

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

## **October 6, 2015**

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

### **Present at the meeting:**

Chad Davidson, Andrew Wallace, Julie Ann Robinson, Casey Clack, Nancy Frese, Carol Currie, Jeannie Chang, Lorna Cohen, Patricia Dolins, Maria Fox, Sue Frieden, Christine Hultman, Esther Kelly, Denise Krug, Lori Kwolek, Missy Levine, Heather MacDonald, Tracy Meyer, Cynthia Nadig, Traci Parks, Meghan Rosenfeld, Bonnie Schoenberg, Susan Schueler, Diane Seymour, Laurie Shults, Elyssa Siegel, Julie Snyder, Alison Whitlock, and Phaedra Wilkinson

### **I. Welcome and Introductions**

President Nancy Frese asked that members who were not at the September meeting introduce themselves. We heard from Denise Krug, Susan Schueler, Maria Fox, and Diane Seymour.

### **II. September Meeting Minutes Approval**

No corrections were offered for the September 2015 meeting minutes. Patricia Dolins moved that the minutes be approved and Lorna Cohen seconded the motion. We voted and the motion was unanimously approved.

### **III. GBN Faculty Reports**

Julie Ann Robinson started off by reporting that the two recent shows were both successful.

*The Ugly Duckling* was written by GBN students. Lindsey Berman, from the GBN Science Department, assisted with directing the show. The show ran about 45 minutes long and there were 12 students in the cast.

Casey Clack was the Assistant Director for *Arabian Nights*. She will be assisting with other shows this year as well. The acting and the tech was great and the lamp props were spectacular. They can be purchased for \$100 - \$200. If you want to purchase a lamp, Julie Ann or Casey can give you information on where they are available. Friday attendance was lighter because of the football game but the shows were all very well attended.

One Acts, called "*Visionaries*," will be held Thursday, Friday, and Saturday (Oct. 15-17) at 7:00 P.M. There will also be an in-school performance on Friday and a 3:00 P.M. matinee on Saturday.

Julie Ann commented on the packed fall schedule and how having these three productions (*The Ugly Duckling*, *Arabian Nights*, and *Visionaries* [One Acts]) early in the year will allow some breathing room for the kids and staff before the Variety Show try-outs and rehearsals kick in.

Julie Ann is planning a field trip for the Thespian Troupe to see *East of Eden* at the Steppenwolf Theatre in November (11/5/15).

Winter play auditions will be October 27-29. It will likely be a comedy / farce.

Julie Ann said a special thank you to all the parents who have helped with ticket and candy sales, show meals, etc.

Andy Wallace began by noting that the advanced ensembles (Chorale and Cecilian) are eligible to apply for Tri-M, the Music National Honors Society. Tri-M does service work in the school and community and they support the Youth Services gift drive.

Andy Wallace and Julie Ann Robinson have started (last year) a musical theatre cohort. They meet periodically throughout the year with GBN students who may be considering the pursuit of musical theatre in college. They discuss the process, school selection, and they provide lots of insight for these students. All are welcome to attend these meetings.

Chad Davidson reported that 15 GBN students attended the IMEA auditions this week. He just learned today that the following 7 kids were selected to be in the District 7 Senior Chorus on Saturday, November 7, 2015, at Glenbrook South High School: Elaine Currie, Jessica Sorkin, Brooks Whitlock, Yesha Shah, Quinn McCarthy, Katie Snyder, and Jonah Pazol.

The Glenbrook Festival of Music will be held at Techny in 2016. This will be Marty Sirvatka's last year at Glenbrook South and all felt that it would be appropriate to have the festival at Techny this school year. There will be two performances on Sunday, March 13, 2016.

Julie Ann Robinson added that on October 21<sup>st</sup>, at a Thespian meeting, she will have staff from the University of Illinois theatre program visit GBN. They will work with three seniors in the choir room. Those students (Brooks Whitlock, Katie Snyder, and Rachel Cell) will need to bring materials that they would use in a college audition. The thespians will watch the process. In addition, at the January Thespian meeting, seniors who will be auditioning at colleges will perform for the other troupe members.

