



## Munster Band Backer Meeting Minutes (*draft*)

**October 23, 2019**

**Attendees:** Stacie Trivunovic, Becky McKeever, Anna Sklar, Bret Winternheimer, Catherine Olsen, Amy Dennis, Eloisa Vazquez, Kelly Wedgeworth, Stephanie Corral, Jen Segvich, Elizabeth & Andrew Cantu, Nicole Hofferth, Tricia Ohnstad, Jeanette Babus, Diane Maul, Julie Witten, Veronica Gomez, Gregg Blocher, John Pruzin, Barbara Montalbano, Mark & Wendy Beetson

**Handouts:** Minutes from Sept. 15 meeting, agenda, treasurer's report, Munster's Got Talent Sponsorship Solicitation letter

**Approval of Sept. 15 meeting minutes:** move to approve- Jeanette B., second- Liz Cantu.

### **Treasurer Report:**

Ending balance as of 9/25/19=\$ 26,706.82

Deposits and Credits from 9/24 to 10/23= \$20,404.77

Cleared and Uncleared Debits from 9/24 to 10/23= \$22,391.96

Balance as of 10/23/19= \$24,719.63.

Holding aside \$1000 in anticipation of costs associated with Munster's Got Talent show.

Charms accounts credits (allocated to individual students)= \$7,478.33 (Butter Braid sales credits totaled \$2751)

Donations allocated for trailer/tubas= \$10,760.

Cash flow currently available for spending= **\$6,481.30**

**Approval of treasurer report:** first- Jeanette B., second- Kelly W.

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

Hotel booked for State competition – Spring Hill Suites Indianapolis-Fishers. Parents are welcome to reserve rooms here as well, but unfortunately there is no discounted rate for parents.

Winter Percussion will be competing at WGI (national competition) this year as well as IPA. Dining night next week is to raise money to cover Winter Percussion costs. Total WP fundraising goal = \$1500.

### **VP Report:**

Still need people to be bus chaperones for next 3 competitions. Please sign up online to be a bus chaperone- link to the signup sheet is on the band backer website. Bus chaperones for state competition will stay overnight at the hotel with the kids and serve as chaperones there as well. There are rooms reserved for chaperones at the hotel, but the cost for chaperone rooms will need to be covered by the chaperones themselves.

Possible new fundraiser proposal: a local State Farm agent has proposed to donate \$10 to the band for every referral (Name, address, phone number) we provide to him. The referrals must be to people willing to take his call, but no sales are required to receive the \$10. If each student gets 5 referrals, that adds up to \$5000. Discussion was generally positive for this potential source of large amount of money. Plan to put this out to kids around Thanksgiving, making it easier to collect names (and permission) during holiday.

Trick or Treat for the kids is Oct. 31 after practice- since the kids will miss trick or treating, every year parents bring treats and hand them out to the band/guard after practice. If you would like to come, meet in band room at 8:30pm, bring enough candy for 140 kids. Feel free to dress up!

### **Director's Report:**

Cheering section feedback- no noisemakers allowed (cowbells, gregors, whistles, airhorns, etc), they are considered instruments and no crowd member is allowed to contribute instrumental "noise" to the band on the field. Stomping feet loudly could potentially cost us a penalty if it is construed by the judges as distracting or contributing to the show in any way, so just don't do it. Cheering by clapping and yelling is OK.

**Committee Reports:**

We are in the process of updating the committee list, planning to add the updated list to the Band Backers website and include current chairpeople and their contact information.

**Tailgate committee (Stacie T.):** did well, weather and time of year considered. Net revenue likely around \$600. Thanks to everyone who volunteered and/or purchased from the tailgate!!

**Munster's Got Talent: Coming up on FEBRUARY 25, 2020.** Held at Theater at the Center here in Munster. Sponsorship committee (Dejan Ilijevski, Trisha Ohnstad, Alice Cannon) working on getting sponsors/donors for the program book. Anna S. working with Theater to coordinate exhibitor sponsors at the venue and plan food/concessions, etc. Linda B. working on ticket sales and auditions with Mr. W.

We REALLY need sponsors and local businesses to buy ads for the program book to make this event a financial success! We are asking all parents to help us out with contacting potential businesses/donors with whom they may have a personal relationship (personal relationships greatly increase the likelihood that a business will donate/sponsor). A sample sponsorship solicitation letter was given to all those present at the meeting for future use in this endeavor. The letter is also posted on the Band Sponsorship website ( <http://supportmunsterband.org> ), along with details about sponsorship opportunities for businesses of all sizes and types. Please check out the website and forward it to anyone who may be a potential donor. Deadline for sponsors/ads is January 15, 2020.

**Holiday Craft Fair Concessions:** December 7-8. Will need lots of volunteers to help because we are running two concession stands at the fair. Look for sign-ups coming soon. Also possibly doing a blood drive that weekend at the High School- HUGE blood shortage in NWI. Band makes money from blood donations: \$5 per person for first 50 donors, \$10 per person for any more than 50.

**Band Fest:** Overall did well given the first year of doing it this way. Estimated \$2000 new revenue. Ran into some problems with weather and last minute vendor cancellations, will start planning earlier for next year's fest to better the food truck participation and get more participation from elementary and middle schools to bring out more students.

**Uniforms:** Concert season coming up soon (first concert is Dec. 12). New students/freshman and any students needing new concertwear will need to order new items. Look for order form coming soon.

**Dining Nights:** Oct. 30<sup>th</sup>- Danny Z's and Dante's are both donating 20% of food orders *when you mention Munster Band*. Nov. 17<sup>th</sup> – Simple Greek dining night. Mark your calendars!

**Water/Ice:** asking all families to donate a case of water to be used for band/prop/pit crew during competitions. If you have not already, please donate Pepsi products, because any leftover water can then be used at the concessions sales during the winter/spring.

**FRIP/SCRIP:** If you are interested in starting your own account, contact Catherine Olsen. Check out the details of the program on shopwithscrip.com. Basically, when you shop using SCRIP, a portion of the money you spend goes toward your CHARMS account to be used to pay for band fees.

**Publicity/Marketing:** We are hoping to start a committee of several people, hopefully with some marketing or publicity experience, to handle the advertising of our events to the community at large. This committee would work with all other event committees to ensure that we reach the widest audience for our events, hopefully resulting in increased attendance by community members and increased revenue/support. Work may include: newspaper ads, designing and distributing event posters to post throughout the community, maximizing use of social media, reaching out to middle school and elementary schools, etc.. ***Any interested parties are strongly encouraged to contact Stacie or Anna to get involved.***

**Follow up and New Business/Discussion:**

- Trophy case follow up: Becky spoke with Mr. Wells, who is looking into installing a trophy case for Band/Choir/Theater in the lobby of the auditorium. He plans to ask booster club to help fund it.
- Follow up on signs for Winter Percussion State Titles for the athletic field fence: Per Becky, signs have been ordered and will be installed when they come in.
- Uniform crew noted that several lights in the uniform room are still out and need fixing- Becky will speak again with maintenance crew
- Photos/videos: there is a Band/Guard photo album on Google- <https://photos.app.goo.gl/weQpkyNgyPboacgn9> Please upload any photos or videos of the band/guard/parent helpers/fundraisers, etc... to this site, not only to share with other band families, but also to be possibly included in the video montage at the band banquet in May. Please only upload material that is appropriate for kids and adults to view. If you do not want to upload to google but would like to submit material to be included in the montage, email it to Anna Sklar.

**Next Meeting Nov. 20.**

**Adjournment:** move to adjourn- Jen S., second- Andrew C.