

# **GBN Choir and Theatre Parents Organization Meeting**

**May 5, 2015**

The meeting was held in the Green and Gold Conference Room at Glenbrook North High School. The meeting was called to order at 6:03 P.M.

## **Present at the meeting:**

Chad Davidson, Andy Wallace, Julie Ann Robinson, Maria Doughty, Cynthia Nadig, Nancy Frese, Alison Whitlock, Nashwa Mekky, Mary Ernster Andrews, Heather MacDonald, Cheri Kates, Jeannie Chang, Patricia Dolins, Tracy Meyer, Ellen Westel, Esther Kelly, Amy Oberholtzer, Julie Snyder, Kathleen Weinberg, Sharon Kohn, Christine Hultman, Elyssa Siegel, and Carol Currie. Eric Hultman joined us towards the end of the meeting.

## **I. Welcome and Introductions**

Maria welcomed and we did quick introductions. Sharon Kohn was joining us for the first time. Maria passed the proposed slate of officers for 2015-2016 and asked people to mark any positions they might want to hold.

## **II. April Meeting Minutes Approval**

No corrections were offered for the April 2015 meeting minutes. Mary Ernster Andrews moved that the minutes be approved and Patricia Dolins seconded the motion. We voted and the motion was unanimously approved.

## **III. GBN Faculty Reports**

Maria started off by acknowledging the 2015 Glenbrook Musical, *How to Succeed in Business without Really Trying*, which was hosted at Glenbrook South this year. Maria commented that it was a great show, lots of fun, and everyone really enjoyed it.

Julie Ann Robinson also started by saying that the musical was a great success. Julie Ann reported that the GBN freshman / sophomore play, *James and the Giant Peach*, went really well. The students had fun and there were over 1,000 kids who came to see the show. She is very proud of the GBN students for all of their hard work.

The District 225 Board of Education recognized the students and faculty involved with Group Interpretation at their meeting on 5/4/15. Group Interpretation placed second in state for their presentation of "Miss Peregrine's Home for Peculiar Children."

Julie Ann reminded everyone that the theatre banquet will be held this Friday, 5/8/15.

All nominees for the Best Actor / Actress and Best Supporting Actor / Actress must be present at the Awards Assembly on 5/22/15 so that they can be recognized. The students will know in advance if they have been nominated. (May 22<sup>nd</sup> also happens to be Julie Ann's birthday.)

The Thespian Induction ceremony will be held on Wednesday, May 13<sup>th</sup>. There is a fee (dues) of \$10.00 for each student being inducted. There are 16 new students to be inducted this year. Please check <http://gbntheatre.com/2015/05/eligible-thespian-inductees/> for more information.

Comedy Sports and Drama 2 will be presenting at Springfest (5/15) during lunch one and lunch three.

Chad Davidson started by sharing his praise for the North / South musical. He thanked parents for posting the musical posters around town.

There will be a collage concert on 5/15/15, in conjunction with Springfest. There will be a featured performance by the group, Josh and the Empty Pockets ([http://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/The\\_Empty\\_Pockets](http://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/The_Empty_Pockets)). Erika (Holleb) Brett is one member of the group. She is a graduate of GBN.

Chad and Andy have been discussing the choir tour for Spring Break 2017 with BrightSpark. It will likely be an international trip with a European destination.

There are lots of events coming up in the choir department. Here is the run-down:

5/6/15 - Wednesday - Ow! auditions

5/7/15 - Thursday - Fermata Nowhere auditions

5/12/15 - Tuesday - Express auditions

All auditions will be held after school and audition music can be found on the website ([www.gbnchoir.com](http://www.gbnchoir.com)).

On Monday, May, 11, 2015, there will be a concert at Covenant Village in Northbrook at 6:30 P.M. Performers will include Men of GBN, Express, Ladies First, and Ow!

On Thursday, 5/14/15, there is a curricular choir concert in the CPA at 7:30 P.M. The piece that will be performed is called *African Sanctus*. For more details on this concert, please see the April minutes. At this concert, seniors will be presented with a yellow rose from the juniors. There are 39 seniors who will be graduating this year. There was some discussion about how to buy affordable flowers. The ones from Costco have thorns, which can be

problematic when handing them out. Amy Oberholtzer and Esther Kelly volunteered to purchase and de-thorn the roses in advance of the concert.

Chaperones will be needed to help collect uniforms at the end of the concert. This is a busy time with lots of students turning in their clothes all at once. The more adult helpers we can get, the better. Please bring extra bags and pens to mark each bag with the student's name.

The Showcase Concert will be held on Wednesday, May 27<sup>th</sup> at 7:30 P.M. in the CPA. Performers include Ladies First, Express, and Men of GBN. Call time will likely be 7:00 P.M.

An Evening of A Capella will be on June 3<sup>rd</sup> in the Orchestra Room (E103). Ow! and Fermata Nowhere will perform.

Concert in the Park will be on Saturday, June 6<sup>th</sup>. The time is 30 minutes earlier than in the past due to a scheduling conflict at the park. Call time will be 11:30 A.M. and the concert will begin at noon.

Chorale will perform at graduation on 6/7/15. The ceremony is at 3:00 P.M.