#### **IV. President's Report**

Nancy Frese started by passing a copy of the DRAFT By-Laws, which contain all suggested changes made by the By-Laws committee. She invited anyone who is interested to meet with us after the CTPO meeting adjourns to discuss questions or concerns about the changes that were made. She explained that one of our goals is to have CPO and TAPO under one umbrella. The CPO has official by-laws but, as far as we could find, TAPO never had by-laws or they had them but they were not maintained. The CPO by-laws had not been updated since 2010. We will keep the official name of Glenbrook North Choral Parents' Organization, Inc. but will add a "doing business as (DBA)" which is GBN Choir and Theatre Parents' Organization. We will also do two things that the by-laws require: having an annual budget (Tracy Meyer is preparing it now) and have a Nominating Committee to develop the slate for the following year's officers.

Nancy then stated that there have been some suggestions for new fundraisers that will benefit the CTPO (not for the EFA funds) and might allow us to help purchase new curricular choir uniforms and, possibly, increase the stipend for adult chaperones who would like to go on the choir / theatre tours. One fund-raising idea is to have an Open Mic Night in the cafeteria at GBN in the spring of 2016. A sign-up sheet was passed for parents who might want to work on a committee for this event. The CTPO members could bake desserts, the event would be open to all student performers with a preview audition (only to assess that the content is appropriate, not to cut performers), and we would charge admission (\$10 for adults, \$5 for students). We could include comedy, singing, and dancing, perhaps more. No date is set for this yet.

Additional fund-raising options will be raised by Patricia when she gives her EFA report.

## **V. Vice President's Report - Communication and Publicity**

Christine Hultman reported that the September 20<sup>th</sup> newsletter went out to all CTPO members and more.

For Publicity, Christine thanked all who put up posters around town for *The Ugly Duckling* and *Arabian Nights*. Julie Ann brought the posters for One Acts with her to this meeting so Christine asked for volunteers to hang the *Visionaries* posters.

Christine is looking for people to regularly hang posters at the schools. Jeannie Chang has taken on the District 28 schools (Northbrook Junior High, Greenbriar, Meadowbrook, and Westmoor). Bonnie Schoenberg volunteered to hang posters for District 31. We still need volunteers for Districts 27 and 30.

## **VI. Treasurer's Report**

Tracy Meyer reported the following account balances:

|             |             |
|-------------|-------------|
| Choir       | \$8,033.76  |
| Theatre     | \$7,094.33  |
| EFA Account | \$25,887.58 |

## VII. Fundraising / EFA Report

Patricia Dolins reported that Booster Shot Checkbooks are currently sold out or spoken for. She has placed three orders as follows:

|     |                    |
|-----|--------------------|
| 450 | Sold Out           |
| 150 | Sold Out           |
| 100 | Sold or spoken for |

She is able to do another order but the minimum order is 100 and she wants to order the appropriate amount so we will not have a lot of unsold books on our hands.

There is a correction here to a statement made in the September minutes. The minutes state that \$15.90 of each Booster Shot Checkbook goes into the EFA for the selling student. The amount is actually \$15.00. The \$0.90 difference is going into the CTPO's account.

Selling of Butter Braids will start next week. The sale will run through November 6<sup>th</sup> and the delivery date will be November 18<sup>th</sup>. The cost is \$13.00 for each one. \$5.20 of each sale of a single Butter Braid will go into the seller's EFA. There will also be a three-pack of braids option this year. The buyer will save \$2.00 when they order the three-pack (\$37 for three instead of \$39 with \$14.80 going to the EFA). 40% of the sale will go to the student's EFA. Be sure to identify the student selling when placing the order with Patricia.

There will be an additional on-line fund-raiser this year. Packets will be distributed in Choir. Theatre students should request a packet. The on-line sale will end on 11/30/15 so that items can be delivered before the holidays.

This spring, we will have a coffee fundraiser. Patricia requested help with making a label for the coffee. Emma Wilkinson should be able to help (according to her mother, who will ask Emma). There will be coffee (whole and ground beans) and hot cocoa for sale. There will not be any K-cups available, unfortunately.

