

## Friends of Berlin Performing Arts

### Meeting Minutes

September 15, 2021

**Call to Order** by Melissa Hagerman, FBPA president

#### **Attendees:**

Board members: Melissa Hagerman (president), Denise Cambier (VP), Jessica Spelman (secretary), Keith Rubadue (treasurer)

Directors: Thai Sribanditmongkol (Choir), Michael Reeves (Band), Erin Gibbons (Theater), Jillian Henning-Toops (Orchestra)

Many other parents

#### **President's Report**

- This is our first in-person meeting in over a year – Woot! Woot!
- FBPA is Friends of Berlin Performing Arts
  - o Booster organization that supports band, choir, orchestra and theater
  - o It is a 501-C3 organization and is financially separate from the school
  - o Main fundraising is through concessions (FB, soccer, Lacrosse, etc)
  - o Our first home FB game this year raised \$9400 in 3 hours (\$4000 went back in to restock the stand)
- Parents went around and introduced themselves.
- Introduction of FBPA leadership
  - o The 5 members of FBPA Board were introduced (Melissa Hagerman president, Denise Cambier VP, Joe Trossel VP, Keith Rubadue treasurer, Jessica Spelman secretary)
  - o Next year Melissa wants someone to follow her around as president and concession lead and band parent so that they can take over those responsibilities the following year.
  - o Karienna Turner is concession lead; stocks the concession stand. There is currently a shortage of Airhead Extremes and paper cups.
  - o Laura Zimmerman orders and stocks drinks. There is a shortage of water and Gatorade.
  - o Brad Bowers does band pictures
  - o Colleen Torlone does senior banners and choir/orchestra pictures
  - o April Sinclair does FBPA merchandise/clothing ([www.FBPA.bigcartel.com](http://www.FBPA.bigcartel.com))
  - o
- Directors introduced themselves
  - o Jillian Honeytoops teaches all HS orchestra groups and classes, plus 6<sup>th</sup> grade strings at Hyatts MS and 4/5<sup>th</sup> grade strings at Cheshire Elementary.
  - o Erin Gibbons does all theater plays and musicals and teaches all theater and drama classes at the HS

- Michael Reeves leads band and jazz band at HS and teaches AP Music Theory. Also does 6<sup>th</sup> grade band at Berkshire MS
- Thai Sribanditmongkol leads all HS choirs, helps with the HS musical. Also leads 8<sup>th</sup> grade choir at Hyatts MS and 8<sup>th</sup>/6<sup>th</sup> grade choir at Berkshire MS. Also coaches girls JV tennis at Berlin
- Fundraising Activities
  - We do concessions instead of lots of individual fundraisers. All FBPA families asked to work at least 2 concession events.
  - Another big fundraiser is Online Pride Day. Kids used to go door-to-door, but we did an Online Pride Day last year, which raised a lot more money than the door-to-door ones
  - Our last fundraiser is bricks for the wall outside the theater. Families/individuals can purchase a brick with their name on it for \$75. \$55 of that money goes directly to FBPA
  - All money raised with these fundraisers goes into the general fund
  - We are looking into the possibility of doing indoor concessions during theater performances b/c athletic boosters doesn't seem to want to do concessions then.

### **Treasurer's Report**

- Current checking acct balance is \$78,391, but much of that money is spoken for
- A lot of money is filtered through FBPA (money paid in by parents specifically for band fees, uniforms, etc)
- Actual total is between \$30,000 and \$40,000. We try to keep a \$40,000 cushion for emergency expenses. That would cover about a year's worth of expenses
- Recently we've gotten new credit card readers, concession supplies
- We are in process of purchasing new popcorn maker and pretzel warmer.

### **Concessions Report**

- Concessions has been busy
- There are some supply chain issues – shortages of certain items
- Appreciate the non-band parents' involvement so band parents can sometimes watch their kids march halftime

### **Truck Report**

- So far this year, truck has done 3 away FB games and OU Band Day
- So far, has traveled 1000 miles and saved FBPA \$4000
- School owns the truck, so they handle the maintenance costs, insurance, tires, etc
- Truck is stored at the Berkshire bus yard
- Truck was in the 4<sup>th</sup> of July parade

### **Middle School Report**

- FBPA also fully supports Berkshire MS performing arts, esp its 3 music directors (Choir, band, strings)

- We mainly pay for clinicians to help kids learn their instruments, competition fees, some supplies
- Some 8<sup>th</sup> grad moms are coming to help with concessions

## **Director's Reports:**

### **Band**

- Marching band in the fall – already did OU Band Day in Athens, OH
- Theme for Marching Band this year: Reaching New Heights
  - o 1<sup>st</sup> show – 21 Pilots
  - o 2<sup>nd</sup> show – Led Zeppelin
  - o 3<sup>rd</sup> show – Learn to Fly by Foo Fighters, Fly Away by Fat Rat, Are You Gonna Be My Girl by Jet
- 8<sup>th</sup> grade band from Berkshire MS coming for middle school band night this week. There will be 42-43 kids. Will play Hey Song and Hookes on a Feeling with the HS band at halftime and postgame
- Will do Under the Lights indoor show this year
- About 90 to 95 kids in the band this year

### **Choir**

- 90 to 95 singers in total, including about 25 men, which is good.
- Thai S. is also working with choirs at Hyatts and Berkshire to get more male singers up from the middle schools
- Working with Professional Development at all the Olentangy middle schools to help their choir teachers encourage and support male students with their changing voices
- Fall concert is coming up

### **Orchestra**

- Fall concert is coming up
- Opening up Cheshire elementary for strings program there
- It feels like starting over, with all the kids back in school fulltime after COVID
- Nice to have everyone in big groups again – no more hybrid schooling – yay!

### **Theater**

- First play will be The Wonderful Wizard of Neverland
- Casting is done. Currently rehearsing. Lots of the cast is also in marching band, which is challenging
- Performance will be Thurs 10/7 evening, Sat 10/9 evening and Sun 10/10 matinee (No Friday night b/c of Football)
- New shelves for tech (paid for by FBPA) much appreciated
- New mikes have been paid for, but are on back-order

Next FBPA meeting will be Wednesday, October 20