A request was made that we clarify how Earning Funds can be used. It was determined that Earning Funds can be used for any purpose (trips, choir or theatre banquet, etc.) but a form MUST be used to request the funds. There was also further clarification made that funds cannot be returned in cash or check form to the student who earned them. The money has not been taxed and it would be a violation to return funds to the student. Unused funds can be transferred to a younger sibling if there is one or they will be forfeited for general use by the CTPO.

Andy Wallace had nothing additional to add to the faculty comments.

**Maria announced that we needed to change the order of the agenda to accommodate some people who have to leave the meeting early.**

## **IX. Banquet Report**

**Theatre** - The banquet will be 5/8/15. Elyssa Siegel said that we have 144 people scheduled to be at the banquet. There is a maximum capacity of 160 people. We will have 16 tables. Go Roma will cost less this year (with 144 people) than Marcello's did last year (with only 100 people). Dessert will be blizzards from Dairy Queen. Elyssa is accounting for and accommodating all reported allergies that were noted on forms. There will be a video montage and we have gifts for graduating seniors. Julie Ann also reminded us that we have water bottles from 2013 that can be handed out also. There will be reserved tables for staff

and parents of seniors. Please be on time. The event starts at 6:30 sharp. Please enter through the loading dock entrance only. Some students have not yet paid for the banquet. If a person does not pay, we will need to notify the district that the cost of the banquet needs to be collected before the child can graduate.

**Choir** – Julie Snyder and Ellen Westel reported that 86 people have replied to the banquet. Ads for the choir banquet program can be emailed to Julie Snyder. Invitation information can be found at [www.gbnchoir.com](http://www.gbnchoir.com). Senior photos need to be submitted soon to be included in the montage.

#### **IV. Treasurer / Fundraising / EFA Reports**

Sally Norlie was not present at the meeting but Maria reported the following account balances:

Choir	\$10,708.90
Theatre	\$12,119.97
Money Market	\$21,765.84

Patricia Dolins stated that she has 6 checkbooks left that she will sell for \$15.00 each. Three books were presented (one each) as a gift to Chad, Andy, and Julie Ann. If a book is purchased at the \$15.00 price, no credit will be given towards the Earning Fund Account.

Patricia and Maria both reported that the gun safe has been purchased for the prop guns in the theatre department. The cost was just over \$630.00. It is being shipped and should arrive at the school soon.

Upon her review of the EFA accounts, Patricia determined that there is over \$9,000 that is money that was earned and then never used by past students. There was discussion about what the protocol should be for using this money (which is currently in the Money Market account). Maria commented that a cushion of money is needed when we purchase checkbooks in the fall. We need to be able to pay for those up front, before they have been sold and the money has been collected. There was discussion about whether we should be looking at what to do with newly forfeited funds (a legacy gift, perhaps). Options that were discussed included getting a wish list from Chad, Andy, and Julie Ann, as well as buying down the cost of the BrightSpark trips (lowering the cost for everyone) or possibly pitching in for new curricular choir uniforms.

The conversation of how to use forfeited funds led us to a related topic – our Bylaws – and how it is time to review them and make sure we are following procedures set forth in the

Bylaws. Maria suggested that we may be more liberal in our voting procedures than the Bylaws would determine. In addition, we need to look at our budgeting procedures. It seems that we have not been laying out a distinct budget at the start of the year (July 1) as we used to in the past. Sally Norlie will dig up old budget records and we will review them to see how we can be more transparent with our budgeting and expenses next year. It was again reiterated that EFA money cannot be returned to students under any circumstances.

Again on the topic of EFA, we discussed that the choir and theater need to be able to start selling checkbooks at the same time as band. Greta Satek, who manages the checkbooks for band, is much more aware of the procedure now and will not be manipulated into giving checkbooks out early, as she was in 2014. This was purely a case of one band parent steamrolling to get what they wanted (checkbooks before everyone else had them) and Greta not being aware of the protocol.

#### **V. Refreshments Report**

Cheri Kates reported that the profit for this year is \$861.97 so far. There is still candy left over and we discussed selling it at the upcoming concerts and showcases as long as there are parent volunteers willing to man the sales tables.

**At this point, Carol Currie left the meeting and minutes were recorded by Esther Kelly.**

#### **VI. Wardrobe Report**

The wardrobe collection was discussed. Clothing will be handed in by the students in the curricular choirs in the Orchestra room at the conclusion of the concert on Thursday. Parent volunteers are welcomed (and would be much appreciated) to assist in the process of cataloging the returns. The dry cleaners will pick items up from the school and they will be stored over the summer.

#### **VII. Chaperones Report**

#### **VIII. Newsletter / Communications Report**

#### **IX. Banquet Reports**

**This was covered earlier.**

#### **X. Scholarship Report**

The scholarship committee had two applications that came with questions. They received one from a student for oboe, which will be forwarded to band. There was also a summer scholarship request from a senior, but the application clearly states that they are only available for the freshman-junior class, so this will need to be declined. There were five other applicants, some for music/theatre, and some just theatre. Sallie Norlie has those details.

### **XI. President's Report**

June 10th is the date set for the end of year party, which will be held at the Doughty's home. It will begin at 6:00 P.M. and is a potluck. *This may have to be altered due to a conflict with the party for Dr. Pryma on the same day and time.*

### **XI. Q and A Session**

There were no questions.

The meeting was adjourned at approximately 7:10 P.M.

Respectfully submitted,  
Carol Currie  
Secretary