Finally, we are planning a mattress fundraiser for 3/19/16. It will take place in the gym at GBN on Saturday, March 19<sup>th</sup>. The cost of mattresses will be anywhere from \$200 to \$4,000 and the amount raised per mattress sale should be \$100-\$150 per mattress. The majority of the money earned will go to the CTPO general account. There might be a way for us to incent students to participate by adding to their EFA if a minimum number of mattresses are

sold by that student (for example, a student selling 3 or more mattresses might earn \$25 per mattress in their EFA). Shipping is charged to the buyer but there should be a coupon available that will either reduce or eliminate the cost of shipping. The CTPO should make \$3,500 - \$20,000 on this fundraiser if it is successful. **The details of this sale have to be firmed up so the details here are just proposed, not final.**

### VIII. Membership Report

Lori Kwolek and Sue Frieden reported these membership statistics:

There are 111 confirmed, paid, members with student(s) and 1 donation only member for a total of 112 members. We have collected \$2,875.00.

Here is the breakdown of membership (remember that some families have more than one student but the family only pays one membership fee):

| Group                 | Members     | Non-Members | Total Students                |
|-----------------------|-------------|-------------|-------------------------------|
| Treble Choir          | 26 members  |             | 47 students                   |
| Varsity Spartan Choir | 21 members  |             | 47 students                   |
| Cecilian Choir        | 15 members  |             | 29 students                   |
| Chorale Choir         | 38 members  |             | 59 students                   |
| Theatre /Thespians    | 11 members  | ?           | ?                             |
| Total                 | 111 members |             | 182 potential member families |

Future plans for recruiting members include sending an email blast to remind families that this is their last chance to get their name in the programs for Cider and Song (which will go to print on 10/23, most likely), having a table at Cider and Song, and having a raffle for ALL CTPO members with a prize of a restaurant gift card. Carol Currie made a motion that the CTPO put \$50 in the budget for the cost of the gift card prize (whether to have one prize or two will be determined by the membership co-chairs). Esther Kelly seconded the motion, we voted and all were in favor. None were opposed. The motion carried.

### IX. Refreshments Report

Susan Schueler reported that 257 items were sold at the recent plays. Julie Ann Robinson said that the CTPO can keep the candy and water at GBN for now since One Acts are coming up so soon. We may need to purchase more items (water and some candy) for One Acts. After One Acts, Cider and Song will be the next event where refreshments are included.

### X. Wardrobe Report

Esther Kelly reported that the wardrobe distribution went very well and she expressed her gratitude to Nancy Frese, Sue Frieden, and Jeannie Chang for coming in early to organize the choral outfits. She also expressed appreciation for the parent volunteers who came in to help. They included Shana Glazer, Heidi Good, Linda Redstone, Laura Horwitch, Anne-Marie

Williams, Lorna Cohen, Nancy Frese, and Sue Frieden. She hoped that she did not miss any names but appreciated all of the help. Esther commented that the CTPO used Sanders Cleaners and Tailors at the corner of Dundee and Sanders for the dry cleaning and she was very happy with the results. She recommends that anyone who needs alterations should consider using them.

### **XI. Chaperone Report**

Tracy Meyer said that she had already posted the sign up for chaperones for Cider and Song and about half of the slots had been filled. Please look for the sign up email from 10/6/15 if you want to volunteer.

### **XII. Show Meals Report**

Heather MacDonald reported that the show meals from GoRoma were great for *The Ugly Duckling* and *Arabian Nights*. The vendor was very accommodating as there were several nut free, dairy free, and gluten free requests.

### **XIII. Banquet Report**

A date needs to be selected for the Theatre Banquet. Julie Ann reported that there are some dates being thrown around and something should be decided soon.

Julie Snyder reported that the choir banquet will be on May 24, 2016. The time will be 6:30 instead of 6:00 (which is the time shown in the GBN calendar).

### **XIV. Historian Report**

Alison Whitlock reported that she and Carol Chang have loaded A LOT of photos into the flickr account. She passed out these instructions: go to <https://www.flickr.com>. Search GBN CTPO under the People tab. Enjoy! We suggested including the flickr site in an eblast from CTPO and also in the Cider and Song concert program.

### **XV. Scholarship Report**

No report was given.

The meeting was adjourned at 7:02 P.M.

Respectfully submitted,  
Carol Currie  
Secretary

**The next meeting will be held on Tuesday, November 3, 2015, at 6:00 P.M. in the Spartan Conference Room at GBN.**