone thanked them for their years of service. Ruth Schlossberg will be the rep next year.

#### **Dance (Kirsten Neptun):**

- The final Orchesis concert and auditions for next year took place last week.
- Kirsten is staying on next year but would like to find another rep to work with her.

### **Orchestra (Pam Conroy):**

- Last Thursday was the final Orchestra concert of the year.
- Pam and Dave will remain Orchestra reps next year.

### **Visual Arts (Amy Kenrich Woods and Stacey Lidbury)**

- Amy and Stacey were not present but will be the new Visual Arts reps next year.

### **Nominating Committee (Jay Gerak, Chrissy Mena and Marilyn Dato)**

- Jay Gerak made a motion to approve the 2014/2015 slate of Officers, Committee Members and Reps. Marilyn Dato seconded the motion. The motion passed and the slate was approved. The new positions begin on July 1. FAB meetings will continue to be held on Monday nights. The first meeting will be held sometime in late August or early September.
- The Nominating Committee would like to institute “Elect” positions for each Executive Board position to ensure a smooth transition from year to year. Terri Longo will be our President-Elect this year. They are looking for anyone who is interested in serving as Treasurer-Elect and Secretary-Elect next year.
- A discussion ensued about the role of At-Large members. Jay stated At-Large members are those who might be interested in filling open Board positions next year. Anyone is welcome to come to meetings. Marilyn Andriesen said she thought one had to be an FAB member to attend meetings and felt that’s the impression most parents have. She would like the Board to make it clear that everyone is welcome. Kimberly offered to promote this in the fall with our upcoming mailings and on the website.
- Kimberly will address forming the 2015 Nominating Committee in October.

### **Department/District Report (Grant Sahr):**

- Grant thanked Kimberly and Anthony for hosting everyone this evening. He also thanked Gregg Werner and Judy Bruce for their hard work in getting our non-profit status reinstated. He welcomed the new members and thanked the outgoing members for their service.
- Grant is pleased to announce the new Choir Director will be Kenneth “Chip” Batko. Chip attended BHS and was active in Choir, Band and Drama. He received a Bachelor Degree in Choral Music Education from Millikin University and a Masters Degree in Music Education from VanderCook College of Music. He has been teaching for 10 years, most recently at Reed-Custer High

School. His old school is devastated to lose him. Steve McWilliams will send out an announcement this week. Chip will be working over the summer to get ready for the fall.

- Nancie Tobison placed an additional teacher request to compensate Bonnie Spurling \$900 for accompanying all of the choral concerts this year. **Chris Rudolphi made a motion to pay Bonnie Spurling \$900 for accompanying the choral concerts for the year. Jay Gerak seconded the motion. The motion passed and the payment was approved.**
- Randy Karon requested new rain gear for the band. The current gear is almost 15 years old. Randy will evaluate exactly what he needs and get back to Grant. Gregg suggested approving an amount not to exceed a certain limit. Grant felt he didn't have enough information to vote at this point. Total replacement cost is \$7,500. He is waiting for Randy to let him know if replacing all of the rain gear is necessary. Kimberly will send out an email to the Board if we need to vote on funding the rain gear over the summer so the band has it by fall.

Kimberly reminded everyone to look for an email in August with the date of the first meeting of the year. Gregg Werner made a motion to adjourn the meeting. Jay Gerak seconded the motion. The motion was approved and the meeting was adjourned at 8:33 p.m.

Respectfully submitted,

*Carrie Stegvik*  
Secretary